

Wright State University

CORE Scholar

The Guardian Student Newspaper

Student Activities

12-13-2021

The Guardian, Week of December 13, 2021

Wright State Student Body

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Weekly Horoscopes
Star Signer
December 13, 2021

When do you think it is okay to start listening to holiday music? Whenever you decide, this is the song you will get stuck in your head this holiday season based on your zodiac sign.

ARIES

Deck the Halls

TAURUS

White Christmas

GEMINI

12 Days of Christmas

CANCER

Hanukkah O Hanukkah

LEO

Rudolf the Red Nosed Reindeer

VIRGO

Frosty the Snowman

LIBRA

Silver Bells

SCORPIO

Do You Hear What I hear

SAGITTARIUS

All I want for Christmas is you

CAPRICORN

That's Christmas to me

AQUARIUS

You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch

PISCES

Santa Clause is coming to town.

Wright State to Develop No-Hate Campaign to Combat Prejudice on Campus
Brendan Blankenship
December 13, 2021

The Wright State (WSU) Faculty Senate met on Dec. 6 to discuss the COVID-19 vaccine mandate for employees, dean searches and a no-hate campaign.

Vaccine mandate

WSU is moving forward with requiring all university employees to get vaccinated against COVID by Jan. 4, 2022. President Sue Edwards discussed various Ohio legislation that would prevent institutions from having vaccine mandates. However, WSU will only rescind its vaccine mandate if these bills are passed.

Bills such as H.B. 218 being presented to the state would not allow the university to have a mask mandate.

“As long as I am not prevented from the state of Ohio, I will continue to have a mask mandate,” Edwards said.

Faculty Senate members also brought up concerns surrounding exemptions to the vaccine mandate. WSU will be required to authorize these exemptions according to Edwards.

“We are required to provide those exemptions,” Edwards said. “Medical exemptions are ones that do have to come from a medical practitioner.”

No-hate campaign

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Dr. Matthew Chaney, Vice President for Inclusive Excellence, announced a new campaign to combat prejudice and discriminatory acts on campus.

“We are developing a no-hate campaign for the campus community in our efforts to make the institution a very welcoming environment,” Chaney said.

Chaney stated that any discriminatory acts can be reported anonymously including microaggressions and unconscious biases.

The no-hate campaign will be open to students, staff and faculty to report any act of discrimination including but not limited to, racial, gender, ethnicity, disability and sexuality discrimination.

Faculty searches

During the meeting, Edwards gave an update on the dean searches in the College of Health, Education, and Human Services (CHEHS) and the College of Science and Math (CSM). Candidates for these positions have been narrowed since the last meeting.

Edwards also explained applications for Vice Provost of Lake Campus are being reviewed. There have also been applications for Chief Recruitment Officer according to Vice Pres. Megan Faragher.

A College of Liberal Arts (CoLA) dean search has been initiated after the reorganization of the college was announced at the November meeting.

Six Holiday Gift Ideas for Older Adults
Emily Mancuso
December 14, 2021

Time and time again it is said that children are much easier to shop for, but what about the important adults in our lives? Here are some gift ideas for those people you may be struggling to find something for.

Movies and books from childhood

Nothing says the holidays quite like nostalgia. Older movies and books may give the recipients a well-deserved trip down memory lane and prompt a good conversation for your holiday dinner. Check to see if their favorites are still in stock.

Company and phone calls

The company you can provide during the holidays may be one of the best gifts students can give. Some students may not be able to see their loved ones in person due to the ongoing pandemic, but a phone or video call can be just as important. Give a well-deserved break after finals to talk to important people.

Photo gifts

Personalized photo books and items can give a gift a special touch. If a student is graduating this fall, they may want to include some graduation photos. Other items can be personalized mugs and calendars.

Greeting cards

Greeting cards can provide an avenue for those who prefer written communication or want to give a traditional thank you. Giving blank cards with postage can help with eliminating an unnecessary trip. Holidays however may cause a shortage of such cards.

Small snacks

A holiday-themed basket of snacks would make a good clutter-free gift. Many stores have holiday snacks or there are plenty of options online to make your own. Keep in mind, however, that certain individuals may have dietary restrictions/need for soft food so caution is needed for this gift.

Gift cards

This is one that is very hard to go wrong with. Gift cards to their favorite restaurants or spa destinations will make sure they enjoy the experience. This gift is also one you may need to consider physical limitations before purchasing.

As a final note, physical gifts may be great but older adults may find it difficult to ask for help for things they really need to get done. Consider asking about putting up or taking down lights, household repairs, and other small things they may need help with this holiday season.

Dayton Woman Stresses Need for Passion as Parent and Full-Time Student

Katie Jones

December 14, 2021

Stefanie Wilcox left her job as a business analyst to go back to college for the third time.

Becoming a teacher has always been Wright State student Stefanie Wilcox's dream, but the responsibilities of being a parent and paying bills led her to taking a different job. As a business analyst and project coordinator with UPS at the Dayton airport, she made more money than she would teaching.

During her time at the airport, Wilcox balanced working a full-time job, caring for two kids and taking classes for her degree in English. At first she accomplished this by taking weekend and night classes. Eventually, she had to extend her lunch break to take day classes.

"I'd come to take a class at lunch, go back to work and then come back to school to take my class, and then I would go home. So sometimes I wouldn't see my kids for two or three days because of how my schedule was."

- Stefanie Wilcox

Her busy schedule meant Wilcox's time was split largely between the job she hated and precious time with her family.

Currently, Wilcox's husband is their only source of income. He works a full-time job that makes it difficult for the whole family to come together.

Wilcox's children are 13 and 11 and often Wilcox isn't able to spend as much time with them as she would like. Her daughter is on the swim team, and Wilcox is not able to come to her meets due to classes.

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Similarly, her son isn't used to her absence either, which is why Wilcox and her husband have established family-only weekends.

"Weekends, we don't do homework because it's family time. We've really learned how to make our time with our family quality since we didn't have a huge quantity of time to be together," said Wilcox.

The long drives and busy schedule were not what Wilcox had in mind when she first thought of work.

Originally Wilcox wanted to be a teacher. Ever since she was a teen, Wilcox has loved kids and helping them. She often babysat for neighbors, which is where she first thought of being a teacher.

The interest continued into high school when she asked to shadow a fifth-grade teacher. She also volunteered to teach math at an elementary school.

Despite her love for teaching, Wilcox was uncertain about how financially smart the decision would be. She had a good-paying job where she had worked for over a decade.

She had already gone to college twice, once for associates in political science from Sinclair in 2006, and once for a bachelor's in English at Wright State in 2012.

Wilcox worked full time while pursuing her bachelor's degree and almost chose the ILA degree she wanted. She had deliberated between a general writing, technical writing or Integrated Language Arts specialization.

The problem was the specialization would have required her to quit her job to do student teaching. Eventually, she chose to keep her job and go with general writing to accommodate her schedule.

At 39 years old, going back to school would mean taking on more debt but doing what she loves.

"I was using my bachelor's degree every day but I hated my job, I was miserable. And I always said if I could go back to school and get my ILA degree I would totally do it," Wilcox said.

Wilcox's husband was a great support to her during this time. He would help where he could, often picking up and dropping off their kids.

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Even after completing her English degree, being a full-time employee wore on Wilcox. Although she made good money as a business analyst, the job was not what she wanted to do.

Her chance to get her ILA degree came in June 2021, when she was laid off after working at UPS for over a decade.

After being laid off she wondered if she should pursue her dream of becoming a teacher.

Eventually, Wilcox ended up interviewing for two different jobs as a business analyst. Both interviews went well, but she kept going back to college in the back of her mind.

“I was going back and forth like do I continue following this career path I hate or do I follow the path and become a teacher like I’ve always wanted to do. So it was like this real struggle because financially, this was the stupidest decision I could have made. Because we still have no income on my side and I’m taking on extra debt,” said Wilcox.

Wilcox spoke with her husband about her decision and he said he would support her whatever choice she made. With his support, Wilcox decided to wait and see how the interviews went.

After weeks of not hearing back, Wilcox took it as a sign she was not meant to continue as a business analyst. She made the decision to come back to college for the third time, getting her second Wright State degree.

She was readmitted in 2021, this time for the [Integrated Language Arts for Adolescent and Young Adults program](#), which would allow her to teach once she graduates.

Wilcox enjoys her classes, though she still has to find a balance between being a parent and a full-time student. Her dual roles as student and parent are both something she loves, and one may help the other.

“Students who are parents bring an additional perspective into the classroom when we are learning about the teaching of English language arts. They are looking at things not only from the student perspective and reflecting on the teacher perspective, but they are also looking at the possible strengths or challenges of certain methods and materials from the parent perspective,” said Angela Johnson, Professor and Program Director of ILA.

For Wilcox, finally being able to get her ILA degree is fulfilling a lifelong dream of giving back.

“I have to feel like I’m making a contribution and doing some good, and as a teacher, there’s going to be at least one student in the next 25 years that I am making an impact on their life. And that is exactly what I need to feel like I have done something fulfilling,” said Wilcox.



Wright State Discusses Tuition Increase and New Nutter Center Management
Jamie Naylor
December 14, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) Board of Trustees (BOT) held two days of meetings to discuss the Nutter Center, finances, student involvement and updated hazing policies.

Nutter Center management

WSU BOT began its Dec. 9 committee day with another meeting of the Finance, Audit, Governance and Compliance Committee.

Continuing their Nov. 16 discussion on the University's Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 financial standing, the Committee also moved to approve contracts and expenditures for WSU services.

One of the two contracts that were approved was the \$200,000 contract between ASM Global and WSU. ASM is an event space management company.

Gregory Sample, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, first brought the contract to the Board's attention during the Sep. 17, full public session. The contract allows ASM to manage marketing, booking and related services for the Wright State Nutter Center according to the contract resolution.

According to Sample, this relationship will not incur extra expenses for the university.

“The benefit of the relationship with ASM Global is that there is no out-of-pocket expense to the University,” Sample said.

It is unclear how this will affect current Nutter Center employees and events.

Tuition increases

The Committee also discussed a tuition increase for the upcoming freshman class of 2026.

Each class or cohort is placed in a tuition guarantee program, which is a fixed amount students pay each year for tuition based on what academic year they start in.

Resolution 22 would give WSU President Sue Edwards the power to increase tuition rates for cohort five up to 2%, and set housing and meal plan rates for the academic year 2022-2023.

According to University data, tuition guarantee rates have been steadily increasing. For those who first enrolled in the academic year 2018-2019, tuition rates were \$4,627 for Ohio residents and \$9,336 for non-residents. In the academic year 2019-2021, the rates each increased by \$162 and for the academic year 2020-2021, the rates increased by \$192.

The new increase for the incoming class will be based on inflation and market rates according to the resolution.

Efficiency report

The Committee discussed the FY2021 Affordability and Efficiency Report. Required by Ohio law, this report reviews WSU’s operational efficiency, academic practices, policy reforms, student benefits and future goals of the University.

The report outlines ways the university can save on programs and reduce costs for students.

The full board approved the report and its recommendations.

Read more on the full report [here](#).

Student involvement

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The Academic and Students Affairs Committee, which met in public session on Dec.10, focused on enrollment, student involvement and student life.

During her report to the board, Edwards presented the current enrollment numbers heading into spring semester 2022. The current census headcount for spring rests at 7,826 students attending Dayton main campus, down from 10,117 students last spring semester according to university data.

Not only have enrollment numbers declined steadily over the last four years, so has student involvement. During their reports, Student Government Association President Jonathan Ciero and student trustee Dhishant Asarpota discussed concerns regarding declining student involvement.

Ciero and Asarpota cite different aspects of the COVID-19 pandemic as reasons for declining student involvement. Asarpota explained how online events provided more convenience for students during COVID causing the decline in participation for in-person events.

Ciero cites difficulties in recruitment coming out of the pandemic as a cause for the decline.

“[We are] starting to have some really low student involvement in certain organizations,” Ciero said. “A lot of those organizations are wondering if they are going to be able to exist from this year to [the] next”.

Hazing policies

Collins Law, the Ohio law that criminalizes hazing in any student organization, went into effect on Oct. 7.

Gina Keucher, program director for fraternity and sorority life, discussed new programs and policies WSU would be implementing to follow the new law.

Now every WSU student including graduate and medical students will have to complete anti-hazing education. For incoming students, this will take place during in-person orientation, according to Keucher. It is uncertain what this training will look like for existing students.

Additionally, fraternities and sororities will undergo a new accreditation process that includes anti-hazing. They will have to complete this process in order to remain registered organizations.

More information on these policies can be found on Wright States' hazing information website.

Five Destinations to Visit With Family Over Break

Erika Jones

December 15, 2021

Spending time with loved ones is a great way to spend winter break and these five places make great family-friendly destinations.

MetroParks Ice Rink

The best place to learn to ice skate is at Riverscape Metropark in Dayton at Five Rivers. The price per person is \$6 with a \$2 ice skate rental. All information needed to begin planning the trip can be found [here](#).

Charleston Falls Preserve

This park is open from dawn to dusk and anybody can come and enjoy everything from feeding fish in the pond to walking the trails to enjoying the wildlife.

For location and other knowledge about Charleston Falls, visit their [website](#).

Historic Clifton Mill

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Every year Clifton Mill decorates their trees and buildings with holiday lights. There is also the opportunity to enjoy the food at the Clifton Mill Restaurant before the gates open.

For the location, pricing, and other information to plan out a trip to see the lights, visit their [website](#).

George Rogers Clark State Park

This park is named after Colonel George Rogers Clark, a Revolutionary War hero and is part of the Battle of Peckuwe. A majority of the trails wrap around the small pond, but some lead to a miniature waterfall and some amazing wildlife sightings.

To find more information about George Rogers Clark State Park and events visit their [website](#).

Young's Dairy

Ice cream is not just for summer, it is also enjoyable in the wintertime. At Young's Dairy, there are opportunities to enjoy ice cream inside where it is warm or outside by the playground.

Feeding the goats at Young's Dairy is a great way to have fun and there are many events that the ice cream shop holds every year. To find more information and location, visit their [website](#).

Kentucky Local Inspiring Kindness Through Hardship and Generosity
Shelley Fisher
December 15, 2021

Finally, it all makes sense to Molly Reese.

She wondered why her dad was always working instead of spending time with her. Her dad was often absent for her high school volleyball games, and there would be days she didn't see him at all.

Leaving a Legacy

But now, as a 20-year-old college senior, Molly Reese now appreciates what her dad is — a focal point of the community who makes people's lives better.

"My dad is the most caring and giving person. He puts every single person before himself," Reese said.

Molly has seen the pressure her father has felt while understanding it's his passion. Now, she faces a tough choice — Carry out his legacy or forge her own path? It has been Reese's dream since middle school to open a daycare.

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“I’ve always been passionate about kids,” Reese said. “I have two older brothers and between the three of us I think we would feel a lot of pressure to keep the restaurant open.”

The town with no name

Crescent Springs’s history can be traced back as far as 1850. Then, the town was known only as a part of the country located south and west of Cincinnati, OH. Four families were majority landowners at the time, but by 1883 there were 35 families.

In the mid-1890’s, the Cincinnati Southern Line railway had a route that ran from Ludlow to Somerset, KY, and the tiny town was passed by with increasing “unscheduled” stops.

Land parcels were being auctioned off around the time the railway changed its name to the Queen and Crescent Railroad. These developments brought attention to the town that had no name.

Two stories emerged as to how Crescent Springs got its name. The first is the crescent shape the tracks make as it passes through town, the second was derived from the newly named Queen and Crescent Railroad.

Soon a depot was built and passengers had an official drop-off and pick-up point.

Buttermilk Pike, a one-lane dirt road, was the main thoroughfare famously named when dairy farmers transported their milk along the bumpy road in the heat and humidity and ended up with churned buttermilk by the time they reached their final destination. Buttermilk Pike is now a five-lane state highway.

The locals constructed signs and posts with the words “Crescent Springs”, but it wasn’t officially founded until 1957.

Story of “Peewee” Reese

Timothy “Peewee” Reese, owner of Peewee’s Place got his nickname in college after “Pee Wee” Reese, the shortstop who played for the LA Dodgers from 1940-1958. Peewee played football for the University of Kentucky and Georgetown and majored in business.

He has owned several businesses, but when the recession of 2009 bankrupted his construction business, CenterLine, he found an opportunity to pursue a lifelong passion of restaurant ownership.

Peewee worked out a deal with a friend and purchased the old Speakeasy bar on Anderson Rd. The bar had a reputation as the local dive and needed extensive repair but the location was ideal and Peewee's previous expertise made him a prime candidate to tackle the challenge.

"It's always been his dream. He came home one day and was like 'hey I bought a restaurant' and that was pretty much that. He would get there at 5:30 in the morning and would be home after I went to bed for the night."

- Molly Reese

Reese and her mother, Kim, often struggled with Peewee being at the restaurant and working so many hours, but they always managed to work through it. At the time, Kim co-owned and operated an embroidery business, A Stitch Above, but did what she could with the time she had to support her husband. She eventually broke from her business partner and went to work full-time at Peewee's Place.

Disabilities and opportunities

When Reese turned 20, she also started working at the restaurant so she could spend more time with her dad. It is now that she sees what she couldn't see before.

Looking around the restaurant one can see how much Peewee cares about the people he encounters. There are pictures of friends who have passed away gracing the walls, as well as inspirational quotes that can be found throughout the restaurant. The restaurant paints a true sense of Peewee's character and the love he has for his people.

Much of what Peewee does cannot be explained but must be experienced to fully understand the level to which he serves. Peewee provides opportunities for people with disabilities as well as those with opioid addiction. Peewee's passion runs much deeper than restaurant ownership, it is about family and community.

"He's really opened my eyes about caring for others and for putting other people before yourself and killing people with kindness," Reese said.

Peewee recalls a time he saw a post on social media that told the viewer to envision a starting line. 'Imagine you and the people you know are on it, then take a step for every question that pertains to you.'

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It began by saying, “Take a step if you grew up in a two-parent household.” He took a step. “Take another step if you graduated high school.” He took another step. For every question, he kept stepping forward.

As he looked back, he saw that many people he envisioned on the starting line had never even taken the first step. Peewee made it his mission to reach back and help others along the way who have not been as fortunate as him. However, his kindness doesn’t always come without hardship.

Tough decisions

One night Peewee was driving home on Christmas Eve and saw a man with a cardboard sign on the side of the road. Feeling compelled to help, he handed the man 100 dollars, which was thrown back in his face.

A brief conversation led to the discovery that he was a former employee of Peewee’s construction company. The man became homeless after being laid off and was living under a bridge. Peewee called friends and family and they pulled together to furnish him with an apartment that very night. Peewee offered the man employment at the restaurant and life was seemingly good.

Peewee later discovered the man was stealing from him, and the man was sentenced to jail. The day the man was released, he overdosed and died. Peewee still questions if he made the right decision to call the police or if he should have taken matters into his own hands.

Situations like these would cause most people to question where you draw the line in helping others, but Peewee is an exception.

In fact, he has helped 30 heroin addicts get sober and move on to live successful lives. Without a treatment center in Crescent Springs, he has become a haven for those looking for a positive role model and support.

Camaraderie and Community

Carl Cohen, a young man who works for Peewee, also looks up to him as a father figure. Cohen had worked for Peewee years before and they formed a special bond. Cohen’s mother feared that their own relationship was in jeopardy and moved Cohen out to California. The cost of living was high and it wasn’t long before they ended up living on the streets.

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After six years of homelessness, Cohen ended up on a bus back to Kentucky. Peewee didn't know that he had returned right away, but they eventually reunited. Cohen told Peewee that his mom died and told him if anything ever happened to her, go back to Kentucky and find Peewee and he would take care of him. She was right.

Peewee not only gives Cohen a ride to and from work at Peewee's Place, he also helped him get on disability, government assistance, and obtain an apartment. Cohen is now a thriving member of the community.

Many of the people who work at Peewee's Place depend on it as their sole source of income. Peewee made a conscious decision to keep the restaurant open through the pandemic and used this time to renovate the interior and exterior of the restaurant.

Peewee kept his employees busy and used the catering business as a means of generating revenue. Although the dining room was closed, customers could still place orders and use the drive-through window to pick up their food.

Friends of the restaurant would often leave large tips and one man even handed over 2,000 dollars and asked that the staff on duty be paid.

Even through some of the toughest times, Peewee found ways to serve his community. He had heard some nuns at St. Joseph's Catholic Church contracted COVID, so he organized a drive to provide meals for the nuns. The community helped to provide them with more than \$12,000 worth of meals.

This act of kindness led two local students of St. Joseph's Catholic School, Matt and Charlie Noe, with the help of their father David, to collect \$800 for Peewee's Place by going door to door in their community.

This reciprocity of kindness circulates Crescent Springs as the result of one man's efforts, and his daughter, Reese, is taking note.

Pressure from within

She is inspired by her father and often wonders if she will be the one to carry on his legacy when the time comes. She recognizes that his involvement is a great sacrifice and requires a level of time commitment that she could see interfering with her own plans for the future.

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“It’s a really big struggle to manage a family and to manage the business at the same time. I see how much he works and how much he’s away from his family and I don’t think I want to do that.” Reese said.

She began babysitting in middle school and is currently pursuing a degree from the University of Cincinnati and is set to graduate in 2021. She says that her father supports her dream to open a daycare, and offers his experience in starting a business.

“It’s always been her passion to get into daycare. She’s in education and she’s doing phenomenal,” Peewee said.

Reese admits the pressure she feels is from within and Peewee has no expectations of her to assume his role. However, that doesn’t make it any easier on Reese as she sees his work as an integral part of the community.

“After how hard my dad has worked after all these years to create such a safe and comfortable place, I wouldn’t want to just throw that away. It would just break my heart and I do think about that a lot.”

- Molly Reese

Passionate pursuit

Father and daughter have present passions that encompass the past and future. Peewee wants to help people with difficult pasts, Reese wants to mold childrens’ futures.

Reese says that recent changes in the education field due to COVID make her question what the future holds, including opening a daycare. She sees herself in the education field for the next several years but finds that her passions are ever-evolving.

“I can’t see myself in education my whole life,” Reese said. “I already see myself doing multiple different things in my life.”

Reese and her father recently attended a beautiful wedding reception and they couldn’t help but discuss opening a wedding venue of their own. Peewee suggested that it could be a part of the family business catered by her grandparents, which was an idea that Reese really gravitated to.

Reese does not see her love for business ownership as a conflict of interest in her pursuit of a degree in education. She sees her degree as a stepping stone on the path to fulfilling her passion.

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Peewee plays a big role in expanding Reese's drive to achieve and exceed her goals by researching and sending her information that could help her make informed decisions. Even still, Reese often thinks about the future of Peewee's Place.

Reese believes that carrying on tradition and chasing her dreams are both important. When asked what advice her father would give her Reese replied,

"He would definitely tell me to chase my dreams over anything."

Four Ways to Stay Productive Over Winter Break

Ellee Rogers

December 15, 2021

It can be extremely easy to let one's motivation and focus slip during this time of year. Students have faced a stressful semester and are ready for a break.

Here are some tips for staying productive while also enjoying the winter vacation.

Set goals

Setting goals is a great way to keep on top of things while school is out because it requires focus and follow-through. Reading a whole book, preparing for next semester, or being able to run two miles straight are some great examples of realistic goals to set.

Try writing down a goal and dedicate time and effort to being able to cross it off by the end of winter break. Achieving goals helps students to keep the practice of school in their routine and boost their self-confidence.

Wake up each day at the same time

Setting a schedule while on break may seem a tad unfun, but it helps in the long run. Try to wake up each day at the same time, whether it's eight, nine, or even 10:30 am.

This will help the brain to stay focused and allow students to get the most out of each day off. Both the body and mind will benefit from this habit.

Set timers

Setting timers for any task such as cleaning a room, working out, or taking a nap can help students to utilize their free time to the best of their ability. A timer helps to section off tasks and ensure that they only last for a certain amount of time.

This helps to limit slacking and promote production since it is much easier to do something one is not looking forward to for 15 minutes rather than two hours.

Try cooking or baking

A fun idea is to incorporate cooking into winter break! Crafting different foods on one's own or with family and friends helps to get those creative juices flowing.

Try out some new recipes or stick with a family tradition. Either way promises creation. Experimenting with new flavors and ingredients is a great way to work on having an open mind with everything in life. As they say, 'it all starts in the kitchen!'

Give a Gift that Gives Back: Awesome Socks Club
Kristina Shue
December 16, 2021

This holiday season, no matter what you're celebrating, you probably plan to give a lot of gifts. Why not give someone a gift that gives back?

An Awesome Socks Club subscription is a great gift for anyone on your list. Both fun and practical, a sock subscription is not only a good gift for the winter holidays, but for birthdays, anniversaries or any day!

Awesome Socks Club

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Awesome Socks Club was founded by well-known Internet personality Hank Green, known for his work on educational entertainment on [YouTube](#) and [TikTok](#). Over the many years that Green has been creating content, he has also become a savvy businessman.

Awesome Socks Club is Green's most recent business project: a subscription service that provides a new pair of fun and funky socks designed by independent artists every month of the year.

All of the profits from Awesome Socks Club go to a charitable organization that is working to "[decrease maternal and child mortality in Sierra Leone](#)," a west African country with the world's highest maternal mortality rate.

You can learn more about the specific goals of this project by watching the [video made by Green's brother and business partner, John](#), posted on the Awesome Socks site as well as their YouTube channel, vlogbrothers.

Their website also includes information about their production and business practices so that you can be sure your money is not only going to a good cause but that the people making your socks are being treated well too.

How to Order

Each subscription costs \$12 per month, with no shipping cost no matter where orders are headed. You can sign up for a perpetual subscription or a 12-month gift subscription. Quantities are limited, so be sure to [check out their website](#) and reserve your subscription today, before they run out!



Wright State Coaches Show Returns With Live Audience

Noah Kindig

December 16, 2021

For the first time since 2019, the Wright State University (WSU) Basketball Coaches Show returned on Monday, Dec. 6 with a live audience at Club Oceano and was live on the radio on WONE 980 AM.

The show featured interviews with Men's Basketball Head Coach Scott Nagy and starting center Grant Basile and was hosted by the voice of the raiders, Chris Collins, and former WSU Coach Jim Brown.

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The show will return for eight more Mondays from 6-7 p.m. starting Dec. 27 and continuing through Feb. 28. The show will feature appearances from Nagy as well as Women's Basketball Head Coach Kari Hoffman and select players from both basketball teams.

The show on Dec. 6 saw both Nagy and Basile speak on the team's defensive struggles and individual players that have stood out for the team so far.

Defensive struggles

While the team has looked better recently on the defensive end, for Nagy there is still a long way to go until the team is where it needs to be.

"We're not good on defense right now. We're not even close," Nagy said. "We have the clear knowledge of what needs to get done, it's just not in our heart. It's not who we are yet."

The Raiders' 2-6 record so far comes from its defensive struggles. The team is the complete opposite on either half of the court, leading the Horizon League in average points per game (PPG) with 75.3, but sitting dead last out of 12 teams in defense, allowing 80 PPG.

This season's problems are a surprise given the team's average success on the defensive end in recent years, allowing the Horizon League's (HL) lowest average PPG in two out of the last four seasons.

For Nagy, the team just hasn't been playing physically enough and is giving away too many turnovers.

"You turn over the ball twelve times, it doesn't matter how good you are," Nagy said. "We're giving up easy shots, and we're not physical around the rim."

From a coaching perspective, success on the defensive end will be the biggest factor for his team this season.

"We've got to limit the layups, play physical at the rim, and not allow easy shots," Nagy said. "Even when you're not scoring, you rebound, you play defense, you handle the ball well."

Standout players

For both Nagy and Basile, junior guard Trey Calvin has had a big standout performance for the team so far this season.

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“I really appreciate the way he’s played for us,” Nagy said. “He’s been able to get back and play defense, and he can also score.”

Calvin has averaged 21 PPG so far in league play, scoring 14 points against Indiana Purdue Fort Wayne (IPFW) and a career-high 28 against Cleveland State (CSU)

“He got to the spot and he made a lot of good plays,” Basile said. “He had a tremendous game against both teams.”

Freshman AJ Braun has been a strong new face for WSU, scoring 17 points in his first-ever start against IPFW to secure Wright State the win.

He has struggled on defense so far, but the strong defense will come from a full team effort.

“AJ will be better if our leaders will be better,” Nagy said. “I don’t expect him to be a great defender yet.”

Crime Log: Five Car Keying Incidents Reported During Finals Week

Jamie Naylor

December 16, 2021

Five cases of criminal property damage were reported in the Woods Community during the week of Dec. 6 to Dec. 12, 2021.

Criminal Damage

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There were five separate incidents of criminal property damage on Dec. 9, according to the daily campus safety log and Lt. David Cox, administrative division commander for the university's Department of Public Safety.

All five incidents occurred outside Maple Hall, a residential hall in the Woods Community.

On Dec. 9, the department sent out a campus-wide email communication, reporting five incidents of vehicle vandalism in the community's parking lots.

Car keying is a type of criminal vandalism. Cox confirmed the property damage incidents reported in the safety log and the keying incidents reported in the campus-wide email are the same.

According to the email, an investigation is occurring and the department is increasing patrols in the area.

Safety Tips

The department advises all residents to check their vehicles regularly and to report any crime or suspicious activity they observe. The email also encourages those with any information to contact the department.

Four Small Books Perfect For a Quick Read

Alexis Wisler

December 16, 2021

Winter break is a great time to relax with a good book but sometimes reading a big novel after finals can feel daunting and exhausting. Below is a list of four small books that are perfect for a quick read over winter break.

“The Perks of Being a Wallflower” by Stephen Chbosky

Many are familiar with the movie adaptation of this coming-of-age story, but the book offers more insight into Charlie’s thoughts as he explores life during his first year of high school in the early 1990s.

Told through journal entries, this book is a quick read that will evoke a range of emotions out of those who read it. It should be known, however, that this novel deals with topics that might be triggering to some.

“The Yellow Wallpaper” by Charlotte Perkins Gilman

Technically a short story, “The Yellow Wallpaper” is about the deteriorating mental health of a woman and what she sees in the yellow wallpaper of her bedroom.

This short story is a great look at mental health and also gives suspense as readers wonder what will happen next with the woman and the wallpaper. Because it is a short story, this can be read in one evening and bring students out of a reading slump.

“Orbiting Jupiter” by Gary D. Schmidt

“Orbiting Jupiter” is a young adult novel about teenager Joseph and his foster family. Joseph’s foster family learns that Joseph has a daughter, Jupiter, that he has never met.

The novel revolves around Joseph’s search for his daughter and the brotherly relationship that forms between Joseph and his foster brother, Jack. This novel is only 160 pages, making it a perfect short and fast read for winter break.

“The Castle of Otranto” by Horace Walpole

“The Castle of Otranto” has it all: ghosts, a castle, a corrupt king and mystery around every corner. Regarded as the first Gothic novel, “The Castle of Otranto” continues to inspire an entire genre of fiction.

With only five chapters, this is a great book to read over winter break, especially for those who want to read something with mystery and intrigue.

Laker Staff Spotlight: Tiffany Hamilton
Kristina Shue
December 17, 2021

Tiffany Hamilton is the Lake Campus Community Coordinator but plays many roles at the Lake Campus and in the Grand Lake communities.

Hamilton fills many roles at Lake

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Hamilton oversees all daily operations of campus housing, managing resident assistant employment, and student housing activities. Hamilton is passionate about her work within the campus community.

“In my position, I get to have a lot more one-on-one relationships with students and I get to see them more on a personal level develop into adults. I see them from outside of the academic world a little bit; I see them more in their personal lives, and so that is the part that I enjoy [...] College is supposed to encompass the whole life experience, and so I get to kind of participate in the part that’s not like classroom work,” Hamilton said.

More recently, Hamilton has also taken on the role of ODS Liaison for the Lake Campus, being the primary contact for any Lake students looking for Disability Services assistance and test proctoring.

As of this year, Hamilton has also taken on many student engagement responsibilities and oversees all student organizations.

For the excellent fulfillment of her Lake Campus responsibilities, Hamilton received the Spirit of Service Award in 2021.

History with Lake Campus

Hamilton, a native of Springfield, Ohio, began her Wright State Lake Campus career as a student, transferring to the Lake in 2016 in pursuit of an education in agriculture.

“It was actually the agricultural program that attracted me to Lake Campus. Before that, before Lake Campus, I really wasn’t involved in much, and once I got up here, I just became more involved with the campus. The degree opportunity led me here, but also the environment,” Hamilton said.

Hamilton graduated from the Lake Campus with a Bachelor’s degree in Technical and Applied Studies with a focus in Agriculture. As a student, Hamilton was a resident assistant her senior year but was quickly promoted.

“Halfway through my senior year, I transitioned to a Senior RA position because my supervisor had resigned, and after that, after the academic school year was over, I transitioned into full-time staff,” Hamilton said.

Personal interests

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Although her professional life turned in a different direction, Hamilton has invested ample energy into agriculture projects. At her parents' home in Springfield, she started a farmer's market. Hamilton recalls telling her parents about her desire to get involved in the Lake agriculture program.

"My dad was like 'well, we have five acres outback, why don't you prove that you're serious and do something with it?' So he helped me plant 1,000 tomato plants and we had our little honesty box and we had our little vegetable stand that year. And from there, that's where the business has gone, so now they have a farmer's market," Hamilton said.

Her parents have since expanded the farmer's market which has now become their primary source of income.

In addition to agriculture, Hamilton is an active participant in the Buckeye Trail community.

"I like to do a lot of hiking in the summer months and help maintain the trail and make sure that it's safe for other hikers and bikers too," Hamilton said.

Breaking: WSU Appoints New Administrator to Boost Recruitment Efforts

Jamie Naylor

December 17, 2021

Wright State University (WSU) appoints Susan Schaurer to oversee enrollment, marketing and recruitment programs, hoping to spark new recruitment efforts.

The position

Following a months-long search, WSU names Schaurer as new vice president for enrollment management and chief recruitment officer.

Schaurer replaces interim Chief Recruitment Officer Jen McCamis. McCamis took over the position from Rob Durkle on Nov. 1, 2020, when Durkle had to [retire due to health reasons](#).

The new administrator will oversee all undergraduate and transfer recruitment efforts, as well as admissions, the college credit plus program (CCP), RaiderConnect, the University Center for International Education (UCIE) and the university's Office of Marketing.

Enrollment efforts

WSU has seen a decline in overall enrollment over the past four years with numbers in the fall of 2018 at 15,558 total students. Going into the 2022 spring semester, enrollment numbers rest at 7,826 for the Dayton campus, according to university data presented by President Sue Edwards during the Dec. 10, 2021, [Board of Trustees meeting](#).

Declining student involvement was also discussed during this meeting. Edwards hopes to remedy declining numbers by promoting her recruitment, retention and relationship campaign.

Edwards discussed increasing recruitment efforts in the transfer student and international student population. WSU has renewed partnerships with several local community colleges, including [Clark State](#), during the recent fall semester.

As chief recruitment officer, Schaurer will continue these efforts and enhance existing ones, according to a WSU Newsroom [press release](#).



The appointee

Schaurer holds over 13 years in higher education experience with her most recent position at Miami University, another regional Ohio university. There she also led enrollment and marketing efforts.

The highest level of education Schaurer holds is a master's degree in educational leadership from the University of Dayton, according to the release.

This appointment fills one of five still open administrative positions.

Area Counselor's Facing Burnout Amid Substance Abuse in Dayton
Chad Dudash
December 17, 2021

When the consequences are life and death, the hardest part of Sarah Collinsworth's job as a substance abuse clinician is when she has to leave it.

Collinsworth is a program coordinator at McKinley Hall, a non-profit substance abuse recovery agency. She also works in her private practice, Lighthouse Counseling and Wellness, as a therapist.

Addressing Burnout

Substance abuse clinicians including Collinsworth cite burnout as a major problem in the profession. The job boasts an annual estimated average turnover rate of 33 percent for counselors and 23 percent for supervisors, [concluded a 2010 study](#), and this was before the opioid epidemic started gaining momentum. On a bad year, annual turnover can be up to 50 percent in some areas.

Collinsworth has 15 years of experience in the substance abuse and addiction field. She describes burnout as feeling depleted.

"Montgomery County was in the paper, actually, like, across the country, because they had so many overdoses," Collinsworth said while recounting a particularly hard time during the height of the opioid epidemic in Montgomery County 2017 through 2018.

[There were 548 deaths in Montgomery County by November 2017.](#)

"It just got so overwhelming thinking about: is everybody safe, how do we get people in treatment? What do we need to do? Weeks would go by, and you just- you're just depleted," said Collinsworth.

Kaleb Barrows is the COO for DeCoach Rehabilitation Centre, a private substance abuse clinic based in Xenia, Ohio. The center provides both inpatient care, medication-assisted treatment, and sober housing.

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Barrows sees on average 12 percent turnover a year among his 100 employees. Turnover costs between 5,000 and 7,000 dollars per person at DeCoach, due to recruiting costs and new hire training. Turnover costs, as well as recruiting efforts, add even more stress on Barrows.

He believes that many of his employees leave due to burnout and see a less stressful opportunity elsewhere.

“I hear time and time again, why would I work here when I can make just as much at Menards? I can make just as much at Costco or more,” he says. “You can go to the Target distribution center, and make more money and have a less stressful position.”

Stress and passion

Collinsworth consistently had to juggle stress with her passion while working at Mckinley Hall and the Weekend Intervention Program, from 2011 to 2016. Her work week totaled at nearly 70 hours. Forty hours at McKinley Hall and nearly 30 hours at the program. She worked to provide as much care as she could.

“I called in sick three days in 11 years; I just had to power through,” recounts Collinsworth. It was then she realized she was burned out. “There’s this thought that if I can’t do it, nobody else can.”

The three-day-long Weekend Intervention Program was aimed at individuals who were charged with an OVI or Operating a Vehicle Impaired. The program includes group substance abuse therapy, information seminars, and individual substance abuse counseling.

Collinsworth worked at the program for 22 years, dedicating her weekends to the program throughout college and nearly her entire career in substance abuse.

“I mean, one of the things that I love so much about that program is that it was just an intimate weekend,” Collinsworth reminisces. “To see the change firsthand was phenomenal. You could just create this perfect space for people to say, okay, like everybody else is in this with me.”

At a certain point, the weekend program job started to take too much. Collinsworth began to feel a familiar depleted feeling.

“I was not doing the things I wanted to do. It’s like my life was just going on,” Collinsworth emphasized. “When I left [the Weekend Intervention Program], it was one of the hardest things that I had to do, but I knew that I had to do it.”

Self care

Collinsworth began practicing self-care, which she describes as creating a better environment, “[taking a day off] is really great in the moment, but you’re still going back to a crazy, chaotic life,” Collinsworth argues. “You really want to create this environment that you don’t want to run away from.”

Barrows attempts to create that environment at DeCoach by holding events, offering competitive benefits, and capping employees at 40 hours a week. Each staff member also receives on average three weeks of vacation per year.

“We promote self-care. We promote them taking their time off and just really utilizing the benefits that are offered to them,” Barrows asserts.

Both Barrows and Collinsworth said they recognize setting boundaries is not always easy and it takes time to find a balance. For Collinsworth, it took seven years to set boundaries for herself. Barrows notices tenured staff have stronger boundaries.

Collinsworth said the most important boundaries are not seeing patients on the weekend, journaling or taking time to reflect every day. She also caps her personal clients at 12, on top of some cases at McKinley. However, Collinsworth acknowledges not all clinician’s boundaries are the same.

Clinicians at DeCoach, depending on their department, can have up to 55 patients at a time. Despite the gap, this can still be a workable caseload, due to the wide range of treatment offerings at DeCoach in multiple stages of recovery.

Barrows said that lower caseloads are better for the outcome of the patient. His solution is to hire more therapists and to increase trainings for current staff. Sometimes though, in Barrows’ words, “you do your best with what you’re given.”

Collinsworth believes it is the responsibility of the clinician and the organization to work together to set appropriate boundaries because there will always be a need for their line of work.

“This idea of going, going, going, because there’s always something else to do is very strong with young clinicians,” she argues. “You just want to give and give and give and you don’t always recognize when you are completely depleted.”

Reclaiming balance

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Collinsworth argues the importance of developing a plan to prevent burnout, which must be purposeful and pay attention to all aspects of life.

Now that Collinsworth has reclaimed her work-life balance, she takes scheduled vacation time and using it to reflect. She recently returned from a backpacking trip to Vermont with a close friend. She took the time to be alone with her own thoughts.

“Something about being out there, with just alone time, was very challenging, but good for my mental health,” she said. “There were times when I hit a wall and I had to sit down and like, nope get yourself back up.”

“Be ‘purposeful’ that’s the word that always comes to my mind, because if you don’t, it will slip away,” said Collinsworth.

Sarah Collinsworth can be reached through her website at lighthouseadayton.com. Kaleb Barrows works for DeCoach Rehabilitation Centre, who can be reached through their website at decoachrehabctr.com

Some Faculty Members Question Effectiveness of Random Covid Testing

Brendan Blankenship

December 17, 2021

The Wright State (WSU) Faculty Senate raised concerns about the sustainability of the on-campus COVID-19 testing center.

COVID testing center

The COVID-19 testing center conducts rapid COVID testing in order to detect asymptomatic COVID cases according to Dean of Students, Chris Taylor.

“The required testing has allowed us to find asymptomatic COVID cases in [the WSU community] that would have otherwise gone unnoticed,” Taylor said.

The COVID testing center has distributed thousands of at-home tests to students, faculty, and staff according to Taylor. Taylor states that these tests are funded by the state of Ohio.

“Tests were provided free of charge by the State of Ohio and the testing center is funded by Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and federal government COVID funds,” Taylor said.

Testing effectiveness

The Faculty Senate discussed concerns regarding surveillance testing effectiveness at the Nov. 15 meeting. President Sue Edwards stated at the meeting that the university identified roughly seven asymptomatic cases a week out of about 437 tests administered.

However, According to Taylor, there were seven positive tests out of 701 total tests administered this semester with a 0.009% positivity rate.

Faculty Opinions

Some professors believe that surveillance testing is helpful in combating COVID cases on campus. Dr. Sara Paton, a professor in the Population and Public Health Sciences (PPHS) and epidemiologist, states that this is a useful tool to monitor COVID levels on campus.

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“It provides data for us to help make decisions on COVID mitigation strategies, such as mask-wearing and providing classes online versus in-person,” Paton said.

Surveillance testing shows whether COVID levels are increasing or decreasing according to Paton.

The Wright State Guardian reached out to Dr. Amanda Hinson-Enslin and she did not provide a response.

Read more on this topic [here](#).

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Football at Wright State? Board of Trustees Hears Possible Changes to Athletics

Brendan Blankenship

December 17, 2021

Wright State University's (WSU) Board of Trustees (BoT) weighed possible changes to the university's athletics program at the Special Committee on Intercollegiate Athletics meeting.

MRJ contract

WSU formed a contract with MRJ Advisors, a company that gives support and advice to universities based on the data they collect. This contract had MRJ collect data on Divisions I, II and III schools over the fall 2021 semester, according to MRJ's digital report presented to the board during the meeting.

BoT members agree that WSU should stay a Division I athletics university. This is because of data collected through a contract that WSU has with MRJ.

Factored into MRJ's analysis was WSU Athletics financial data. According to the presentation, the program brought in \$12,010,000 in 2020, while expenditures for that same year were \$12,100,000.

Revenue & Expense Trends



Year	Student Fees	Inst Support	Govt Support	Total Support	%	Tickets	Giving	Conf-NCAA	Royalties	Guarantees	Other	Total Generated	%	Total Revenue
2016		8,610,000	17,325	8,627,325	79.4%	310,488	400,860	441,751	386,525	233,000	470,051	2,242,675	20.6%	\$ 10,870,000
2017	-	8,560,000	13,640	8,573,640	78.5%	320,198	469,715	346,508	461,744	284,000	464,195	2,346,360	21.5%	\$ 10,920,000
2018	-	9,770,000	13,002	9,783,002	81.5%	317,095	211,636	530,361	491,645	306,250	370,011	2,226,998	18.5%	\$ 12,010,000
2019	-	10,040,000	10,880	10,050,880	81.1%	402,508	359,509	547,630	460,067	172,600	406,806	2,349,120	18.9%	\$ 12,400,000
2020	-	9,930,000	8,611	9,938,611	82.8%	405,189	471,679	397,136	474,115	83,500	239,770	2,071,389	17.2%	\$ 12,010,000

Year	Student Aid	Recruiting	Marketing	Salaries	Travel	Guarantees	Equipment	Other	Total Expenses
2016	2,900,000	244,615	358,882	4,750,000	1,200,000	15,319	315,032	2,496,152	\$ 12,280,000
2017	2,950,000	231,888	334,418	5,020,000	1,040,000	153,000	308,180	2,722,514	\$ 12,760,000
2018	2,940,000	182,035	222,959	4,880,000	1,070,000	160,000	196,958	2,258,048	\$ 11,910,000
2019	2,890,000	195,319	218,430	5,040,000	1,270,000	131,500	271,399	2,353,352	\$ 12,370,000
2020	3,000,000	124,880	259,013	5,050,000	858,879	169,395	251,675	2,386,158	\$ 12,100,000

Chart courtesy of MRJ Advisors

WSU's NCAA Division

WSU is currently a Division I school in the Horizon League for all its sports, including basketball. Divisions are split based on the size of the athletic program, with Division I being the largest division and Division III being the smallest.

WSU would only fall to Division II if they were to drop out of Division I. Division III would not offer athletic scholarships to students, according to Tim Hickman, an MRJ advisor.

Due to the financial analysis, the university's athletic success, its current competitive sports and its role in student life and recruitment, MRJ recommended WSU stay as a Division I athletic program.

However, WSU must reinstate or introduce three sports programs per NCAA regulations to remain Division I. The advisors also suggested that an Athletics merger with Campus Recreation and high-performing club sports could provide operational efficiency and feeder opportunities for new Division I sport programs.

[Check it Out: Club Football Finishes its First Winning Season in 8 Years](#)

MRJ conducted athletic surveys to see how students felt about athletics and what sports they would like to see. The board discussed adding football to WSU athletics as a Division II sport, and the Lake Campus expressed interest in having volleyball as a sport. Bowling was also mentioned.

WSU currently competes at Division I-AAA, which does not sponsor football at the intercollegiate level, according to the advisors' presentation.

"We have Division I schools that do not participate in the sport of football," Hickman said.

The Horizon League currently does not sponsor football, but members Robert Morris University and Youngstown State University play in Division I Football Championship Subdivision (FCS) with affiliate conferences.

Other schools, like Cleveland State University, have also considered the option of adding a football team. The only other FCS program in Ohio is the University of Dayton.

According to Hickman, Division II schools with a football program generate roughly the same revenue as Division I schools despite the lower budget.

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The advisors recommended that WSU maintain a member of the Horizon League.

Hickman also stated that maintenance would need to be addressed on athletic facilities, specifically, the Nutter Center.

BoT members, along with university administration, will develop a five-year plan to maximize revenue given the university's budget restructure, according to the presentation shown to the board.

Athletic fees

WSU does not have a fee that goes directly to the athletic program. The board discussed possibly implementing an athletic fee since many Division I schools have an athletic fee on top of tuition.

According to the board, an athletic fee may increase budgeting for WSU athletics. There is no required athletic fee at this time.

Student Athletic Survey

In their analysis of WSU's athletics, MRJ factored in student opinion via a student athletics survey. This survey conducted in October 2021 saw a 20% participation rate among the student population, 79% of which are non-athletes.

According to the survey results presented in the meeting, 48% of respondents indicated that athletics was a part of their student experience at WSU, 47% said athletics contributes to their Raider pride and 39% see WSU as a nationally recognized name in the college sports world.

Readers can read the [full MRJ report](#) on the Board of Trustees' website.