

### Homecoming and Alumni Weekend Is Soaring Back

by Taylor Green

After nearly two years, the University of Charleston Golden Eagles will celebrate Homecoming and Alumni Weekend October 15th-17th. The UC family is excited to reconnect together after the long absence.

"I am excited for homecoming this year because it is a weekend that the UC community, past, and present, come together for a time of fun and games," said UC Senior Meredith Suttle.

Along with Suttle, UC President Martin Roth is excited to bring UC alumni back to campus to connect with students like once before. President Roth said, "It is always great to reconnect with alumni and learn about their journeys. Quite often they share how their time at UC positively impacted their personal and professional lives. It reinforces the satisfaction our faculty and staff have providing students with transformational experiences that will enrich their lives."

#### Homecoming Weekend Timeline

The celebration of Homecoming and Alumni Weekend starts on Monday, October 11th. The Student Activities Board will be hosting events for students on the UC campus all week such as game shows, laser tag, bowling, and the Powderpuff Girls game. To conclude the week, SAB will be hosting the annual UC Pep Rally on Friday from 4 pm – 7 pm.

SAB President Sharieli Perez-Moran is excited to offer a week of fun back to students. Perez-Moran said, "Homecoming has always been a great tradition at UC, and I am extremely excited for SAB to host a week full

of fun events that will highlight how huge the family UC is."

On Friday the 15th, UC will invite alumni to a "Golden Reunion Luncheon" with the graduating classes of '70, '71, '75, '76, '80, and '81 to celebrate their reunions and belated reunions. Throughout the rest of the day, alumni will participate in more events such as the Alumni Cookout and the Baseball Alumni Fall Scrimmage and Cookout.

As we move to Saturday the 16th, UC celebrates the annual homecoming football game at noon. The UC Football Golden Eagles will be competing against the Concord Mountain Lions. The game will be a Hollywood theme for UC students and fans.

Activities will be taking place before and during the football game. Before the game, UC will be holding the annual Alumni Homecoming Tailgate, which is open to all people. At halftime of the game, the annual Homecoming King and Queen will be announced.

It will be 722 days since UC last held a Homecoming and Alumni Weekend. A weekend that is designed to exemplify the pride and passion of being a UC Golden Eagle for life, there is built-up emotion that the UC family is waiting to release for this special weekend.

"I can't wait to celebrate with the UC family and see everything return back to normal," said UC Junior Presidential Scholar Hunter Adkins.

The good news for Adkins and the rest of the UC family, the wait is almost over.



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### Student Activities Board Mixes Leadership with Fun

by Ava Reed

The mission of the University of Charleston is to educate each student for a life of productive work, enlightened living, and community involvement. Within each of the three pillars is the element of fun, which is the mission of the Student Activities Board.

According to SAB president Sharieli Perez-Moran, several new events will kick off an action-packed year.

"The Student Activities Board has planned a lot of new events such as UC Power Night, SAB Game Show, Murder Mystery, and a pep rally," Perez-Moran said. "In addition, we are bringing back popular events that we could not host last year because of COVID."

An active social media page dedicated to SAB programming highlights casino and bowling nights, skating parties, bonfires, Food Truck Fridays, and guest entertainers such as hypnotist, Keith Karkut.

Casually referred to as "SAB," the Student Activities Board serves as the main programming committee that develops opportunities for campus involvement in social settings. SAB is responsible for planning events and programs that appeal to a variety of student interests and the diversity of the campus population.

Special event coordination requires leadership and organization skills, creativity, and innovation. Students who become members of SAB are tasked with many roles and responsibilities, which ensures the success of events that become campus favorites.

The SAB calendar of events can be tracked by following @uc.sab on Instagram.

# What to do in Charleston!

by Gianni Blundell

Looking for some fun activities in Charleston? Here are some suggestions that are perfect for college kids, families, and more.

**Wander the Capitol Market**

Charleston’s Capitol Market is the perfect place to buy fresh produce during the warm months. Don’t worry, though. In the winter, your family can easily find the perfect Christmas tree at the outdoor market! Hungry? Enjoy a selection of Japanese, Italian, Mediterranean, and American cuisine offered at the Market’s restaurants like Soho’s, Mea Cuppa Coffeebar, and Sushi Garden.

**Tour the Capitol**

The Capitol Building is one of Charleston’s biggest attractions. See more than just the view of the building from campus with a tour! Leisurely stroll around, or appreciate the history included during a guided tour by contacting Capitol Tours & Information at (304) 588-4839.



**Swing by the Clay Center**

Charleston’s Clay Center for the Arts & Sciences is a popular spot for any age to experience the arts! If appearances from Trace Adkins and Nelly or performances of Jersey Boys and HAIR-SPRAY! aren’t up your alley, admire the Center’s museums. From the planetarium to the art or children’s discovery museums, there’s fun of all kinds to have here.

**Explore Kanawha State Forest**

Enjoying Charleston’s gorgeous landscape and weather is easy in a spot like the Kanawha State Forest. With picnicking grounds, hiking trails, and campsites, the park is a great place to spend your day! For a list of all adventures available, check out <https://wvstateparks.com/park/kanawha-state-forest/>

For more local excursions, visit <https://wvtourism.com/?s=charleston>

## Movies to Match Your Mood

by Matthew Forrester

If you want to avoid the hustle and bustle of life as a student for a while, movies are the way to go to relieve stress. Here are the top tier movies in the categories of action/sport, animated feel-good and ugly-cry romance.

**“Rocky”**

The tale of a boxer who learns that wanting something is not enough. You must be able to work for it. He begins down on his luck; but after learning discipline and self-belief, he achieves greatness in the boxing ring and proves that hard work pays off. This movie will replenish your soul. Krish Patel, a finance major at UC, said, “It is a great underdog story of a man who begins with nothing, but through grit, the world opens up.”

**“Frozen”**

It chronicles the tales of two sisters as they come of age and struggle with the themes of self-acceptance and self-worth. The film maintains a cheerful tone and is sure to invoke smiles as it elegantly lifts the spirit. Despite the merriment, it also teaches an important lesson. Sometimes it is okay to “let it go.”

**“Me Before You”**

A true romance if ever there was one. It tells the story of Louisa Clark, who becomes the caretaker to the affluent Will Traynor. A story unfolds that will ensnare you and cause you to fall deep into your feels. UC student, Hannah Forsbury, said, “If you need a good tug on the heart strings, this is for you.”



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# Stretching College Dollars

by Shan Esmer

College students have it rough when it comes to budgeting. There are ways to relieve this issue are through services offered on the University of Charleston campus. Students should know where to shop and what online apps give rewards. Instead of waiting for coupons or deals to appear.

UC offers students free KRT rides in Charleston, and all students are welcome to use UC’s food pantry. Towards the end of each semester, UC’s bookstore buys back most class textbooks, although renting online or buying used books are cheaper.

Select restaurants and other businesses offer college student discounts. Stores like Dollar Tree and Aldi’s offer cheap prices to buy essentials. For more information on what companies offer deals, go to: <https://www.retailmenot.com/blog/college-student-discounts.html>.

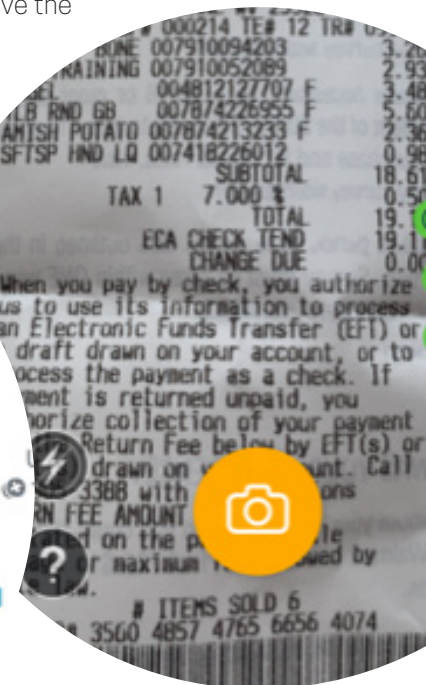
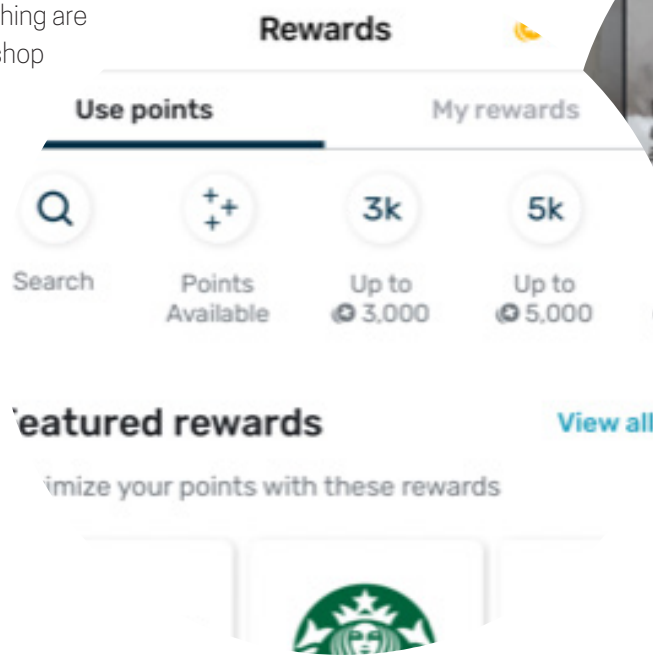
Some ways to conserve money on clothing are to shop online thrift apps like Mercari or shop at a local Good Will, Plato’s Closet or at Consigning Women. Consigning Women

will buy back in-season clothing items for 60% of the profit, and customers can place items on layaway for just 15%.

Grocery store and fast-food restaurant apps offer coupons or reward points, like Kroger’s, McDonald’s and Starbucks.

Dozens of apps offer cash or gift cards back after scanning receipts or give discounts when students purchase goods through the app. The top three reward and discount apps are Fetch Rewards, Ibotta and RetailMeNot. Like those apps, UNidays help college students save money on various items like clothing, electronics, delivery services and so much more.

These simple tips can help relieve the stress of tight student budgets.



# How to Get a Job Right Out of School

by Arianna Whitehair

Looking to land a job right out of college? You’re in luck--according to the National Association of Colleges and Employers, graduates are being hired this year at a 7.5% higher rate than last.

While landing a good paying job after graduation is important, the steps you need to take before hitting that “Apply Now” button are essential.

Before applying, you need a well-written and up-to-date resume. Some easy-to-use (and free!) sites to help build your resume include: Resume Genius, Resume.com, and My Perfect Resume. All resumes should include the following items.

- 1) Name and Contact Information
- 2) Education
- 3) Work Experience
- 4) Skills

Consider adding sections for extracurriculars, volunteer experience, and honors/awards. Keep the length to one page (no more than two), do not use crazy fonts or colors, and proofread for spelling or grammar errors.

Now that you have a solid resume, it’s time to prepare for job interviews. As nerve-wracking as they can be, look at them as an opportunity to show yourself off and expand your professional connections.

How to Ace Interviews:

- 1) Research – Know the company
- 2) Sell Yourself —Show your potential employer you have what it takes to be an asset to the team
- 3) Dress for Success – It sounds cliché, but looking the part will help you land the job
- 4) Practice, Practice, Practice! — Practice in your mirror or have a friend help
- 5) Prepare — Know the most commonly asked interview questions
- 6) Body Language — Present yourself confidently (eye contact, posture, etc.)
- 7) Ask Questions – Show interest by asking questions
- 8) Say Thank You — Send a thank-you email after and thank the interviewer for their time

Now go out there and land that job!



# UC Renovations

by Jessica Gress

Cox Hall was the oldest residential building on the University of Charleston's campus. This is no longer the case as it was demolished between the Spring 2021 and Fall 2021 semesters. This building sat between Middle Hall and Brotherton Hall on the east side of campus.

"The plans for the area on campus where Cox Hall used to sit are still undetermined. But, in the short term, we think the open green space adds an attractive element to our campus and provides our students with additional space for outdoor activities," said David Traube, the Vice President of Marketing and Communications at UC. Traube went on to explain that the main reason it was demolished was since the building was deteriorating from the inside out. That was the main reason why the residential side of campus continuously lost power when it rained Fall 2020 and Spring 2021 semesters. Having this building demolished will be beneficial for most everyone on campus. It will open the view for those residing in Middle Hall, it will save the campus financial stress, and it will give the possibility for a little park for the students.

Rigglesman Hall was another big project that brought a lot of changes on campus. The most recognizable changes in this academic hall are the lecture halls on levels one, two, and three. These used to be a typical lecture hall, which was outdated for the learning that is happening now.

"The renovations in the North-West corner of Rigglesman Hall enabled us to take three outdated lecture halls and convert them to new admissions and learning spaces," said Marty Roth, the president of the University. "The project is part of our ongoing efforts to update the appearance, functionality, and technology

in the Geary Student Union and Rigglesman Hall. These changes and others provide a more welcoming and enjoyable campus environment for students, faculty, and staff." This idea of 'providing a more welcoming and enjoyable campus' is the general idea throughout all of the renovations that have happened around campus.

The boathouse is another major project on campus. This is to help students socialize outside during the times of COVID-19. The boathouse is an outdoor recreation center free to students located on the North-East corner of campus. Some activities that can be found within this center are cornhole, fishing rods that can be used in the Kanawha River, bicycles, kayaks, and so much more. The boathouse allows a positive step forward in terms of allowing students to have the best possible experience while attending the University of Charleston.



# UC Fulfilling Its Mission

by Taylor Green

Community involvement is part of the mission statement that the University of Charleston expects to fulfill every year. This year was no different when UC completed its annual Labor of Love community service project on September 6th, 2021.

Starting on Friday, September 3rd, Labor of Love was spread over the four-day holiday weekend for all UC students, faculty and athletic teams to complete various tasks within the Charleston community and UC campus.

The Exercise Science and Health Promotion program made blankets for the Covenant House. The Department of Education deployed military care packages while UC Innovation Scholars participated in the Little Bits Circuitry Workshop.

The weekend was busy for UC President Martin Roth as well. President Roth was pictured helping the UC baseball team do landscaping at the Midian Community Center.

UC Men's Track and Field mulched the playground at the Kanawha City Community Center, and the UC Football team cleaned the Springhill Cemetery.

Labor of Love has been held for the past three years here

at UC. President Roth knows the importance of community involvement for the university and the Charleston community. President Roth said, "Caring about and making a difference in the communities where we study, work, and live benefits everyone."

Students seem to be picking up the importance of this duty too. As UC Junior Presidential Scholar Daelen Boggs said, "The concept is good, and this is a great day to give back to the local community since we are the city of Charleston's university."



# UC Innovation Program Continues to Prosper

by Ava Reed

The University of Charleston Innovation Program has entered its fifth year of operation, which will be marked by new offerings in both academic and professional areas. In addition to placing a greater emphasis on the science of business practices, the Innovation Program will expand outreach learning opportunities through networking events and creative outlets.

One of the ways students will expand their individual understanding of innovation is through involvement in the International Association of Innovation Professionals (IAOIP). Membership in the IAOIP offers specialized training, resources, and certifications to develop professional pathways, which is an added benefit to college students preparing for the workforce.

Assistant Director of Innovation, Terry Cyfers, Ph.D., said that it is important for learning opportunities to extend beyond the traditional classroom.

“We have a team designed to spread the news of our Innovation Program through the entire community,” he said. “We continue to help students with business ideas, and we continue to do prototyping within our own makerspace. Students, faculty... anyone who wants to learn about innovation can do so here at the University of Charleston.”

Cyfers described upcoming monthly lunch-and-learn sessions that are designed to bring awareness to all aspects of the innovation process, from loose ideas to formed plans of action. In addition to regular luncheons, Cyfers announced that a podcasting studio will soon be available for students to produce their own segments on related topics.

“We bought some brand new, high-end equipment which will be available to all of the students to use,” Cyfers said.

The science of innovation applies to all majors, even though it is closely connected to the business, marketing, entrepreneurship, analytics, and design programs. Cyfers said a primary goal is to make sure that every student and faculty member understands that the Innovation Center exists to give them a place to create in whatever way they prefer.

“We are very proud of the Innovation Center,” Cyfers added. “We want to make sure the space continues to be student-oriented and student-run.”

The UC Innovation Scholars program provides high-achieving students with scholarship awards,

professional connections, personal coaching, and leadership opportunities. Scholars manage the day-to-day operations of the center, give tours and presentations to donors and guests, speak at state conferences, and develop and teach workshops.

The UC Innovation Team is led by David Ramsburg, MBA, Director of Innovation, and Terry Cyfers, Ph.D., Assistant Director. New to the program are first-year students Ian Juniper, Kelton Boblits, and Kendra Pettry. Student leaders of the Innovation team are Emily Thomas, President, and Sydney Schliesser, Vice President. Scholars also serve as university ambassadors in community and professional realms. The official Instagram page of the Innovation Scholars can be found by searching @ucwv\_innovation.

The Russel and Martha Wehrle Innovation Center provides 6,500 square feet of technology-infused space designed for student learning and creativity. For more information about the Innovation Center or the UC Innovation Scholars Program, contact Terry Cyfers, Ph.D., via email, at [terrycyfers@ucwv.edu](mailto:terrycyfers@ucwv.edu), or David Ramsburg, MBA, via email at [davidramsborg@ucwv.edu](mailto:davidramsborg@ucwv.edu).





# Where Guatemala Meets West Virginia

by Arianna Whitehair

“I think that what has helped me to adapt the most is the people. Everyone is always so welcoming and helpful; it truly feels like a community here.”

Andrea Quezada, an international student from Guatemala, is a current senior here at the University of Charleston pursuing a double major in English and Communication and a minor in Psychology. In her free time, she likes to dance, read, and hang out with friends.

Coming to the University of Charleston in 2019, she had to learn the ropes of being a new college student on top of adjusting to life in an entirely new country. “It has been hard adjusting to the lifestyle in the U.S.,” says Quezada. “There are so many different things I had to learn how to handle and how to do. I have been in West Virginia for two and a half years now, and I am still not used to living here.”

Though unable to visit her family and friends in Guatemala often during the semester, her active and extensive involvement on campus has enabled her to create a home outside of home.

“Being involved [on campus] has made me feel more at home while at UC because of all the people I’ve been able to meet that I now call friends”, says Quezada.

A member of Theta Kappa Pi, Student Activities Board (SAB), Student Government Association (SGA), Sigma Tau Delta, the current president of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), a Teaching Assistant, Peer Tutor and Peer Educator, Andrea is extremely active on campus. Recently having joined the cheerleading team as well, she is excited to begin her new journey as a student athlete and support the school in a brand-new way. Out of her many experiences on campus, being a Teaching Assistant, Peer Educator, and a member of SGA are her favorites.

A Teaching Assistant for Comm 101 and 102 courses, she is able to channel her passions and turn them into something that makes a difference in the lives of other students. In class, she helps the professor maintain order, assists with class activities, and takes attendance. Outside of class, she reviews papers, helps students find valuable sources for essays, and makes herself readily available for any questions or concerns that may arise.

As a Peer Educator, Quezada works to make her University 104 and 105 students feel comfortable and prepared as they transition from high school to college. She does this by offering the kind of advice she wishes she’d been given as a freshman, and works with her students to ensure they not only meet but exceed coursework expectations.

“I love getting to help students not only get adjusted to college life, but also help them with their classes and watch them grow and improve. I love seeing them come to me with good grades and thank me for me helping them get to this point”, she says.

Having been an active member of the Student Government Association since her freshman year, Quezada has had a direct hand in shaping campus life into what it is today. An Upperclassman Senator, she actively seeks out student issues on campus and addresses them in meetings to ensure they get fixed. Some notable things SGA has done in recent years is create a student lounge area on the second floor of the GSU, pass a resolution for new codes related to mental health emergencies implemented in all dorms, and have trashcans placed in women’s bathrooms on campus. “In SGA, I really like being able to problem-solve and assist students with addressing problems”, she says of her experience.

While it may not seem as if there is time for any kind of social life within such a rigorous schedule, she attributes many of her friendships to her active involvement on campus.

“I like getting to have different friend groups on campus. Since I’m an international student, I came in not really knowing anyone, so being involved really helped me adapt to life here and make a diverse group of friendships.”

All in all, Andrea Quezada has made an impressive mark on campus, and she hopes to continue that legacy beyond graduation. She aspires to one day pursue a career as a possible editor, publisher, or journalist.

“My experience at UC has definitely been more than I could have ever asked for. The small-community feel has allowed me to have experiences I wouldn’t have been able to have anywhere else”.

