WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY PROFILE

Overview

Weber State University is an exceptional comprehensive university providing associate, bachelor and master's degrees to meet the needs of the region. WSU graduates are broadly educated, capable and prepared for meaningful careers, graduate and professional schools, and civic engagement. The hallmark of the university is excellent teaching with extraordinary interactions between faculty and students. WSU offers over 200 separate degrees/programs (see program listing on pages 414-419) – the largest and most expansive undergraduate program in the State of Utah. With a student body of over 18,000 drawn predominantly from Utah, but also including students from all 50 states and 35 foreign countries, WSU takes pride in its student-centered environment for learning and believes that quality education is founded upon close associations between faculty and students.

WSU is distinguished by outstanding academic programs that recruit motivated students to work with faculty to create and share knowledge. Through nearly fifty academic departments and programs in seven colleges, Weber State University provides learning opportunities for a diverse spectrum of students, including a Bachelor of Integrated Studies (BIS) program and an Honors program. The BIS offers students the opportunity to design their own degrees with three areas of academic emphasis meant to prepare them for specific career paths or graduate study, and the Honors program provides small classes in a rich, supportive, and challenging academic setting.

Academic studies are complemented by a wide range of extracurricular activities, including student government, intramural and intercollegiate athletics, and award-winning performing arts groups. In addition, the First Year Experience program helps new students adjust to the university community, while a variety of support services aid those with particular needs.

The WSU Ogden campus has 60 buildings on 526 acres that house abundant classrooms and laboratories, excellent student computing facilities, outstanding performing arts auditoriums, a spacious library, and a well-equipped health and fitness center. An area of continued growth is WSU-Davis, which provides instruction to students on a new high-tech campus in Layton. In addition to its Ogden and Davis campuses, WSU offers courses throughout the state and Intermountain West and is a leader in online instruction.

Historical Perspective

Weber State University was founded in Ogden, Utah, as Weber Stake Academy on January 7, 1889, by the Weber Stake Board of Education of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. The 1933 Utah Legislature established Weber College as a state junior college and placed it under the control of the Utah State Board of Education. Following World War II the college outgrew its downtown campus and moved to the present 400-acre site, spectacularly perched on the mountainside overlooking Ogden and the Great Salt Lake.

In 1959 the Utah Legislature authorized the addition of upper division courses, leading to award of the first baccalaureate degrees by Weber State College in 1964. The 1969 Legislature created the Utah System of Higher Education, comprising nine public institutions of higher learning, including Weber State College. The system is governed by a State Board of Regents, and each institution has its own Board of Trustees; members of both boards are appointed by the governor.

In 1990 the state legislature renamed the institution Weber State University, effective New Year's Day 1991, appropriately symbolizing its role as Utah's premier public, undergraduate university.

Mission Statement

Weber State University offers associate, baccalaureate and master degree programs in a broad variety of liberal arts, sciences, technical and professional fields. The university provides excellent educational experiences for its students through extensive personal contact among faculty, staff and students in and out of the classroom. To accomplish its mission, the university, in partnership with the broader community, engages in research, artistic expression, public service, economic development, and community-based learning experiences in an environment that encourages freedom of expression while valuing diversity.

Distinctive Characteristics

Weber State University offers certificate programs, associate's degrees, bachelor's degrees, and master's degrees in traditional academic areas as well as applied technology, health professions, and professional programs. The following are distinctive characteristics of Weber State University:

- In three out of four years, the Utah Professor of the Year was a Weber State University faculty member. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Department of Psychology, the 2006 Utah Professor of the Year. In 2005, Clinical Laboratory Sciences chair and professor Yasmin Simonian was honored as Utah's Professor of the Year. Political Science professor Frank Guliuzza received the honor in 2003.

- In 2006, for the second year in a row, a Weber State University student was invited to present undergraduate research at the prestigious Posters on the Hill event in Washington, D.C. WSU sophomore Kalista Francom's research on the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) was one of only 60 projects selected from more than 3,000 applications submitted nationwide. Kalista was the only student selected from the state of Utah. The Posters on the Hill event, sponsored by the Council on Undergraduate Research, is held annually to thank lawmakers for their support for federally funded scientific research and to demonstrate the results of that research at colleges and universities across the country. Last year, WSU zoology student Eric Gabrielsen was the only student selected from the state to present his findings on brine shrimp flies at the Capitol Hill event.

- WSU is a leader in online instruction and offers ten online degree programs that serve students all over the world. In the most recent term, over 6,000 students enrolled in WSU Online courses.

- The John B. Goddard School of Business & Economics offers an innovative Master of Business Administration program to meet the needs of students who wish to earn an MBA without disrupting their careers. Forty percent of each course's content is taught online, and the remainder is taught in the evening in a more traditional face-to-face format.
• In the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences, students compete in national moot court competition each year. Historically, WSU teams have fared well in the national competition, finishing in the top 10 seven times, including a third-place finish in 2005. According to Frank Guliuzza, the pre-law advisor, the experience helps students get admitted to law school and succeed once they get there.

• The Dr. Ezekiel R. Dumke College of Health Professions is a leader in state-of-the-art outreach and online educational delivery in the health professions. Programs are designed in a career-ladder format, encompassing certificate, associate’s degree, bachelor’s degree and master’s degree entry and exit points for health professionals. Starting in 2006 Weber State University began offering a Master of Health Administration degree in response to demand from local health care providers. The degree is the only graduate program of its kind currently available in the state.

• The College of Applied Science & Technology offers the last two years of bachelor’s degrees in both Computer Science and Construction Management Technology on the Redwood Campus of Salt Lake Community College. Courses are offered in the evenings for the convenience of students in the Salt Lake metropolitan area.

• The Athletic Training Program in the Department of Health Promotion and Human Performance, Jerry and Vickie Moyes College of Education, has achieved national accreditation status through the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).

• The College of Arts & Humanities provides cultural opportunities for northern Utah through its strong commitment to the integration of music, theater and dance. The Kimball Visual Arts Center hosts exhibitions of the works of nationally and internationally acclaimed artists as well as of WSU students.

• The College of Science provides unique opportunities for students to conduct undergraduate research in collaboration with faculty. These research opportunities greatly enhance a student’s success in finding rewarding employment in his/her chosen field, or getting accepted into top graduate and professional schools.

• Weber State University has been selected as the site for a Technology Innovation Center that will support the Utah Science, Technology and Research (USTAR) initiative. The new center, one of five planned throughout the state as part of USTAR’s Technology Outreach Program, will bring together local businesses and industry, government agencies and area educational institutions with the goal of sparking new business development, enhancing the climate for innovation, and stimulating the creation of more jobs.

Accreditation

Weber State University is regionally accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities. All applied technical education programs are fully accredited by the Utah State Office of Vocational Education. Teacher education programs are fully accredited by the National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification. In addition, specific professional agencies currently accredit or approve the following departments and programs:

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COLLEGE OF APPLIED SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Automotive Service Technology [AAS programs] (National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation)
Construction Management Technology (American Council of Construction Education)
Electronics Engineering Technology, Manufacturing Engineering Technology, Mechanical Engineering Technology (Technology Accreditation Commission of ABET, Inc.)
Interior Design Technology (National Kitchen & Bath Association) [Endorsement]

COLLEGE OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

Music (National Association of Schools of Music)

JOHN B. GODDARD

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

All undergraduate and graduate programs in business (AACSB - Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business)
School of Accountancy—all undergraduate and graduate programs in accounting (AACSB - Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business)

JERRY AND VICKIE MOYES

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Athletic Training (Commission on Accreditation of Athletic Training Education)
Early Childhood Education (National Association for the Education of Young Children Teacher Education Standards, National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education)
Elementary Education (Association of Childhood Education International)
Family Studies (National Council on Family Relations Standards for the Certified Family Life Educator)

Melba S. Lehner Children’s School (National Association for the Education of Young Children Standards)

Physical Education Teaching (National Association for Sport and Physical Education)
Teacher Education (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, Utah State Board of Education Standards)

DR. EZEKIEL R. DUMKE

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Clinical Laboratory Sciences (National Accrediting Agency for Clinical Laboratory Science)
Dental Hygiene (Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental Association)
Emergency Care & Rescue (Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs in the Emergency Medical Services Professions)
Health Administrative Services (Association of University Programs in Health Administration)
Health Information Management, Health Information Technology (Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education)
Nursing (National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission)
Respiratory Therapy (Committee on Accreditation for Respiratory Care)

COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Chemistry (American Chemical Society)
Commitment to an Inclusive Community

Pivotal to Weber State University's mission is the need to embrace and value the diversity of its members. Acknowledging the uniqueness of each individual, we seek to cultivate an environment that encourages freedom of expression. Because the University is a community where inquiry is nurtured and theories are tested, every individual has the right to feel safe to express ideas that differ from those held by other members of the community. However, all persons who aspire to be part of our campus community must accept the responsibility to demonstrate civility and respect for the dignity of others. Recognizing that the proper balance between freedom of expression and respect for others is not always apparent or easy to achieve, we must continually challenge ourselves and each other in an atmosphere of mutual concern, good will and respect. Therefore, expressions or actions that disparage an individual's or group's ethnicity, gender, religion, sexual orientation, marital status, age or disability are contrary to the mission of Weber State University.

Request for Waivers

All students at Weber State University have the right, with appropriate rationale, to request a waiver of University policies or requirements. Help with preparing waiver requests can be obtained from the Registrar's Office, SC 201, 801-626-6046, or from the Assistant Dean of Students, Davis Campus Room 261, 801-395-3460.

Student Code

Students attending the University are expected to adhere to certain standards as defined in the Weber State University Student Code, a copy of which is available from the Office of the Dean of Students (Student Service Center, Room 150) or on-line at http://weber.edu/ppm/6-22.htm.