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The Adult & Higher Education (AHE) program is housed in the Department of Health & Community Studies, Woodring College of Education at Western Washington University. We are located on the fourth floor of Miller Hall.

We are pleased to provide this newsletter to keep you informed about work and activities of our faculty, our students and our alumni.

Dean of Woodring College
Dr. Horacio Walker

Chair, Health & Community Studies
Dr. Raine Dozier

AHE Program Director
Dr. Sondra Cuban

AHE Faculty
Sondra Cuban, Stan Goto, Paula Dagonon, Shevell Thibou and Gail Goulet

Program Coordinator
Sherry Haskins

Contact
360.650.3190

WELCOME, NEW STUDENTS!
Melinda Assink
Hannah Bennett
Emily Benson
Jamsie (JJ) Biondi
Suzanne Blais
Matthew (Brian) Green
Danica Kilander
Lisa Osadchuk
Wendy Ouellette
Hannah Weitz

Website
https://wce.wwu.edu/ahe/adult-and-higher-education
**Location:** Samish Lodge

**Date:** Saturday, April 27th, 2019

**Time:** 9:00am - 2:00pm

**Theme:** Professional Conferencing: Organizing, Planning, & Networking

Please join us for a beautiful morning and potluck lunch in which faculty, alums, and current students can share and collaborate on the subject of navigating conferencing. This theme will be useful for students and will provide support in reaching their academic and professional goals.

**What to expect:** An easy-going morning with two keynote speakers on the topics of organizing and planning for a conference with breakout sessions led by AHE students focusing on presentations for the **Graduate Student Symposium**. Yummy breakfast noshes will fill the morning as you share and collaborate with friends old and new.

In the afternoon, we will have the opportunity to hear from a panel of AHE alumni and enjoy a potluck lunch while spending time networking and collaborating.

A formal invitation will be sent out shortly. For now, **SAVE THE DATE**! If you have any questions or concerns, or would like to become involved in the planning process, please email **balasaj@wwu.edu**.
For the first time, the WWU Graduate School is invited to take part of Scholar’s Week held on May 15th in Carver Gym.

Presentations can be a . . .

1. **Poster presentation**
2. **Oral presentation** (10 minutes + 5 minutes for Q&A)
3. **Elevator pitch** (3 minute MAX)

No complete research is necessary! An abstract is due at the time of registration.

There will be **CASH PRIZES** and a **SCAVENGER HUNT** that you can participate in and enter a raffle for AS Bookstore Gift Cards!

[CLICK HERE](#) to register for the Graduate Student Symposium
GSAC is an organization of Adult & Higher Education graduate students dedicated to enhancing the program’s graduate student experience at Western Washington University. The GSAC will meet once a month and discuss planning for the Spring 2019 Retreat, the Graduate Student Symposium, and other topics of interest.

The GSAC meets once each month in-person and via teleconferencing throughout the academic year. Meeting dates and times are to be announced (TBA). The committee will also discuss a Graduate School Mentorship program for all WWU Graduate Students.

If you’re interested in joining or have questions about the committee you can visit https://wp.wwu.edu/ahegsac/ or contact Jasmine Balasa at balasaj@wwu.edu. Please don’t let distance keep you from getting involved! GSAC is set up to be able to have members attend meetings through online teleconferencing.
ARDEN FURUKAWA

Arden is an AHE student set to graduate in Spring 2019. She holds a BA in Education, specializing in Social Studies and Secondary Education from Eastern Washington University in 2011. She is currently an Educational Planner for the Running Start office at Green River College, Auburn. Prior to this she worked in admissions and college and career readiness. Down the road Arden wants to be more active in leadership roles, such as a Director, to make positive impacts in her home community of Renton.

Arden specifically chose Western Washington University due to it being a regional school and small class sizes, which are a better fit for learning and a better environment. She chose the AHE program because she liked what it stood for, and especially its social justice emphasis which separates it from other programs. She also knew someone in the program and was told about its discussions with good professors, and its hybrid, but interactive format which allowed for getting to know other classmates. Though she was nervous to try a hybrid program, she was encouraged by her peers’ reports of maintaining connections. Arden took one class per quarter except for Summer quarters when she took two. Taking one class at a time allowed Arden to intensely focus on that one area and curriculum, do the readings thoroughly, be really active on canvas, and take each project to heart. Other benefits included being given the opportunity to network and meet people in community and other institutions.

Outside of work and school Arden enjoys arts and crafts, specifically creating greeting cards. She also enjoys being outside hiking and kayaking, though it’s been hard to be outside while taking two courses in the summer! The biggest pieces of advice she wants to give to AHE students is to take one class at a time and integrate school as a part of life, and to appreciate the time spent in the program. She encourages everyone to take advantage of opportunities and to be confident in reaching out to new contacts!
Jonathan Kim

Jonathan is a first-year AHE student in his second quarter. He recently graduated with a BA in Sport Management & Economics from Washington State University. He is currently employed as the Director of Basketball Operations for the WWU Men's Basketball team. This position requires a lot of travel which Jonathan has to balance with the Face-to-Face classes.

Jonathan chose the AHE program because it has a wide variety of opportunities available after graduation. He is most looking forward to taking the field experience class, as he wants to use what he learns in a real world and educational setting. His favorite class so far was the IT 546 class, as it challenged him to use different types of technology to help him as well as others learn in different ways using technology.

The biggest surprise Jonathan has had as an AHE student was the time commitment needed to set aside to do the curriculum and the readings. Doing this program while working has been difficult to manage, but he sees himself developing better time management habits from doing readings while waiting at airports and doing a discussion post in the mornings before going to work. He’s learned any down time available can be used to be productive on school work.

Outside of school and work, Jonathan enjoys watching all different kinds of sports and just being outside in the sun. At home he likes trying to cook new dishes as well as eating at new restaurants. He likes to travel as much as possible and experience new places.
UPCOMING CONFERENCES

https://www.aera.net/

LEVERAGING EDUCATION RESEARCH IN A “POST-TRUTH” ERA: MULTIMODAL NARRATIVES TO DEMOCRATIZE EVIDENCE

2019 AERA ANNUAL MEETING
APRIL 5 – 9, 2019 | TORONTO, CANADA #AERA19

Association of North America Higher Education International

Information & Technology Leadership Conference (ITLC)

CHUCKANUT WRITERS CONFERENCE: WHATCOM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Chanticleer Authors Conference
Do you have a submission? We’d love to put it in the newsletter!

If you know an alum, current student, or perhaps yourself that is doing something interesting, incredible, or newsworthy, please let us know! We love to publish stories about how the AHE program has influenced, directed, or supported its students and faculty.

Please send ideas or submissions to Jasmine Balasa at balasaj@wwu.edu for consideration.

Link: https://www.aera.net/Events-Meetings/Annual-Meeting/2019-Annual-Meeting-Call-for-Paper-and-Session-Submissions
Did you know?
You cannot achieve higher education by building taller schools.
ENJOY SPRING BREAK

See you April 2nd!