ENGAGEMENT

THE RESULTS ARE IN!

WWU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION HAS MORE THAN 4,500 MEMBERS!

=10 MEMBERS

103 TOTAL LIFE MEMBERS IN MARCH

702 MEMBERS WHO JOINED/RENEWED/UPGRADED IN MARCH

REVENUE FROM MARCH MEMBERSHIP MONTH

$12,743 — ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

$25,451 — LIFE MEMBERSHIP

$38,195 — TOTAL
ENGAGEMENT

**distinguished**

**ALUMNI AWARDS & RECOGNITION**

**CELEBRATION**

On May 18, Western honored 15 alumni, a campus school alumna, and five Athletics Hall of Fame inductees. All the awardees were selected by their peers for their prominence in their respective fields and their dedication to Western.

They are (top row left) Gabriel S. Galanda ('97), Anne Blanchard ('97, '99), Joni Slagle ('78), Alison (Haukass) Richards ('99, '01), Anne Cooper ('86), Christie True ('81), Russ Wilson ('79), and Ed Roddy ('84); (middle row left) City Councilmember Dan Hammill ('02) (representing the City of Bellingham), Mary Rivkin ('75) (representing Catharine R. Stimpson), Uzma Randhawa, President Sabah Randhawa, Peter J. Hallson ('58), Kate Stevenson ('00); (front) Raymond Merle “Bud” Burke ('68, ’72). Not pictured: John Bergen ('92), Andrew Dumont ('11), Jeffrey Fisher ('89), Josiah Johnson ('99), Kelli Linville ('74, ’82), P.J. Ohashi ('97), Jason Stiles ('96), Catharine R. Stimpson (Campus School, ’48), and Coll Thrush ('93).
For the 2018 WWU Alumni Weekend, we put a sharp focus on the alumni experience—the faculty, programs, and fellow alumni—who make Western unique. The WWU Alumni Association supported 12 athletic, academic, and departmental reunions: ATUS Reunion, CFPA Reunion, Football Reunion, Geography Reunion, Geology Reunion, Leadership Reunion, MBA Reunion, Modern and Classical Languages Reunion, Creative Writing Faculty and Alumni Reading, Women’s Basketball Gathering, Women’s Golf Gathering, and additional after-reunion parties and gatherings.

The weekend kicked off with a Presidential Welcome from President Sabah Randhawa with mimosas and continental breakfast. After remarks from President Randhawa, the college open houses began. Athletics hosted tours of Carver, a reception in the new Hall of Fame room for this year’s inductees, their families, and supporters, and a presentation of the awards in Carver Gym. Activities in Red Square included performances by AS groups, and Saturday evening capped off with a showing of Pixar’s “Coco” on Old Main Lawn.
INITIAL SUMMARY OF RESULTS

RAISED MORE THAN $627,975* IN GIFTS AND CHALLENGE FUNDS

1,988** GIFTS FROM 1,707 DONORS

781 ALUMNI GIFTS
347 FACULTY & STAFF GIFTS
397 PARENT GIFTS
320 STUDENT GIFTS
244 FRIEND OF WWU GIFTS

*Final results may vary.
**Donors may be counted in more than one constituent type.
ART WALK SERIES: APRIL & MAY
The WWU Alumni Association continued the Art Walk series at the Western City Center. On April 6, Stephanie Burgess displayed her distinctive Peace Poles, which 76 alumni enjoyed viewing. On May 4, Joy Olney displayed her bright oil paintings of flowers, fruit, and landscapes. The Western City Center had 48 guests at the May event.

SALISH SEA ECOSYSTEM CONFERENCE DRAWS 1,400
The Western Foundation worked with the Salish Sea Institute to secure over $200,000 in funding for the 30th Annual Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle. On April 4-6, 1,400 scientists, tribal government representatives, community and business leaders, policy makers, educators, students, Governor Inslee, Former Secretary of the Interior and retired REI CEO Sally Jewell, King County Executive Dow Constantine, and members of the community gathered to find common solutions for protecting the Salish Sea.

HACKING THE FUTURE
On April 24, Western’s Institute for Energy Studies hosted the WWU Carbon Hackathon. The Western Foundation secured $8,000 for the event, which brought together students, WWU faculty, and professionals for creative brainstorming sessions to find ways to reduce carbon emissions.

LIFE MEMBERS RECOGNIZED
On April 6, the Arctic Club sparkled for 73 Life Members at the annual Life Member Dinner in Seattle. Historical linguist Ed Vajda of WWU’s Modern and Classical Languages department gave a presentation on the Ket language and people.

VIKINGS GATHER IN PHOENIX
On March 13, dedicated alumni gathered to reconnect and toast WWU athletics at the award-winning Taco Guild Gastropub in Phoenix.

ENGAGEMENT
WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO...

IMPACT STORIES

ED RODDY (’84): A CHAMPION FOR WWU ATHLETES

When it comes to viking spirit, Ed Roddy walks the talk. Winner of the 2018 Larry “Go Vikings” Taylor Alumni Service Award, Roddy is a tireless champion and the ultimate booster. His involvement in Viking Athletics for the past three decades has been critical to the success of Western students and alumni. He’s a season ticket holder who rarely misses a men’s basketball game, who attends all pre-season and post-season events, and even travels for away games. During his years at Key Bank, he was instrumental in making Viking Night a success, from setting up tables to securing scholarships.

Last year at Viking Night, Roddy’s star was shining in the middle of the court. As an employee of WECU and influential Western supporter, Roddy contributed to WECU’s Support of Western. For their support, WECU has their name in the center of Carver Gym’s basketball court. “We developed interest at WECU by making sure the money went to scholarships.”

But Roddy’s involvement doesn’t end there. He sets up networking events for student-athletes, mentors WWU Men’s Basketball athletes, reviews resumes, and helps with job applications. “I called the Human Resources person at Peoples Bank and recommended an alumnus as a great person and dedicated employee, and they interviewed him and hired him.”

That student was Preston Vermeulen (’06), an Information Technology Systems Administrator at Peoples Bank. “I met Ed in high school. He was our youth group leader and took us to games at Western.” Vermeulen attended Western and played basketball. Roddy was a WWU Men’s Basketball booster, always there for the team to offer support. After graduation, Roddy helped him get a job. “It took me six months to find a job, but then Ed called Peoples Bank.”

WWU alumnus Dan Young (’13) played WWU Men’s Basketball from 2010-2012. Roddy encouraged him to study finance when Young was an undergraduate and helped him get a job at Key Bank. When Young faced major life decisions, Roddy was there with advice and a sympathetic ear.

Even after graduation, after his time at Key Bank, Roddy was there to help Young out. “When I decided to leave Key Bank, Ed helped me find another firm to go to. He’s one of those selfless people you don’t find very often. He has an ability to make connections and build trust with people, and that’s so important.” Young is now a financial advisor with Edward Jones.

Roddy says, “I enjoy helping people find jobs. Some athletes come to me concerned that they haven’t done anything but play sports, and I tell them ‘But look what you’ve learned—teamwork, time management, emotional resilience—all those soft skills that are ripe for employment.’”

Rob Primozich’s (’10) parents are Vikings, and so coming to WWU seemed natural to him. He played basketball at WWU from 2003-2005 and remembers Roddy fondly.
“Ed was a fave—one of those who rooted us on. He was a great supporter of our team.”

When Primozich left Western and returned for a master’s in business, Roddy was there for him, setting up lunches with local employers and helping him find a job for the summer.

“The thing about Roddy that’s important to understand is that he is the kind of person you don’t meet very often. He is so genuine. He’s a stand-up guy.” Primozich is now a partner alliances manager at PlayStation.

And who were the mentors to this exceptional person? Roddy’s favorite professors at Western were those who had been in the professional world and brought that real-world experience into the classroom. He follows that example and sets up job shadows for students with alumni, letting them see firsthand what the day-to-day of a particular career entails. “I don’t ask them ‘What do you want to be?’ I ask them ‘What do you picture yourself doing? What are you passionate about?’”

As a supporter of Western Athletics, Roddy brings his real-world advice and experience to young Vikings and sets them on a path of achievement and success.

ALUMNUS ESTABLISHES SCHOLARSHIP FOR WOMEN IN MIS
Management Information Systems is typically a male-dominated field, but a generous donor—attorney and WWU alumnus Ziad Youssef (’94)—wants to see that change. In April, he established the Women in Management Information Systems Scholarship to support women studying MIS. “I am passionate about three things: literacy, technology, and justice.” This scholarship is a reflection of these passions, as well as Mr. Youssef’s interest in seeing women succeed. He is the owner of MyTrafficMan.
UPCOMING EVENTS
JUNE 2018 THROUGH OCTOBER 2018

JUNE 15-16  Spring Commencement
JUNE 26  WWU Night at the Bellingham Bells, Bellingham
JULY 6  Art Walk, Western City Center, Bellingham
AUGUST 3  Art Walk, Western City Center, Bellingham
AUGUST 25  Summer Commencement, Bellingham
SEPTEMBER 14  Viking Night, Bellingham
SEPTEMBER 26  Paint Bellingham Blue for WWU, Bellingham
OCTOBER 28  WWU @ Seattle Sounders vs San Jose Earthquakes, Seattle

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