

IN THIS ISSUE  
**A NEW PROSPECTIVE**



**A NEW MESSAGE  
FROM A NEW FACE**

**Richard Toomey**  
Assistant Vice President for  
Admissions and Enrollment

Hello Leatherneck families!

The spring semester has started and there is still a vibrancy and excitement in the air even after the snow and cold that we had to start us off! On behalf of all the faculty and staff at WIU, we just love having your students back on campus. As much as we enjoy our winter recess, we find our service to students is what truly fuels us. (Now, if we could just move faster toward the warmer days!)

This spring term marks the start of my 4th month on-campus as Assistant Vice President for Admissions and Enrollment. I share in our students enthusiasm of being on campus because in so many ways, I feel like one of them.

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**NEW MESSAGE Continued**

I spend my days learning just what WIU has to offer. So far I have attended a musical theater production of our students, attended several athletic events, including our fall Homecoming, and numerous campus events hosted by the leaders of our Office of Student Engagement. All of these experiences have helped feel truly welcomed to the communities of WIU and the city of Macomb!

I have spent 33+ years of my own professional career working at institutions of public higher education. With each of my positions, I have focused my own work, and the work of my teams, on how to best serve our students. How can we provide for the best experience? How can we provide opportunities for all students to have experiences in which they can positively pursue their academic goals, but also learn and develop as individuals? Our work focuses on providing support and structure for their growth and development. Together with your support, we will help our students to achieve their academic and personal goals.

Hope to see you at Family & Friends weekend events in April!

**Apply for WIU scholarships today!**

**Deadline: March 1, 2026**

<b>#12</b> Best Bang for the Buck Midwestern Schools	<b>\$26 Million</b> in Scholarships & Awards Annually	<b>84%</b> of Students Receive Financial Aid
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Western Illinois University (WIU) scholarships are designed to reduce financial barriers, support you in achieving your goals, and unleash your full potential.

Parents and Family Association members receive access to the following scholarships:

- [PFA Lawrence Blatchley Memorial Scholarship](#)
- [PFA Gold Scholarship](#)
- [PFA Dalcamo Leadership Scholarship](#)
- [Parent & Family Association \(PFA\) Book Award](#)

For more information about PFA Gold Scholarships, visit: [wiu.edu/pfa](http://wiu.edu/pfa)

# Student Wellness and Healthy Habits

*Upcoming* *Spring 2026*

## WIU Mental Health Events

**Resilience and Recovery-** with Brittany Piper  
*(January 27th)*  
🐾 Sandburg Theatre at 7:00 PM

**The Gray Matters Collective-** with Haley DeGreve  
*(March 24th)*  
🐾 Sandburg Theatre at 6:30 PM

**We Are Her-** with Stevie Thieme *(March 31st)*  
🐾 Sandburg Theatre at 7:00 PM

**Wellness Wednesday Therapy Dog Dates**

Scan the QR Code!



**General Wellness Wednesday Events**

Scan the QR Code!



**Western Illinois University**  
UNIVERSITY COUNSELING CENTER

# SPRING 2026



**Malpass Library:**

Monday–Thursday 9:00 AM–5:00 PM  
Friday 9:00 AM–2:00 PM

**Evening Online Support:**

Monday & Tuesday 7:00 PM–10:00 PM  
Wednesday 6:00 PM–10:00 PM

**Simpkins Hall:**

Monday–Thursday 10:00 AM–2:00 PM

## FREE TUTORING

MALPASS LIBRARY (2ND FLOOR)  
ONLINE VIRTUAL (BY APPT ONLY)

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>11AM-2PM, 3:00PM-8:00PM</b>
<b>TUESDAY:</b>	<b>11AM-2PM, 3:00PM-8:00PM</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY:</b>	<b>11AM-2PM, 3:00PM-8:00PM</b>
<b>THURSDAY:</b>	<b>11AM-2PM, 3:00PM-8:00PM</b>
<b>FRIDAY:</b>	<b>11AM-2PM</b>



Visit the SLC Tutoring page for a list of courses and to sign up.



Appointments are encouraged, but walk-ins are welcome.

For additional information contact the Student Learning Center  
(309) 298-1871 | [SLC@wiu.edu](mailto:SLC@wiu.edu)



Western Illinois University  
STUDENT LEARNING CENTER | MEMORIAL HALL 024



Western Illinois University  
STUDENT-ATHLETE SUCCESS CENTER

# Family and Friends Weekend 2026

FRIDAY 4/17

Time	Event and Location	Details
8am - 4:30pm	WIU Bookstore University Union	Enjoy 20% off and the bookstore deal of the week from 8am and 4:30pm!
2pm	WIU Baseball, Alfred D. Boyer Stadium	WIU Baseball VS. SIUE Game 1: Come support our baseball team and show your Leatherneck Spirit!
7:30pm	WIU Choirs & Orchestra Concert COFAC Recital Hall	Join us in watching our orchestra and choir perform Franz Schubert's Mass in G Major. Free for all.

SATURDAY 4/18

Time	Event and Location	Details
10am - 12pm	Welcome Brunch University Union Lamoine Room	Join us for a special brunch! Visit <a href="http://wiu.edu/pfa">wiu.edu/pfa</a> to sign up and reserve your spot.
10am - 3pm	WIU Bookstore University Union	Enjoy 20% off and the bookstore deal of the week from 10am and 3pm!
12pm - 5pm	Make it Macomb Businesses throughout Macomb	Visit <a href="http://wiu.edu/PFA">wiu.edu/PFA</a> to see our partnered local businesses for special hours and deals!
1pm	WIU Baseball Alfred D. Boyer Stadium	WIU Baseball VS. SIUE Game 2: Come support our baseball team and show your Leatherneck Spirit!
1pm - 3pm	Family and Friends Fun Capitol Rooms University Union	Drop in for fun make-and-take crafts and create your family portrait with our caricature artist!
1pm - 4pm	University Art Gallery Exhibits Art Gallery, North of Sherman Hall	The Art Gallery will be open to view works from artists. Visit, <a href="https://www.wiu.edu/cofac/artgallery">https://www.wiu.edu/cofac/artgallery</a>
1pm - 4pm	Festival of Flavors & Culture Lexington Concord Complex West Elting Street	Celebrate diversity by enjoying cultural foods, vendors, plus music and live performances for a vibrant afternoon of connection and celebration.
7pm - 9pm	Family and Friends Bingo Heritage Room University Union	Join other families and friends in playing Bingo and winning fantastic prizes, hosted by UUB and NSFP!
7:30pm	Faculty Recital COFAC Recital Hall	Join us for our Faculty Recital ftg. Charlie Chadwell, saxophones for a free concert.

SUNDAY 4/19

Time	Event and Location	Details
11am - 1:30pm	Family Brunch Thompson & Corbin-Olson Dining Halls	Dining Halls will have different menus. Cash price for listed value meals is \$10 per person or \$4 if using a student meal plan.
1pm	WIU Baseball Alfred D. Boyer Stadium	WIU Baseball VS. SIUE Game 3: Come support our baseball team and show your Leatherneck Spirit!
5pm	Jazz Guitar Ensemble Concert COFAC Recital Hall	Free and open to the public, come enjoy music with the College of Fine Arts & Communication.

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT: [wiu.edu/nsfp](http://wiu.edu/nsfp)

## Welcome Brunch

Start your morning with a visit from University President Dr. Kristi Mindrup and VP for Student Success Dr. Justin Schuch at the Welcome Brunch on April 19, 2026. Brunch takes place from 10am to 12pm in the University Union Lamoine Room (concourse level). Reserve your spot by April 1, 2026!



Want to join the Parent & Family Association? Visit [wiu.edu/parents\\_and\\_family](http://wiu.edu/parents_and_family)

# Honor Society Induction and Reception

## Save the Date




Do you meet the requirements to join?

**Tau Sigma Transfer Student Honor Society and/or Alpha Alpha Alpha First Generation Honor Society**

April 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Check your email for membership invitation and reception information!

## ‘Neck News: Connect with Social Media

### MULTILINGUAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE

**April 18, 2026 | 8:00AM - 4:00PM**

Western Illinois University-QC  
3300 RIVER DRIVE  
MOLINE, ILLINOIS  
[wqpt.org/mec](http://wqpt.org/mec)

**KEYNOTE PRESENTER**

**Johanna Poncio Jordan**  
Executive Director of Bilingual and Multicultural Services  
Rockford Public Schools District 205

\$50.00 registration includes:  
Breakfast & lunch  
Keynote presentation  
Breakout sessions  
Professional development credits  
Community resources



**WQPT** **PBS** **W** Western Illinois University

[wiu.edu](http://wiu.edu)

Posts  
westerniluniv

131 likes, 1 comment, 2 shares, 5 saves

Liked by wiumgc and others

westerniluniv Col. Rock IV is obsessed with cake, and we are obsessed with him. 🍰 Happy birthday to our goodest boy, Ray! 🥳 We hope your day is filled with all the cake you can eat and tons of belly rubs.

[@westerniluniv](https://www.instagram.com/westerniluniv)

Posts  
wiuathletics

wiuathletics

LEE CALHOUN WAS AN EXCEPTIONAL TRACK STAR WHO COACHED AT WESTERN FROM 1980-1989.

123 likes, 1 comment, 3 shares, 10 saves

wiuathletics Honoring excellence this Black History Month 🏆

Lee Calhoun a Western Illinois legend and two time Olympic gold medalist left a lasting mark on our program and the sport of track and field 🏆🏆

[@wiuathletics](https://www.instagram.com/wiuathletics)

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## 2025 Fall Semester in Review



**FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

Spring Student Leadership Conference

**MARCH 1, 2026**

WIU Scholarship Deadline

**MARCH 3, 2026**

All Major Job Fair

**MARCH 11, 2026**

Illinois Supreme Court at WIU

**MARCH 16-20, 2026**

Spring Break

**MARCH 22, 2026**

Residence Halls Reopen at 10am

**APRIL 5, 2026**

Last Day to Drop Classes/Total Withdraw

**APRIL 17-19, 2026**

Family and Friends Weekend

**APRIL 19, 2026**

First Gen Honor Society Induction  
Transfer Student Honor Society Induction

**APRIL 21, 2026**

Law Enforcement Career & Internship Fair

**MAY 15, 2026**

Last Day of Classes

**MAY 16, 2026**

Combined Graduation

### Family & Student Resources at Western



Office of NSFP



Campus Event  
Calendar



Student Support  
Services



Leatherneck Link

### MEET THE NSFP TEAM



**DR. MICHELLE JANISZ**  
Director of New Student  
& Family Programs



**TAMMIE LEIGH BROWN-EDWARDS**  
Hope Chicago Program Coordinator  
Academic Success Coach



**KAYLANN BEEKMAN**  
Graduate Student  
LSL Supervisor  
First-Gen Student Programs



**KENRO BLACK**  
Graduate Student  
LSL Supervisor  
Special Projects



**BRADLEY JENKINS**  
Graduate Student  
LSL Supervisor  
Transfer Student Programs

This is a publication of **New Student and Family Programs (NSFP)**, a department of  
**Western Illinois University's Student Success Division**

Leatherneck Family Newsletter Editor: **Tammie Leigh Brown-Edwards**, Hope Chicago Program Coordinator/Success Coach

Contact NSFP ☎ 309-298-1131 ✉ nsfp@wiu.edu 📷 @nsfpwiu