The mission of University Advancement is to build relationships through meaningful engagements that foster pride, encourage advocacy, and promote private support for Western Washington University.
Capital Campaign

The Foundation has contracted with the internationally acclaimed sustainable design expert Jason F. McLennan, CEO of McLennan Design, to guide the design strategy for a new building that will meet student and industry demand for Western’s electrical and computer engineering, computer science, and energy science and technology programs. The building will exceed LEED standards for energy use, carbon, and other environmental indicators. When complete, Kaiser Borsari Hall will be the only carbon-neutral academic facility in the region.

The building will be among a handful in the nation and will significantly advance Western’s vision to become the region’s first carbon-neutral university campus. This goal enhances the prominence of this capital project.

Learn more about how Jason McLennan is helping with our vision for the new building in this video:
Warren Michelsen joined the Foundation board in 2019 and is chair of the Capital Campaign Committee. He is vice president and regional general manager for Trane Technologies. He is responsible for leading sales and operations for Trane in Washington, Oregon, Alaska, and Hawaii. Trane provides building owners with solutions to meet their operational and energy requirements with equipment, service, parts, energy savings performance contracting, and building management systems.

Warren joined Trane in 1992 and completed both of Trane’s graduate training and leadership development programs. During his tenure, he has held various marketing and operations assignments including, sales manager for the Arizona district, equipment and controls sales leader for Trane’s West territory, and area manager for Trane’s New Mexico area offices.

He is active on the Overlake Hospital Foundation Board in Bellevue, WA, and serves on the board of the Graphite Metallizing Corporation in Yonkers, NY. He also previously served on the board for the Northwest Energy Efficiency Council and the Arizona Air Conditioning Contractor Association. He is a founding member of Western’s Institute for Energy Studies Board.

Warren is a graduate of the Virginia Military Institute where he received his B.S. in mechanical engineering. Following graduation, he received a commission in the United States Air Force and served as an aircraft maintenance officer attaining the rank of captain.

Ingrid Sarapuu is a retired corporate finance executive. Her career consisted of the financings of large equipment (such as commercial airplanes, ships, and power plants) and leveraged buyouts, mergers, and acquisitions. She served as executive vice president and chief financial officer of a finance company owned by an international bank. Her major employers have included Continental Illinois, Beatrice Foods, Citicorp, Deutsche Bank, and Boeing.

Ingrid came to Washington to serve as vice president of strategy for Boeing Capital. After leaving the corporate world, she worked as an expert witness in a large corporate tax trial. She has formerly been a trustee for several not-for-profits, including the Harvard Clubs (Chicago, St. Louis, and Seattle), National Lekotek, Dance St. Louis, and ACT Theatre. Both of her children, Erich B. Anderson, ’09 and Stacy A. Anderson, ’13, are Western graduates.

Ingrid joined the WWU Foundation Board and Capital Campaign Committee in 2019. She and her husband Michael are supporting the campaign as well as programs in the College of Science and Engineering.

Peter Hallson (’58 Biology) is a retired executive who has donated to Western for more than four decades. He served as a second lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps where he supervised the inspection, repair, and maintenance of parachutes and safety equipment.

Later, his background in science led him to Nalco Water where he built a successful career that began in technical sales and progressed to the pinnacle of the organization when he was named president. In 1996, he became president of Diversey Water Technology which was acquired by Nalco.

This year marks the 45th consecutive year in which Peter and his wife Judy have provided financial support to Western. He and Judy feel their experience at WWU prepared them to reach a point in their careers when they could give back in recognition of the educational foundation provided to them.

Peter’s support of Western goes beyond the financial.
Over the last 10 years, he has served on the College of Science and Engineering’s Advancement Board, a role that has benefited the college greatly thanks to his tireless advocacy for Western and STEM education with his local and regional representatives.

**Jo Ann (Hoyt) Bowman** is a friend, former Western student, and a long-time philanthropist. She and her late husband Jack Bowman (‘54 Music Education) met as students. She attended WWU from 1950-1952, until her marriage to Jack on August 9, 1952.

Jack enjoyed a prominent career in the pharmaceutical industry for more than forty years, and the couple lived in many parts of the U.S. and Europe. When he retired as head of Johnson & Johnson’s worldwide pharmaceutical and diagnostic divisions, the couple moved to Lummi Island. Before his death in 2018, Jack served with distinction on numerous public and private advisory boards related to biomedical technologies (including the Biomedical Engineering Advisory Council), was the director for the Food and Drug Law Institute, and a trustee at Johns Hopkins University.

In addition to Jack’s WWU Alumnus of the Century and Distinguished Alumni for Lifetime Achievement awards, in 2009, the Bowmans received the Distinguished Alumni Legacy Family Award. Two years later, Jo Ann and Jack earned the first WWU President’s Award, the university’s highest community honor. The award is presented to those who have given distinguished service to the university and the region.

The couple has supported a variety of nonprofit organizations including the Whatcom Community Foundation, the Lummi Island Heritage Trust, the Boys and Girls Clubs of Whatcom County, St. Joseph Hospital, Whatcom Hospice, and the Whatcom Museum of History and Art.

Jo Ann and Jack have also been highly engaged in the life of Western. They established the Daniel L. Bowman Presidential Discretionary Endowment and sponsored President Shepard’s 100 Community Conversations. They have generously supported the Bowman Family Distinguished Scholars in Leadership, the Karen W. Morse Institute for Leadership, and the Bowman Distinguished Professorship in Leadership.

**Robert “Bob” H. Brim (’70)** is a distinguished alumnus of the College of Sciences and Technology. He graduated with a B.S. degree in physics and mathematics. For most of his career, he has served as CEO and founder of Dealer Information Systems Corporation.

The Bellingham-based Dealer Information Systems Corporation develops software systems for more than 2,300 heavy equipment dealerships in North America. Bob is also a consultant to small and emerging businesses in China, Vietnam, Canada, and the U.S.

Bob holds master’s degrees in electronic engineering technology from the University of California, Los Angeles, and in business administration from the University of Washington.

He serves on the board of directors of the Mount Baker Theatre and as chair of the College of Sciences and Technology External Advancement Board.

Bob has also addressed Western Washington University graduates and their families as a commencement speaker. Bob and his wife Gwen have supported students and faculty in many ways throughout the years.
The Western Foundation is pleased to announce the recent appointment of two new board members.

**Deborah Atwood** is a senior fellow at Meridian, based in Washington, D.C. She is also the executive director of Meridian’s AGree: Transforming Food and Ag Policy Initiative. Through AGree, Deb has advanced groundbreaking policies on food and agriculture in the U.S.

Her favorite part about working at Meridian is engaging with leaders — farmers and ranchers, researchers, supply chain executives, policy makers — who share her passion for promoting policies and practices that make economic and environmental sense.

Deb has over 35 years of experience working in the private sector and the federal government on policy and legislative matters regarding food, agriculture, the environment, research, and risk management. She started her career focused on marine issues, and she’s delighted to be working on seafood supply chain issues in the Gulf Coast. Deb is the chair of the Board of Directors of ACDI-VOCA, an agriculture development nonprofit that works in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Deb joined the WWU Foundation Board in October 2020.

Deb traces her affinity for the outdoors to her upbringing in the Pacific Northwest. Although she has lived in Washington, D.C. for decades, she still finds ways to enjoy hiking, fly fishing, and canoeing. She and her husband Robert Hyman are enjoying their new home in Bellingham, and Deb is enthusiastic about helping her alma mater through the Foundation.

**Tasha Repp**, CPA, serves as tribal services partner and national practice leader at Moss Adams, where she has worked in public accounting since 1997. She provides accounting and auditing services to tribal governments and their related entities, focusing on giving her clients a practical, clear understanding of audit results to help them improve their operations.

A member of the firm’s Not-for-Profit Executive Committee and Assurance Services Committee, Tasha is also the firm’s A-133 technical reviewer.

Her experience includes planning, coordinating, and performing single audits of local governments; conducting audits of tribal enterprises, including housing authorities, water and sewer districts, schools, and businesses; preparing indirect cost rate proposals; and, creating training programs for tribal staff and council members through Moss Adams, NAFOA, and the Falmouth Institute. In 2011, Tasha received the National Center for American Indian Enterprise Development’s Native American 40 Under 40 Award.

Tasha is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, a past member of the Samish Indian Nation Budget and Finance Committee, and a past treasurer for the Samish Indian Nation SamCorp Economic Development Board. She also serves as a Whatcom Museum Society board member and a past member of the Anacortes High School Business and Marketing Vocational Advisory Board.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in accounting and business administration from the University of Washington. She joined the Foundation Board in November.
Philanthropic Teams
Members of the Western Foundation Board are assuming leadership roles as philanthropy volunteers who serve on one of four teams. Each team has a chair or co-chairs who work in partnership with a staff member on a project. The teams are:

- **Capital Campaign**: Warren Michelsen chairs the team in partnership with Manca Valum.
- **Student Success**: Trinity Parker ('96) and Carol Francisco ('73 & '78) serve as co-chairs in partnership with Tim Szymanowski.
- **Give Day**: Dave Mann ('82), Jennifer Kutcher ('97), and Chris Witherspoon ('94) serve as co-chairs, along with board member Greg Grant, in partnership with Angie Vandenhaak ('99).
- **President's Society (new this year)**: Karen Richards ('82 & '89) chairs the team in partnership with Mitch Diaz.

The goal is to have every member engaged in one of these four philanthropic areas. Tony George ('86) is the overall philanthropy lead and works closely with Stephanie Bowers.

Donations Year-to-Date
Since the beginning of FY'21, we have received gifts exceeding $3.7 million dollars from more than 1,800 donors:

- **1,801** Unique donors
- **$3,744,211** Dollars

EMERGENCY FUNDS AWARDED FALL 2020

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<tr>
<td>Financial Aid Emergency Grant</td>
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Western Engaged

A partnership between the Alumni Association and WWU colleges, Western Engaged provides strategic, meaningful, and timely webinar engagement opportunities for alumni, donors, and friends who care about, and can support, Western Washington University.

Within the College of Business & Economics, this partnership is known as Western Insights. In response to COVID-19, Western Insights provides alumni, donors, friends, students, and regional residents with timely and relevant information about how to plan for and manage during the crisis. Series speakers include the university’s nationally respected subject-matter experts as well as external guests. The series is offered entirely online, covers a wide variety of topics, and is free and open to everyone.

In addition to Western Insights, the Western Engaged program has partnered with departments and colleges across campus resulting in 16 additional virtual webinars/events since April 2020.

Past Sessions (available online)

04/03/20 Western Insights: The Economic Impacts of COVID-19
04/17/20 Western Insights: Investing-19, Where We Go from Here
05/08/20 Western Insights: Supply Chain Management Risk, Disruptions, and COVID-19
05/22/20 Western Insights: Contending with COVID-19: Taxes, Policy, and Business Uncertainty
06/08/20 Western Insights: Leadership in Being Open for Business with COVID-19
06/19/20 Western Insights: COVID-19 and Cross-Border Connections: Implications for the Cascadia Region
08/12/20 Western Insights: Lessons in Remote Learning
09/18/20 Western Insights: Regional Economic Impacts and Forecasts
10/02/20 Western Insights: Regional Employment Expectations
10/16/20 Western Insights: Accessibility in the Age of COVID-19
11/06/20 Western Insights: COVID-19: Travel Industry Implications
12/04/20 Western Insights: Washington State Economic Forecast and Expectations

RESULTS (SINCE APRIL 2020)

Registrants 3,349
Donations $1,502