

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

STUDENT SERVICES

On October 9, 2019, we celebrated the official opening of the Anthony Wayne Drive Apartment Complex with a ribbon-cutting, street fair with our new and old retail vendors, building tours, and an evening outdoor movie. The Anthony Wayne Drive Apartments are now a new home for 841 WSU students living in studio, one-, two-, and four-bedroom furnished apartments. Also, on October 9, 2019 a luncheon was held to recognize the 2019-20 Corvias Scholars, sophomore biomedical engineering major Melissa Torres and freshman chemistry major Kaitlyn Pierce. Each winner will receive a \$12,500 scholarship and travel and development opportunities through the Corvias Foundation.

STUDENT LIFE

The first ever Wayne State National Coming Out Day Drag Show was held on Friday, October 11. As part of Homecoming Week, the show was called the "Homecoming Out Day Drag Show." Over 250 students were in attendance. This culminated a week of campus events to celebrate Coming Out Week.

The National Study of Learning, Voting, and Engagement (NSLVE) in October released its report of college student voting in the 2018 midterm election. Wayne State University student voting increased to 53%, up from 27% in the 2014 midterm elections. The national institutional voting rate was 39%, up from 19% in 2014.

Student Senate President Stuart Baum was selected as a 2019-2020 Newman Civic Fellow. This program recognizes and supports community committed students who are change makers and public problem-solvers at Campus Compact member institutions. Stuart was also selected as one of 33 college students in the state to serve on Secretary of State Jocelyn Benson's Collegiate Advisory Task Force and Wayne State hosted the task force for a half day summit in October.

STUDENT SUCCESS

APEX: We had 86% of APEX Summer Bridge students successfully complete the program. We had 95% of the successful students enrolled as freshmen this fall. The new FAFSA FOR 2020 campaign is going better than anticipated. APEX Staff offered out of their own pockets, \$150 cash raffle for students who rollover their FAFSA before winter registration opens. We also encourage attendance for students and parents to come to FAFSA Fridays. Our new APEX Business Peer Mentors escorted our new freshmen to the School of Business Career Fair. Freshmen observed the format, interactions, professionalism, and dress of the students seeking internships and part-time jobs. Our hope is that they will be able to anticipate the preparation necessary when their time comes to apply for a job. For the third year, APEX partnered with the College of Engineering to send students to the Women of Color STEM Conference in downtown Detroit. All who attended enjoyed the experience of attending a professional conference with nationally known speakers.

Career Services: WSU employed 4,643 Student Assistant and Work-Study employees in FY2019 for a total expenditure of \$12,214,000. In addition, 16,392 students/alumni and 14,289 employers registered with Career Services 24/7 online system; Handshake. Moreover, 87% of WSU's December 2018 graduating class reported being employed within

six month after graduation, 74% indicated their degree was related to their employment, 91% were employed while attending WSU, and 42% participated in an internship experience.

Federal TRIO: Reflecting the Wayne State University community's historic commitment to access and excellence, the TRIO College Day/ETS Program hosted 300 students from the Southfield, Hazel Park and University Prep Academy School Districts at the Student Success Conference held October 8, 2019 at the Student Center. Students engaged in the following workshops designed to prepare them for academic success and financial literacy in postsecondary education:

- 9th Grade Transition into High School
Focus: Effective strategies for successful transition from Middle School to High School.
Presenter: Lindsay Scott, Counselor-TRIO Educational Talent Search
- 10th Grade Collegiate Reality
Focus: Overview of differences between High School and College/University academic expectations, workload and social life.
Presenter: Jamar Lockhart, Counselor Educational Talent Search
- 11th Grade College Fit
Focus: Effective strategies and tips for selecting colleges and universities that increase student odds for success.
Presenter: Jonathan Parks, Manager, College Day/TRIO Educational Talent Search
- 12th Grade Paying for College
Focus: Information and strategies on ways to finance a college education via grants, scholarships, loans, employment etc.
Presenter Rayven McMurray, Technician, Educational Talent Search

The event also featured a personal and professional development panel led by the following individuals:

- Angela Yee: Radio Personality/Host
- David McGhee: Associate Vice President, Skillman Foundation
- Bryan Barnhill: Board of Governors, Wayne State University
- Aliyah Sabree: Judge 36th District Court
- Mary Sheffield: Detroit City Council 5th District
- Kelli Coleman: Serial Entrepreneur

Operation Excellence Team: Darryl Gardner, formerly the director of the Emerging & Rising Scholars Programs, has joined the student success team as the director of Operational Excellence, Student Success. In this new leadership role to the university, his primary responsibility will be in supporting each and every member of the campus in being a strategic partner in student success.

The purpose of Operational Excellence (OE) is to generate trust, understanding, confidence and goodwill to foster change that is more sustainable, scalable, and enduring.

OE will help shape and operationalize the overarching student success strategy and vision by:

- Deepening and facilitating collaboration with all student success stakeholders across campus.
- Deepening and supporting the role of faculty.
- Expanding the use of data and predictive analytics to offer more proactive support to our students.

- Supporting academic units in boosting student momentum in their progress to degree.
- Developing action teams focused on boosting student momentum.
- Developing effective and appropriate evaluations and assessment for student success programs, projects, strategies, and interventions.
- Developing branding and marketing strategies for Student Success and all associated initiatives.
- Developing awareness through the development of student success resources, campaigns, reports, publications and events.

The University of Utah, with the support of the Lumina Foundation, hosted the College Completion Summit. The College Completion Summit was an invitation-only event that brought together presidents and senior leaders from public universities that have significantly advanced their college completion rates. Wayne State was one of about 20 institutions invited to this exclusive event. Attendees had the opportunity to network, share best practices and develop actionable strategies for increasing college completion on our respective campuses. Senior Associate Provost, Monica Brockmeyer, was invited to participate on a panel to discuss achieving equity in completion. We also had the great fortune of sending two students from our Warrior VIP learning community.

Student Disability Services: SDS has had a busy start to the fall 2019 semester. Since August 1, 2019 we have registered 249 new students; 191 undergraduates, 38 graduate students, and 20 from our professional schools. We continue to attend outreach events so that we can support as many students with disabilities as possible. We have recently held our fall liaison workshop for academic staff so that our university partners understand the support we provide to students. We have administered approximately 386 exams this fall semester to date, which is an increase from last fall semester. SDS has also been working with C&IT to pilot use of Echo360 technology to livestream lecture classes to our remote CART transcript writers. This service provides real-time speech-to-text transcription to deaf/hard of hearing students. This process eliminates the need for students to come to SDS before each class to check out microphone and receiver sets to give the remote transcriber audio access to the class. This service reduces the workload for faculty in captioning their lectures and ensuring we are providing accessible digital content for students with hearing impairments.

University Advising Center: The University Advising Center would like to recognize two employees who continue to improve the University Advising Center. First, Amber Neher, Academic Services Officer in the University Advising Center, supports the academic and transition needs of Warrior Way Back (WWB) and returning adult learners. To support student needs, Amber has created a workshop series “Tuesday Talks” with a variety of topic and speakers that are tailored to the adult learner. September’s talk was an overview of the program, October’s talk featured financial aid, and in November the topic is focused on learning skills/test anxiety strategies for adult learners. Amber, along with Chloe Lundine from Enrollment Management, are aware of the competing responsibilities for our adult learner population so created a Facebook page as another opportunity to connect with students through social media.

Arnelle Douglas, pre-law advisor in the University Advising Center, has revamped the program by developing a stronger online presence outlining the advising support provided. His advising includes preparing and registering for the LSAT, writing the personal statement, and sharpening academic skills. This semester, Arnelle created two workshops focused on

the law school personal statement. The first workshop, offered October 15th, introduced the purpose of the personal statement, creating its central idea, and constructing an outline. Workshop II, on November 5th, will build off workshop I concepts and lead to draft reviews and refinement. Arnelle has reached out to faculty in Wayne's law school to build a stronger connection and stay current on law school trends so that he can provide the most current, up-to-date support to his students.

Warrior VIP: The Wayne State University Warrior Vision and Impact Program (VIP) is a comprehensive student support program and learning community. In partnership with other learning communities and departments across the University, the Warrior VIP ensures students' successful transition into college, fosters their positive engagement in the university setting and prepares students to challenge themselves as leaders beyond graduation. Warrior VIP students are part of a community of learners who thrive intellectually and personally. With the support of Wayne State University's Office of the President, the Office of the Provost, a skilled team of peer mentors and the generosity of external donors, the Warrior VIP welcomed 76 new students in the 2017/2018 academic year, an additional 136 new students in Fall 2018, and 154 students Fall 2019. We are currently recruiting the 2020/2021 cohort.

CORE COMPONENTS OF THE WARRIOR VIP

Weekend and evening Pre-college Sessions introduce students to WSU resources and help students establish connections with other incoming students and university faculty and staff during their last year of high school. The five-day Momentum Summer Experience immerses students in lectures and discussions with faculty and learning specialists to strengthen academic skills and learning strategies during the week prior to the start of the semester. Students establish friendships and begin their first semester with an understanding of their strengths and prepared to leverage resources to make improvements in other areas. Peer Mentors serve as trusted guides, helping students navigate the new college environment. Peer mentors also help students recognize that many of their anxieties about college life are shared by their peers and that the university has supports in place to ensure that they progress successfully. First-Year Seminar (FYS) 1010 is grounded in the science of learning and emphasizes a growth mindset to drive student motivation and achievement. To support students' career exploration and major selection, the VIP Speaker Series introduces students to professionals in a variety of fields and to the wide range of opportunities within industries. Financial Literacy and Education workshops teach students how to make smart decisions about the dollars they earn and help students stay knowledgeable about credit, budgeting and student loans. The Warrior VIP Coalition is comprised of student services representatives and program coordinators who meet regularly to make efficient use of university capacities, share resources and best practices and address student concerns. Students who participate in learning communities affiliated with the VIP Coalition benefit from the shared resources and the improved communications that have resulted from the coordinated support of learning community partners.

THE IMPACT

VIP students from the initial 2017 class were retained into their third year at a rate of 80%, compared to 69% for the cohort overall. The retention rate was 82% for VIP students who completed FYS 1010 during their first semester. Black students who took FYS 1010 during their first semester were retained into their third year at a rate of 83%. This is particularly significant as we address educational disparities and work to eliminate our graduation gap.

The second VIP class was retained at a rate of 80% into their second year, compared to 79% retention for the overall 2018 cohort.

EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH (EO)

Associate Vice President Ahmad Ezzeddine served on a Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG) task force that developed the report “Future Skills: Preparing for the Changing World of Work,” which highlights the talent needs of the region and offers case studies of successful programs and initiatives that could be replicated to build the talent pipeline. Two WSU programs are highlighted as case studies: Educational Outreach’s Office of Executive and Professional Development’s work with the Department of Computer Science in delivering cyber security courses with industry certifications, and the university’s Warrior Way Back student debt forgiveness program

Transfer Student Success Center (TSSC):

Transfer Open House drew prospective students and their parents to campus in November, providing them with details on academic programs and support, financial aid and admissions. Transfer students continue to play a large role in Wayne State’s undergrad enrollment, with transfers comprising 57 percent of the fall 2018 graduating class and 47 percent of the spring 2019 graduating class.

Harris Literacy Program:

The Harris Literacy Program, managed by EO and funded by a gift from philanthropist Mort Harris, expanded community outreach to include the Midtown neighborhood with the launch of its first on-campus programming. Offering both English language and math skills, the program provides free basic education classes to adult learners. For many students, this is the first opportunity they have had to feel the energy and excitement of learning on Wayne State’s campus. Classes are offered weekdays in the Adamany Undergraduate Library.

The Harris Literacy Program partnered with Reading Works to host the fifth annual Practice-Based Updates for Literacy Skill Development and Employment (PULSE) conference on Nov. 15. Jeff Donofrio, director of the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Opportunities, keynoted the event, during which adult education and literacy practitioners explored research-based best practices. Highlights included breakout sessions on trauma-informed teaching, digital literacy in the classroom, engaging adult students with storytelling, English as a second language and diversity, math strategies for everyone, bridge/career pathways, and the power of the arts in the adult education classroom.

Executive and Professional Development (EPD):

EPD is developing a noncredit professional development program for law enforcement professionals in partnership with Wayne State Police and Campus Safety and the Department of Criminal Justice. The inaugural cohort starts in January 2020.

EPD completed its first year of administering certification courses for the National Association of County Collectors, Treasurers, and Financial Officers. Partnering with the department of political science, EPD worked with representatives from the master’s of public administration program to provide courses to 28 government officials from across the U.S., and certificates of completion were presented at the group’s national conference.

- The Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), managed by EPD, held several training courses for Detroit-based small businesses in in the final quarter of

2019. Workshops included market research, general services administration overview, proposal writing, and government contracting 101. PTAC also participated in business development/matchmaker events with the Great Lakes Water Authority, Walbridge Construction and the SBA Emerging Leaders Program to promote its services and help Detroit-based businesses grow in the government markets at the federal, state, and local levels.

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Office of International Programs (OIP):

OIP launched the first round of funding from its new endowed Global Experiences Scholarship to help provide access to study abroad programs that can make international education opportunities possible for first-gen and diverse students. Scholarships of \$1,000 to \$2,000 will be awarded to qualified, first-time study abroad participants in winter 2020. In order to continue the momentum and share the excitement of their study abroad experience upon their return, scholarship recipients must participate in at least two activities related to their experience, such as serving as an English Language Institute Conversation Partner, volunteering at a study abroad outreach event, or providing peer advising in the Office of Study Abroad and Global Programs.

Following up on its Giving Day fundraising project, OIP began awarding passports to students undertaking their first WSU-sponsored study abroad programs during 2020, (faculty-led short-term programs and/or semester-long exchanges). Donations on Giving Day were matched by OIP with the goal of providing up to 100 passports to students from underserved groups. Passports cost \$145 and the financial burden of obtaining one can discourage some students from studying internationally.

An Open House to recruit Canadian students to WSU was hosted by OIP Nov. 7. Held at the St. Clair Centre for the Performing Arts in Windsor, part of St. Clair College, students met with representatives from schools and colleges, admissions, financial aid and the Transfer Student Success Center. Three Canadian undergrads – each of whom has an academic scholarship – helped at the event to answer questions from students and parents.

OIP and the Office of New Student Orientation hosted International Student Welcome for new international students to help them feel like a part of the campus community and to meet fellow Warriors. A resource fair provided information about academic resources, banking, cell phones and the Campus Health Center. This is the second year the program has been offered.

The Institute of International Education has selected OIP to host Fulbright Pre-Departure Orientation for American Fulbright awardees heading to the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region in June 2020. This is the second year OIP was selected to host this grant-based program.

World Learning has awarded a new program for Iraqi high school students to Wayne State, with program management handled by OIP. The Iraqi Young Leaders Exchange Program-High School (IYLEP) will bring 70 high schoolers from Iraq and 12 World Learning staff members to campus for eight days in July 2020 for orientation before the students head to homestays across the country. The English Language Institute will play an integral role in this experience, helping the students improve their communication skills. The program is sponsored by the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad and the U.S. Department of State, with funding provided by the U.S. government and administered by World Learning.

WSU also has been named a host university partner for IYLEP-Undergraduates for the second year in a row. This effort will bring 25 Iraqi undergrads to campus for three weeks in July 2020 to foster communication among different groups and help develop future leaders. World Learning says the application review panel “was impressed by the programming, details and resources throughout the proposal, and excited to continue our partnership with Wayne State to implement an impactful IYLEP program.”

- Representatives from the American University of Kurdistan recently met with OIP, the English Language Institute and the College of Engineering to learn about WSI programs and ways our institutions can collaborate.
- OIP hosted a Professional Fellow from Indonesia for three weeks via the Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI). Funded by the Department of State, YSEALI is the federal government's leadership development program for Southeast Asia and implemented by American Councils. WSU has been fortunate to host visitors through similar programs of the Department of State, including Young Leaders of the Americas Initiative and Professional Fellows Program. The fellow, Mustika Tarra, holds a degree in architecture and a master's of management. She assisted with various special projects in OIP and Educational Outreach, and observed events and workshops campus wide.
- OIP organized a visit with presidents and rectors from eight top universities in Medellin, Colombia, and the WSU Innovation Studio at TechTown. The representatives were part of the International Visitors Leadership Program, a U.S. Department of State-sponsored initiative that enacts exchange programs for foreign leaders. The visit was led by Global Ties Detroit, which brought the representatives to TechTown to discuss strategies and topics for university entrepreneurship and innovation centers.