

# CWU University Advancement Impact Report

Central Washington University, like many other institutions, experienced unprecedented challenges during the 2021 fiscal year. But our community stepped up despite the challenges presented. Recognizing that our students need support more than ever, the Wildcat family came together in the most wonderful manner. More than 3,300 donors committed over \$8 million to ensure that our students could attend, stay in and graduate from college.

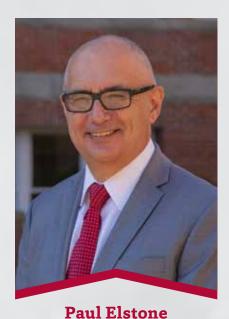
To all our donors, I would like to extend a sincere thank you for your willingness to provide our students and faculty with this life-changing support. Your generosity is truly making a difference in the lives of countless families across our region.

In this report, you will see a breakdown of the impact of your support this fiscal year, standout numbers, a financial overview, and some highlights of the past year.

As we set our sights on the future of the university, I look forward to working with President Jim Wohlpart to engage with our many friends and supporters across the state, region, and country. Your continued support will make a tremendous impact on our university community in the next year and beyond.

Thank you,





Vice President, University Advancement | Executive Director, CWU Foundation

# In this report, you will see the impact you, as donors, made through University Advancement as well as our goals for FY22.

Our overall objective to engage constituents and support the university's philanthropic mission in FY21 was met with creativity and flexibility. We met virtually instead of in person for our usual gatherings, like the Distinguished Alumni Awards banquet and regional activities, and demonstrated our Wildcat determination and found ways to stay connected. Your generous support is documented in the following pages.

#### **VISION**

around our mission, values, and priorities

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#### **ENGAGEMENT**

of our alumni, donors, community members, students, faculty, and staff

• • • •

#### **INVESTMENT**

is an intentional and personalized approach that results in transformational support for the university



















2021 Distinguished

This year, we discovered ways to stay engaged virtually, leveraging technology to connect with Wildcats through the Alumni Association Webinars Series [4], virtual events, townhalls with the deans, the President's Reception for donors, sharing thank-you videos from students [8], and even a virtual tour of the new Health Sciences Facility [9]. (with the CWU Retirement Association).

We continued the tradition of recognizing standout alumni and donor, like awarding Ret. General James N. Mattis with an honorary degree [7], and holding the 2021 Distinguished Alumni Awards [6] and Wildcat Athletic Association Hall of Fame virtually.

You, our donors, helped us meet our fundraising goals to net the third-best year for CWU. This included \$1.5 million from the late Wilma Bowers Stellingwerf to enable the library to update its facilities and enhance its education and research resources [5], \$400,000 from Roy and Isabel Tullis to support the CWU Brooks Library [2], and \$50,000 from James (Jim) Andersen to create the James L. Andersen Endowed Scholarship to support College of Business students [10].

The CWU Foundation continued the Washington State Opportunities Scholarship (WSOS) partnership, receiving over \$200k in scholarships for WA students [1].

Through outreach such as digital marketing, we kept in touch with our constituents and campaign efforts resulted in over 245,000 impressions to help improve reach and engagement [3].



Because of donors like you, the colleges and units of Central Washington University have had a year full of achievement. Without your commitment, we would not have been able to go above and beyond our goals. We look forward to another great academic year with your continued support.

Accomplishments for each of the colleges can be found on page 22–27.



## **Athletics**















## Student Spotlight

"It has been an honor for me to receive a scholarship to CWU. Your gifts have allowed me to achieve my academic goal of earning a bachelor's degree in biology with a biomedical specialization and continue on to pursue a master's degree. Thank you for the generous role you play in supporting what all student-athletes here at Central are trying to accomplish. I am so grateful and blessed to be a Wildcat. Go Cats!"



Marqus Gilson, Men's Basketball Bachelor of Science in Biology



**Current-Use Funds** 

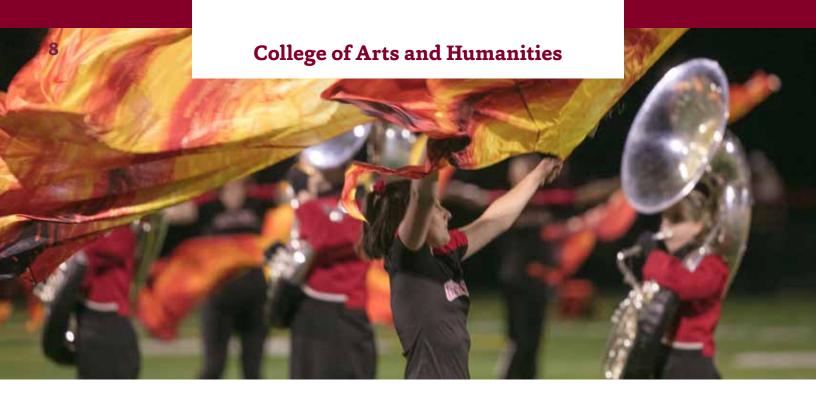
\$777,748



Awarded Endowed Scholarships

\$45,876

Grand Total: \$823,354



"As a first-generation Mexican-American born in Yakima, Washington, I grew up always being told by my parents to value my education and to appreciate the opportunities given here in America. Since then, I have held onto this advice and cherished my education. What sold me on attending Central Washington University was going to the art department's College Art Day event. There, I got to see Randall Hall's outstanding art studios and galleries and interact with professors.

Thank you for awarding this generous scholarship. It validates the many hours I spend practicing my craft and shows my family that there are opportunities in art. I hold this scholarship close to my heart."



Herminia Ramirez, Class of 2021 Art + Design Excellence Scholarship



Current-Use Funds

\$1,482,766



Endowment Funds (Non-Scholarship)

\$9,428



Endowed Scholarships

\$65,293

Grand Total: **\$1,557,487** 



"I am incredibly appreciative of your support in helping me complete my degree here at CWU. As a first-generation college student paying my way through school with minimal financial support, this scholarship will certainly help ease some of the burden of paying off student loans.

I am a double major, working towards bachelor's degrees in business administration with a specialization in marketing; and economics with a specialization in business forecasting. I will also be earning a minor in sports business. My long-term career goals include growing the Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) in order to help the league realize its first net profit and coaching women's college basketball. In the short term, I have career aspirations to work in Inside Sales in the WNBA or NBA. After a couple of seasons, I would like to work my way up into a marketing or data analyst position within either league.

Thank you again for providing me with this scholarship. Words fail to fully express the depths of my gratitude for you and this scholarship."



Linae Myhand
Class of 2022
Business Administration
and Economics Major
Sports Business Minor



Current-Use Funds

\$207,848



Endowment Funds (Non-Scholarship)

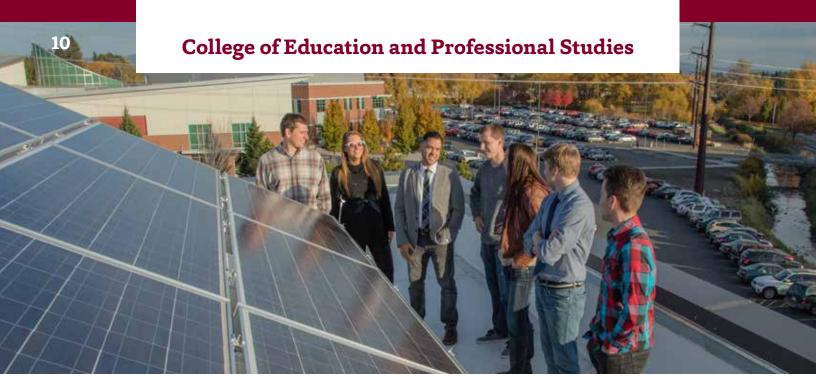
\$1,150



Endowed Scholarships

\$294,284

Grand Total: **\$503,282** 



"Thank you for your generous financial support toward the future of my education. I am an apparel, textiles and merchandising major and business minor who plans to seek a career in the fashion industry. By awarding me the Carolyn Schactler Scholarship, I will be able to focus more on my education without worrying about how I will be able to pay for my next quarter. Your generosity is allowing me to make my goals and dreams an attainable reality. I hope with this opportunity I am given to further my education, I get to inspire those with similar passions."



Krystal Bui Class of 2023 Apparel, Textiles, and Merchandising Major Business Minor



Current-Use Funds

\$385,881



Endowment Funds (Non-Scholarship)

\$104,200



Endowed Scholarships

\$654,352

Grand Total: **\$1,144,433** 



"Thank you for your generosity and helping me achieve my academic and career dreams. With this investment in my education, I hope to become an exemplary officer and become a role model for future generations. With this scholarship, I was able to spend more time as a reserve officer learning from current officers. And now I was recently hired as a police officer for the Ellensburg Police Department. I look forward to a long and prosperous career here in the Ellensburg community and I look forward to serving in the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me."



Nate Rawson
Class of 2021
Law and Justice Major
Digital Forensics and Incident
Response Minor,
Ben and Nancy Remak Law and
Justice Scholarship Recipient



Current-Use Funds

\$203,058



Endowment Funds (Non-Scholarship)

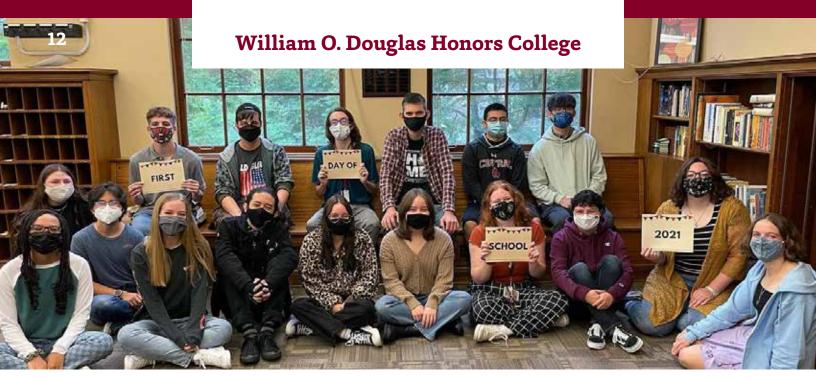
\$6,688



Endowed Scholarships

\$984,049

Grand Total: \$1,193,795



"The DHC provided me with the space to be curious about my education and helped me develop into a scholar who found myself constantly questioning the world around me. This sparked a passion for love of learning, curiosity, and finding a subject and discipline that I am passionate about."



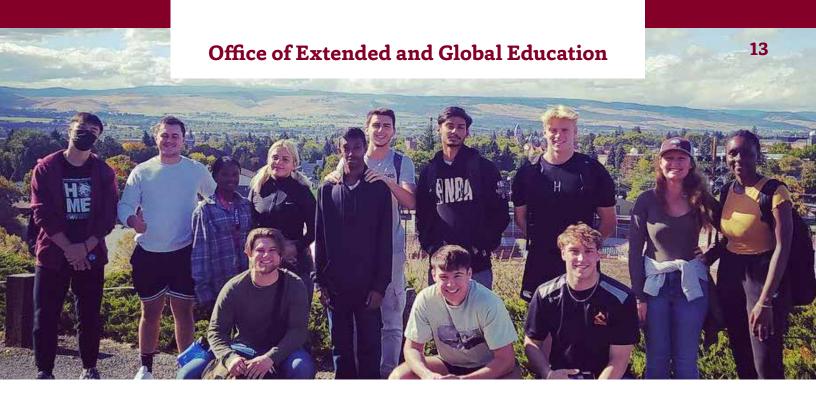
Gerald Lemon
Class of 2021
Bachelor of Arts in Women's,
Gender and Sexuality Studies,
Bachelor of Arts in Sociology,
Minor in
Interdisciplinary Honors



Current-Use Funds

\$8,448

Grand Total: \$8,448



"My name is Mukobe Lukwes and I am an international student from Zambia that graduated with a Bachelor of Science in cell and molecular biology. During my undergraduate experience, I have worked for ASCWU as a student senator, a writer for HerCampus, and a board member of CASA and the Central International Student Club. In addition, I am a recipient of the Gerrits & Macinko Scholarship which has made it possible for me to complete my studies at CWU and get me closer to my ultimate career goal of becoming a research scientist in the future. I am currently working as an associate scientist in Maryland and plan on pursuing a masters for the fall of 2022. Through interacting with a diverse student body and getting involved, CWU has prepared me for life beyond academics and I have acquired tools that will serve me well as I continue in my career journey!"



Mukobe Lukwesa Class of 2021 Bachelor of Science in Cell and Molecular Biology



Current-Use Funds

\$10,175

Grand Total: **\$10,175** 

"I am proud to be a first-generation college student in these times.

My parents who came from Mexico with no education and no money came to a new country to have a better life for their kids. They gave me everything to be able to succeed and to be able to further my education. With the help from you, I am able to achieve my goals. Thank you so much for giving me this support and helping me to make my dreams come true."



Maricruz Guillen Class of 2022 Social Services Major



Current-Use Funds

\$651,468

Grand Total: **\$651,468** 



"Thank you so much for awarding me the Ruth Harrington Scholarship! It will greatly help me as I head into my first year of college and start to pursue my dream career. I'll be paying for college on my own as I work part time, so scholarships like this are a blessing to help me meet my financial obligations for tuition. I chose CWU because I have enjoyed living in Ellensburg and wanted to continue my education here. My goal is to become an occupational therapist so that I can help children live full lives and reach their potential. Thank you so much for this scholarship! I promise I will make you proud!"



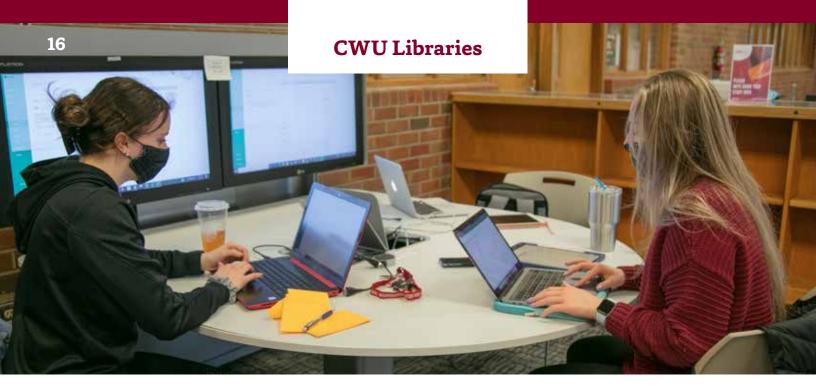
Elisa Wallace Class of 2024 Exercise Science Major



Current-Use Funds

\$1,219,562

Grand Total: **\$1,219,562** 



"My job at the CWU library has been one of the best opportunities I could have ever asked for. It has helped show me what I am passionate about and what career direction I would like to take, along with allowing me to work with both wonderful coworkers and patrons. The scholarships that are made available to the library workers have been a huge blessing to me and my family and have allowed me to be able to comfortably attend college and to save money. They have truly helped me so much throughout my time at CWU and I am incredibly thankful!"



Carolin Bigwood
Class of 2022
Elementary Education
Major, Music and Library
& Information Science
Minor



Current-Use Funds

\$546,684



**Endowed Scholarships** 

\$12,094

Grand Total: \$558,778



## Alumni Association Engagement Overview



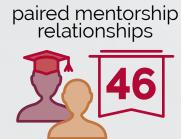
95,551 alumni nationwide



**1,444** current memberships







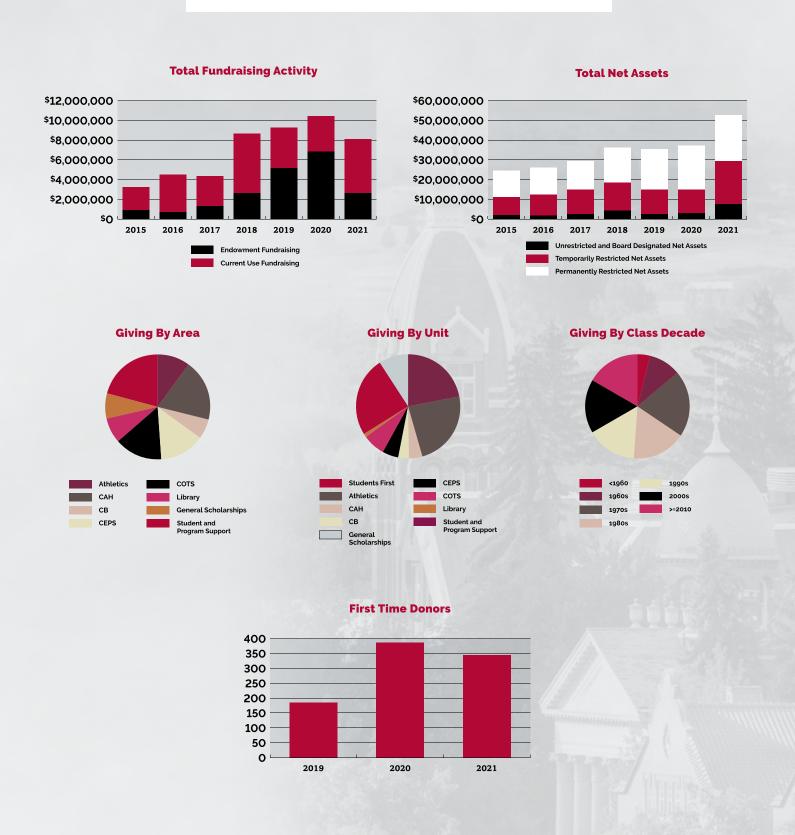
alumni/students paired, one matched to field of work; six externships



850/19

Virtual engagement of over 850 alumni in 19 states, through virtual 2021 Distinguished Alumni Awards and webinars.

# **CWU Foundation Financial Overview**







\*New gifts and pledges, including bequest expectancies



\$52,522,627

Total net assets



\$2,616,948

Endowment fundraising



\$5,493,366

Current use fundraising

As of June 30, 2021



\$1,564,930

Scholarship support to students



\$1,610,156

Program support to the university









\$1,527,502

In Annual Giving \$141,254

Students First Giving **3,318** Total donors

950 Scholarships awarded



## College Accomplishments

#### **Athletics**

- The athletic department GPA was 3.477.
- In the fall, winter, or spring quarters, 157 student-athletes earned a 4.0.
- There were 282 individual student-athletes on the Dean's List (3.5 GPA or higher).
- For the first time in conference history, Central Washington University has won the Great Northwest
- Athletic Conference Academic All-Sports Championship, presented by Barnes & Noble College.
- We had a record number 882 donors in 2020-21.
- There were nearly \$500k in improvements to CWU baseball & softball facilities.
- We were a finalist for a NCAA Excellence Award.

#### **College of Arts and Humanities**

- The CWU EthicsLab Initiative was launched, and with it, nationally-webcast panels about COVID, civil discourse, protest, and health disparities. The EthicsLab is the first interdisciplinary, public humanities space in the Pacific Northwest, and develops innovate approaches to actual ethical dilemmas facing the community.
- The college received a generous donation to fund externships relating to agriculture and food-security, through our new Classroom-to-Career (C2C) Initiative. C2C provides early, brief vocational exposure to College of Arts & Humanities students, and provides full funding for the entire externship experience: professional dress, travel, accommodation, and tuition.
- Fourteen CAH faculty lines, one staff position, and 12 computer lab stations were funded through a major national endowment for the humanities grant awarded to the CWU College of Arts & Humanities and Libraries.
- The college's first faculty and staff giving campaign, Choose
  Where Change Happens, quadrupled the number of CAH
  employees who give back to CWU and funded scholarships,
  student success efforts, diversity initiatives, and technology
  upgrades in all of our departments.
- The CWU Department of English's online professional and creative writing degree ranked #4 nationally for best online undergraduate programs, improving on its former top national rank of #7.
- The college continued its tradition of leading student media outlets to national awards. The Observer, CWU's student newspaper, won second place at the American Collegiate Press awards for best website, and Pulse, CWU's student magazine, landed second place for best feature magazine and #3 for best social justice reporting.

- College faculty continued to grow the reputation of CWU by having their creative work featured in national and international venues. Lily Vuong (philosophy and religious studies) was awarded an internationally-competitive fellowship at the University of Regensburg, Germany to study at the Centre of Advanced Studies. You may have also seen that both Taneum Bambrick (English) and David Bieloh (Art+Design) placed their work in the New Yorker.
- The Department of World Languages & Cultures welcomed its inaugural class into Washington State's first degree in Deaf Studies and American Sign Language (ASL). The program is already the fastest-growing program in the college and meets a need for educators, practitioners, and students of all backgrounds to gain technical expertise in ASL.
- English, music, and world languages & cultures received a generous endowment to support student and faculty research and study abroad experiences. The gift provides for transformative national and international scholarship in the future.
- Theatre arts and Africana Black Studies brought the Dialogues: Voices from Performance series virtually to national audiences throughout the school year. Dialogues highlighted the work of diverse artists, scholars, and activists in the fields of theatre, dance, and performance studies.
- CWU's music department, through the generosity of donors and a partnership with Ted Brown Music, began livestreaming all of its events through its Youtube channel, https://www.youtube.com/user/CWUmusicdept. Music performances were viewed in nearly all 50 states and several countries!

#### College of Business

- CB returned to graduate education in the fall of 2020. The revamped Masters of Professional Accountancy (MPA) program and the new Graduate Certificate in Human Resource Management both launched with strong cohorts.
- Several hallmark events returned this year in a virtual format, including LAUNCH, the Women in Business Conference, and the Northwest Center for Sport Summit.
- CB successfully initiated Beyond Business: Tuesday
  Night Talks. This weekly series focused on wide-ranging
  student professional and life development topics such
  as managing stress, planning for retirement, personal
  branding, dealing with mental health issues, etc.
- The College of Business had a successful reaccreditation visit earning a full five-year continuance of AACSB accreditation.
- Based on results of CB student surveys in spring of 2020, the college developed customized EDI training for all faculty/ staff that was implemented in fall of 2020. A customized EDI training for CB students was piloted in the spring of 2021.

- The CB Alumni Mentorship program expanded to 27 alumni-student pairs.
- Fall of 2021 will bring several new programs and initiatives, including a new entrepreneurship major, a new agriculture business certificate, and a co-curricular career accelerator program designed to enhance and extend students' professional development, leadership, and networking skills.
- CB established the Center for Financial Literacy and Well-Being. The new center will stive to increase financial literacy for both on and off campus constituencies with a goal of narrowing the wealth gap.
- The Many Faces of Entrepreneurship program, using the Minecraft platform, has been adapted for virtual delivery.
- The CB Emergency Fund supported eleven students. This year marks the highest dollar amount of support offered to students since the origination of the Emergency Fund.
- The VITAL (Virtual Analytics Lab) was established, allowing access to key databases and information sources to all CB students, faculty, and staff regardless of campus location.

### College of Education and Professional Studies

- CWU Army ROTC held a 19-Mile Nighttime Norwegian Foot March on June 4, 2021
- https://www.cwu.edu/cwu-army-rotc-hold-19-mile-nighttime-norwegian-foot-march
- CWU's Northwest Center for Sport, held a successful virtual inaugural Sport Management Summit on May 4, 2021. The theme of the Summit was "Careers in Sport." Some of the sport organizations represented in the Summit were the Seattle Sounders (MLS), PAC-12 Conference, Chicago Blackhawks (NHL), BYU Athletics, Michigan State University Athletics, University of Idaho Recreation, and Sport Singapore!
- A performance of Central Washington University
  Department of Sport and Movement Studies, Associate
  Professor of Dance Therese Young's dance, Hay There, was
  live streamed on May 24, 2021 at 8 p.m. by the Emerging
  Artists Theatre Company from its headquarters in New York.
- The nine-minute work, choreographed by Therese Young, was performed by members of CWU's 2020 Orchesis
   Dance Company Dancers, including: Sydney Baker, Marissa Bragg, Bailey Erwin, lyanno Ford, Raymond Glover, Jessica Graham, Brenna Lindstrom, Tyler Lovie, Elysabeth Rada, Monica Rodriguez, Katelin Smith-

- Rockne, Hailey Samarel, Maddie Stauffer, Katelyn Stewart, Jaelynn Tonder, Emma Tyree, and Aislinn Williamson.
- The Apparel, Textiles, and Merchandising (ATM) program will launch a new fashion marketing specialization this fall, 2021. This is to take advantage of the growing demand across the region. The region has become a center of the fashion industry in the U.S., ranking fourth in corporate headquarters and manufacturing and serving as a shipping and communications hub for the global industry. This is the only fashion marketing specialization offered in the state.
- During the governor's visit, he was enlightened about CWU's new Information Technology and Administrative Management (ITAM) Workforce Pathway's program. The new initiative helps those in the occupational trades to earn a college degree by counting work and apprenticeship experience toward degree completion. The new program kicked off this year with a partnership between CWU and Renton Technical College (RTC) that allows RTC carpentry students to pursue a four-year degree through the FlexIT ITAM program.
- CWU is ranked 9th in the nation for 2021 Best Bachelor's Degree program in Security Management, according to the online rating site, Study.com.

- CWU is ranked #1 in the nation for best online master's degree in higher education program by Intelligent.
   com, a Seattle-based online publication that focuses on higher education. The publication also ranked
   CWU's online master's in education administration program as #2 in the nation and CWU's online information technology degree as #18 nationally.
- In 2021, CWU was ranked 4th of the nation's Best Bachelor's Degrees in Network Administration in the Department of ITAM.
- Jodi Musser, a career and technical education professor at CWU is the 2020 Washington State Family & Consumer Science Teacher Educator of the Year. Musser, a CWU alumna, has taught at Central for more than six years. She was recognized for her passion for teaching and commitment to preparing future CTE teachers.
- Nutrition alums use their CWU training to improve the lives of others. Elaina Moon, Jason Patel (chef), Kathaleen Briggs Early, Ineke Ojanen (CWU alum and dietitian/food for life instructor), and Professor David Gee are working on a culinary medicine program aimed at educating future medical professionals about the importance of nutrition for overall health.
- The Central Washington University Retirement Association has selected Carolyn Schactler as the 2021 Distinguished Retiree. Before retiring in 2004, Schactler was an apparel design professor at CWU for 28 years. Currently, Schactler has an exhibit at the Yakima Valley Museum titled, "Couture," which features 20 of her award-winning designs.

#### College of the Sciences

- Actuarial Science The most renowned actuarial sciences
  program in the Northwest has taken a quantum leap forward.
  Professor Sahadeb Upretee has joined the mathematics
  department and some of the most outstanding actuarial
  faculty in the country, Professors Chueh, Temple, and Loke.
  Uniting stellar academic talent with the Associates of the
  Society of Actuaries (ASA) credentialed faculty, Professor
  Upretee is joining an actuarial science department that is
  fast becoming one of a very small handful of departments
  in the world boasting so many PhD/ASA faculty members.
- Actuarial science students are financially supported through the Bill Owen Endowed Actuarial Scholarship to help both with college expenses and defray the high cost of actuarial exams.
- STEM Leadership CWU's highly acclaimed and innovative STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) education program is now the first in Washington State to be approved to offer a Master of Education in STEM Leadership Specialization. The program is specifically designed for current math and science teachers who are seeking a leadership role or want to advance the strategies and techniques their schools are using in the classroom. The goal is to help educators integrate multiple STEM disciplines into their courses via project-based, culturally responsive teaching practices. Specialized leadership courses will foster skills needed to become effective STEM leaders in their communities. The first cohort of students will begin this September.
- This master's program is just the latest addition to our multifaceted approach increasing STEM literacy, training, and

- opportunity for students and teachers in the Northwest. It joins our science and mathematics dducation department which focuses on the content, knowledge, and skills teachers need to be successful. The Center for Excellence in Science and Mathematics Education (CESME) will, pending approval, round out our efforts by focusing on science outreach and educator networking. These initiatives are all united in their goal to dramatically increase the number and diversity of young people who choose STEM as their career path and to create a more informed public using a more science-based decision-making process.
- CWU-Des Moines Center Offers New Computer Science Degree
- A new Bachelor of Science in Computer Science is being launched, in 2022, at the CWU-Des Moines University Center at Highline College. This affordable, accessible program will provide CWU students with the resources and experience they need to prepare for a successful, well-paid, high demand career in the Northwest's growing technology industry. This CWU Center is strategically located in one of the most ethnically diverse communities. Central Washington University's longterm cooperative partnership with Highline College continues to bear fruit by meeting student's needs for high quality training in relevant career opportunities.
- This educational opportunity is made possible because
  of the strong support and advocacy of Senators Karen
  Keiser and Christine Rolfes. Together, they secured
  \$1.5 million in funding from the 2021-2023 Washington
  State Operating Budget to help aspiring students.

- Women in Technology Scholarship A first of its kind,
  Women in Technology Scholarship for Computer and Data
  Science has been established. CWU alumnus Paul Kiley, a
  leader at Microsoft, created this scholarship to address the
  significant disparity he and his colleagues observe in the
  ratio of men to women working in the technology sector.
  Paul wants to ensure that there are greater opportunities for
  women to enter the field by getting the kind of high-quality
  educational training and experience that CWU provides.
- Barlow Immersive Anthropology Award This year Pete and Sandra Barlow initiated a five-year pledge of \$12,000 per

year to create the Barlow Immersive Anthropology Award. This generous gift allows the anthropology department to roll out the "big idea" that every anthropology major will have the opportunity for a study-away learning experience. These experiences immerse students in a world outside of their known world. They're integral to developing empathetic understandings of human diversity and shared humanity. Such an encounter has the potential of being transformative for our students in the sense of opening new worlds of possibility for what they might do with their "one wild and precious life," as poet Mary Oliver expressed it.

#### William O. Douglas Honors College

- Minerva's Owl, the Douglas Honors Journal, was founded in fall 2020 as a non-profit journal publishing the work of current DHC students. The student-led, faculty-supported journal publishes academic, creative, or mixed submissions with an emphasis on interdisciplinary work and can be found at https://douglashonorscollege.tumblr.com/journal.
- The Honors College continued to teach in-person classes throughout the 2020-21 school year. Faculty undertook rapid trainings in hybrid teaching to accommodate the many students who were joining their classes online, greatly assisted by the provision of 35 Chromebooks from Information Services. Throughout the year, students and faculty worked together to make the hybrid DHC classes as engaging and active as traditional, fully in-person DHC courses.
- The 2020-21 school year was the introductory year of the DHC's new cohort model curriculum. Along with the standard interdisciplinary honors courses, DHC students now take proscribed introductory

- and junior year courses as well as a cohort seminar each year focused on the progressive development of key strengths and goals as the students move through their university and honors experience.
- The new Golden Owl Scholarship was awarded to DHC student Masina Ieremia. The Golden Owl was endowed through the generosity of John and Gretchen Harder, parents of DHC alum Erika Harder, to support students who demonstrate leadership and campus or community engagement.
- Student programmers and staff quickly and creatively revamped DHC communications to help maintain the traditionally close and supportive DHC student and faculty community during the pandemic. They created a weekly electronic student newsletter, a 'daily dose' video of fast student advice, a DHC Discord server for community engagements, beautifully re-envisioned the DHC newsletter, and created a new recruitment video.

#### **Extended and Global Education**

- Virtual Exchange—This academic year, 964 students in total participated in a virtual exchange opportunity with over 10 international partners (373 CWU/591 Partner Students).
- The Running Start program saw an average increase of 21% in growth of students participating in the program during the 2020-2021 academic year.
- CE created a partnership with Boeing to

- deliver an Emotional Intelligence course which is an ongoing partnership with additional classes scheduled into 2021-2022.
- Hosted over 3,000 online courses, 1,449 at capacity, for a total of 27,528 online course enrollments.
- Hosted the 3rd annual Transfer Symposium with 300 statewide participants.

#### **CWU** Libraries

- The Libraries created virtual services to serve students during the pandemic, including virtual research consultation, curbside pickup, and books by mail.
   Additionally, the main Brooks Library in Ellensburg was open for the 2020-2021 academic year for in-person services.
- We partnered with College of Arts & Humanities on NEH CARES grant and offered programming and training in digital humanities including data visualization.
- We more than doubled our electronic resource holdings

- including eBooks, newspapers, and digitized primary resources, made possible with the Stellingwerf gift.
- The Libraries received an ALA Freedom to Read grant celebrating Banned Books with LGBTQIA+ focus and hosted virtual reading with author Mason Deaver.
- We hosted Washington State Poet Laureate Rena Priest for National Poetry Month.
- We partnered with CWU Veterans to create Veterans Book Club featuring You are Worth It.

#### Other Academic and Student Life

- As a master's degree institution, Central Washington
   University is ranked 43 out of some 614 institutions nation wide by Washington Monthly based on its contribution
   to the "public good" in three broad categories: social
   mobility, research, and promoting public service.
- Morgan J. Rodriguez M.S. Chemistry and Henry Jennings M.A. History were both awarded the Dale and Mary Jo Comstock Distinguished Thesis Award.
- Faculty members from Central Washington University and Yakima Valley College (YVC) came together this spring to publish a Council for Undergraduate Research journal article that examined the insights gleaned from a five-year observation of YVC's ongoing Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE). The SURE partnership between CWU and YVC took advantage of National Science Foundation (NSF) funds to host a summer research program for undergraduates interested in STEM research at the university level. The assessment found high transfer, graduation, and continued enrollment rates for participants, along with a deeper firsthand knowledge of the scientific process.
- In June, 2021, CWU Dining Services was recognized as the Food Service Operation of the Month by FoodService Director (FSD), a multi-platform

- media organization that covers and promotes the noncommercial food service industry.
- CWU is ranked one of the top 10 Best Value Colleges in the State of Washington in 2021, according to SmartAsset, an online technology company that provides personal financial advice on the web.
- CWU has made Sierra Magazine's 2020 list of "Cool Schools." The publication, which is the national magazine of the Sierra Club, ranks four-year universities and twoyear community colleges on factors such as research, curriculum, campus and public engagement, air and climate, diversity, energy efficiency, and innovation.
- CWU was once again ranked as one of the top 50 universities in the west, according to the latest ratings from U.S. News & World Reports. The magazine's annual survey measures institutions based on data including student debt, social mobility after graduation, and admissions policies.
- CWU is among the top universities in the nation for having a surge in enrollment applications during the past five years, according to 24/7 Wall Street, a national financial news and information website. CWU ranked 22nd in the country with an 89.9 percent increase during the last five years. CWU was ranked first in the State of Washington.

#### **Student Success**

- We launched a new Transfer Student Center in support of incoming Transfer students.
- The Diversity and Equity Center launched a mentoring program for incoming students to be partnered with upper class students to provide a personal approach and individual support as peer mentors, scholarly leaders, and advocates for Student Success and equity in our community.
- Our Student Medical Clinic, Counseling Services,
  Wellness Center, and Case Management was tested
  and rose to the challenge this past year finding unique,
  creative, and safe ways to continue to serve our
  students during one of the most challenging years for
  the physical and mental health of college students.



