

CONNECTIONS

Campus News

Board Report

EMPLOYEE UPDATES

Welcome, New Employees

Lisa Craig - Pre-Employment Transition Coordinator

Valerie Martiez - Bookstore Clerk

Christopher Mercado - Safety Officer

Chad Peters - Safety Officer

Jaci Peterson - Recruitment Specialist

Kennedy Skinner - Instructional Specialist

Andrea Vasquez - Safety Officer

Transitions

Kimberly Ortiz Salgado - Campus Services Coordinator - Denison

Farewell and Good Luck!

Holly Adams - Welding Instructor

William Hackett - Adult Education Specialist

Dr. Kendra Hall - Library Manager

Retirement, Congratulations!

Sima Dabir - Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences

Renee Nemitz - Surgical Technology Instructor

BOARD APPROVALS AND UPDATES

Dr. Erin Volk, Vice President of Learning, introduced **Wendy Ivarson, Director of Cherokee Campus and Northern Service Area**. Wendy presented information about both Cherokee and Le Mars campuses. She discussed the activities and students in programs at both campuses. Dr. Erin Volk also presented the PACE Survey results. Last spring, we issued an employee climate survey. The results highlighted many of our strengths. There were also several opportunities for improvement. People wanted more voice in decision-making, better communication, among others. Executive Council met to work on a plan to address concerns. We have six areas to focus on.

Tawnya Beermann, Dean of Students, presented the Enrollment review. We will continue adding students through October. We are currently down 4.2% in online students, Arts & Sciences, and part-time students. We are down 178 students compared to last year. We are also seeing students taking

more credits. **Dr. Christina Brandon, Dean of Outreach and Information Technologies**, reviewed the new students: where they came from, what they are taking, and how they are funded. This fall, we had 13 more new students than last year. **Steven Garcia, Director of Outreach**, reported on the recruitment events from this past school year and those planned for this coming year. Tawnya talked about the importance of retention. We are focusing on barriers students may face. Christina discussed the newly approved Aviation Maintenance program and marketing plans to bring new students into the program. Classes will start September 21. Dr. Christina Brandon also discussed the different scholarships we have been offering, some changes, and which scholarships we would like to offer next year. The scholarship list is a great tool to share with prospective students' parents.

Darin Moeller, Executive Dean of Instruction, introduced **Carmen Wilson, Associate Dean of Corporate College**. Carmen explained that this contract renews annually and funds the SBDC Director and operational costs. The funds are phased in.

Troy Jasman, Vice President of Finance and Administrative Services, brought forward a list of open purchase orders for FY27. This list is comparable to last year. Troy Jasman presented the ISCAP Solvency Ratio report. This report reviews the unrestricted fund balance. It compares each year. We started this in 1994. This should not change much from previous years. Troy also presented a change order for the Building A Generator Project. This was due to some additional dirt work that needed to be done in order to secure the generator

Dr. Terry Lindsay, President, gave his **President's Report**. Dr. Lindsay shared several updates as he continues his visits across WIT's campuses and communities. Recent visits included time in Le Mars meeting with employees and community leaders. WIT will also partner with the Le Mars Chamber for a Lunch and Learn on September 24 featuring Carmen Wilson. Dr. Lindsay also reflected on the September 11 Welcome Back Convocation, thanking employees for coming together to connect, celebrate, and kick off the year.

Now on Day 71 of his 100 Days of Listening and Learning, Dr. Lindsay announced seven priorities that will help guide the College's next steps:

- Grow enrollment and review marketing strategies.
- Assess retention strategies and student support systems.
- Review academic programs and course offerings.
- Stabilize finances and identify alternative funding sources.
- Improve workplace culture.
- Strengthen internal and external communication.
- Develop a new strategic plan.

Teams will begin working on each priority, with recommendations due December 1 to help shape WIT's long-term planning.

September Work Anniversaries!

HAPPY WORK-IVERSARIES!

Thank you for everything you do!

- Sydney Anderson, Secretary - 2 years
- William Bellows, Educational Coordinator - 9 years
- Kristy Bowman, Career Services Specialist - 20 years
- Kemi Brown, Counseling Services Coordinator - 2 years
- Ehren Christensen, Accounting Specialist - 5 years
- Katie Colvert, Accounting Specialist - 5 years
- Mitchell Craig, Safety Officer - 1 year
- Thomas Dirks, Department Assistant - 2 years
- Cynthia Fachman, ABE Specialist - 9 years
- Alejandra Flores Gutierrez, Director of Student Support Services - 7 years
- Hodeis Hadadi, Educational Coordinator - 6 years
- Will Jensen, Accounting Specialist - 5 years
- Lori Johnson, Department Assistant - 6 years
- Hunter Johnson, Instructional Assistant - 3 years
- Lori Kasperbauer, Testing Center Assistant - 5 years
- Robert Koehlmoos, Custodian - 19 years
- Penny Lewis, Student Records Specialist - 25 years
- Teresa McElroy, Associate Dean of Admissions & Advising - 11 years
- Michael Meister, Director of College Effectiveness - 18 years
- Mark Munger, General Manager for K.W.I.T. - 13 years
- Nicole Nelson, Testing Center Assistant - 33 years
- Martha Nuno, Educational Coordinator - 13 years
- Holly Olson, Administrative Program Coordinator - College Now - 15 years
- Matthew Pettit, Student Financial Services Specialist - 6 years
- Jorge Quezada, K.W.I.T. Announcer - 6 years
- Nancy Ramos, Educational Coordinator - 5 years
- Russell Roach, Print Shop Operator - 8 years
- Adrian Sanchez, Maintenance Engineer - 2 years
- Lori Sis, ABE Specialist - 4 years
- Whitney Steinhoff, Accounting Specialist - 7 years
- Andrew Taylor, Secretary - 3 years
- Kimberly Toel, Accounting Specialist - 2 years

Campus Updates

Comet CLASS Name Tag Ordering Form Open

Comet CLASS is doing another name tag order! Orders can be submitted at the [following link](#) and the deadline is **Friday, September 18**. If anyone needs a new magnet, they can request one in the bookstore. <https://forms.gle/6P9JeV9f5Je9kNVZ6>



SEPTEMBER 15 - SEPTEMBER 30

- Form teams with a maximum of four members.
- Donations of food and drink should be shelf-stable; examples include canned foods, ramen noodles, cereal, soft drinks, Powerade, and Gatorade.
- Examples of hygienic donations include toothpaste, dental floss, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, soap, and feminine products.
- Type a list of your team's contributions and submit it to Kemi Brown in admissions or Andrew Taylor at the Comet Learning Center. The items will then be dropped off in conference room A318.
- The winning team with the highest contributions will be announced in October and will receive dessert from Chef Gasaway, along with a trophy created by James Garvey!



Comet Cupboard Food Drive

September 15 - 30

Form teams of up to four members. Food and drink donations should be shelf-stable; examples include canned foods, ramen noodles, cereal, soft drinks, Powerade, and Gatorade. Hygienic donation examples include toothpaste, dental floss, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, soap, and feminine products. List your team's contributions and submit it to Kemi Brown in admissions or Andrew Taylor at the Comet Learning Center. Then drop the items off in conference room A318.

The winning team with the highest contributions will be announced in October and will receive dessert from Chef Gasaway, along with a trophy created by James Garvey!

Fall 2026 Vision Mini-Grant Application Open!

The Fall 2026 Vision Mini-Grant applications are open! This is your chance to bring your ideas to life and invest in your own professional growth. Whether it's attending a conference, earning a certification, exploring new teaching strategies, or building leadership and technology skills, these grants are designed to support your success and creativity.

What's Available:

- Awards from \$25–\$1,000
- Open to all full-time and part-time employees (faculty, staff, adjuncts)
- Applications are due by October 1.

This is a wonderful opportunity to dream big, take initiative, and shape the future of our college together. Visit the [Mini-Grant Application Portal](#) for more information. [Submit your application today by clicking here.](#)

Teammate Shout Outs and TEAM Nominations Due!

Help us recognize the great work happening across WIT! Visit the Employee Recognition card on my.wit to give a teammate a Shout Out or nominate a WIT team that has demonstrated our TECH values. We will email September Teammate Shout Outs at the end of the month, and we will recognize TEAM nominees at Fall Staff Development.

[Teammate Shout Out! - Fill Out Form](#)

[TEAM Nomination Form - Fill Out Form](#)

Submissions are due Friday, September 25, at 2:00 p.m.



Employee Book Club

The [Employee Book Club](#) will meet next on September 29th. The September book club choice is Sons of El Rey by Alex Espinoza. Sign up on the Library website or contact Morgan.Konz@witcc.edu with questions.

Staff Senate

Wednesday, September 30
Noon - 1:00 P.M.
Room W108

If you would like an Outlook Reminder for this meeting, please add your name and email address to the [Google Sheet link here](#).



Staff Development

Wednesday, October 14
Thursday, October 15

Save the Date! Fall Staff Development is coming October 14–15! Both days will be in person, with plenty of opportunities to connect, learn, and enjoy some good food, including food trucks!

Then, stick around Thursday, October 15, for Rush Hour Connect with the Chamber of Commerce beginning at 4:30 p.m. We'll have drinks, food, and a chance to celebrate WIT's 60th anniversary while welcoming Dr. Terry Lindsay to the community. More details coming soon!

Save THE Date

Convocation Resources

Whether you'd like to revisit something from the day or catch something you missed, here are a few resources:

- View the Convocation slide deck [Convocation Slides.pptx](#).
- Watch the Convocation recording: <https://youtu.be/o6NDeZJpdOU>
- Celebrate 60 Years of WIT: <https://www.witcc.edu/60-years/>
- Visit our 60th anniversary page to explore upcoming events and [share your own WIT stories and memories](#). Submit your own [event here](#).

Help Us Plan for Next Year

We'd love your feedback! Please take a few minutes to complete our short Convocation survey. Your input on the food, agenda, timing, and overall experience will help us make next year's event even better.

- Take the Convocation Survey: [Welcome Back Convocation Feedback Survey – Fill out form](#)

Thank you for being part of the Convocation and for helping us start the year together!

Job Openings

[Recruitment Specialist - Denison](#)

[Medical Assistant Adjunct Instructor](#)

[Adjunct Certified Nurse Aide \(CNA\) Instructor](#)

[Psychology Adjunct Instructor](#)

[Social Science Adjunct Instructor](#)

[English Adjunct Instructor](#)

[Athletic Trainer](#)

[Physical Therapist Assistant Adjunct Instructor/Lab Assistant](#)

[Dental Assistant Adjunct \(lab/clinical\)](#)

[Adjunct Clinical Nursing Instructor](#)

[Driver Education Behind the Wheel Instructor](#)

[Auto Technology Adjunct Instructor](#)

[Surgical Technology Adjunct](#)

[Commercial/Passenger Bus Driver](#)

[Art Adjunct Instructor](#)

[Welding Adjunct Instructor - Cherokee](#)

We hope you enjoyed this issue of CONNECTIONS.
To submit information for the next issue, send an [email](#).