



 WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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ASSOCIATION

SINCE ITS OFFICIAL FOUNDING IN 1913, the Wichita State University Alumni Association has been the organization through which WSU alumni, students, faculty, staff and friends communicate with and serve one another – while supporting the university they love.

THE WSU ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IS THE OLDEST AND LARGEST NETWORK OF SHOCKERS IN THE WORLD.

Mission, Core Values and Vision

Our Mission is to create, maintain, and enhance relationships among Wichita State University alumni, current and prospective students, faculty, staff and friends in order to foster loyalty, interest and support for the University and for one another.

Our Core Values:

- Serving WSU, Alumni, Students and our Community
- Honoring Shocker Pride
- Fostering and Maintaining Relationships
- Valuing Higher Education

Our Vision is to provide an opportunity for those who love WSU to connect with one another in vibrant and diverse ways, guided by these principles:

- *We will foster active participation and pride in WSU through increased membership and support, quality services and imaginative communication.*
- *We will enhance the Association's position as a vital part of the community, and provide such dynamic programming and enthusiasm that it will always be worthy of national acclaim.*
- *We will radiate such passion for WSU that others will easily see that their involvement with the Association will be meaningful and exhilarating.*



SINCE ITS BEGINNING, the alumni association has embraced the many bonds between Shockers and Wichita State – serving as a collective voice in preserving Shocker history; building relationships; engaging in campus and alumni events; establishing tradition for Shockers to come. The result is a stronger university, which translates to enhanced value in the marketplace for every academic degree awarded by Wichita State. *These pages offer you a Shocker glimpse of the countless ways this association works to fulfill its mission.*



ENGAGEMENT

Homecoming

In 2010 – for the first time in 20 years – Wichita State celebrated a traditional homecoming, complete with parade, bonfire and pep rally, a big game, a celebrity appearance, homecoming royalty and the crowning of a king and queen. The alumni association, embracing Shocker tradition, brought homecoming festivities back to campus – and is proud to promote “PartyGras” Homecoming 2012 the week of Feb. 20-25.



Rockin' the Roundhouse

A true community event, Rockin' the Roundhouse pairs great food and drink with live entertainment and silent and live auctions. It's the party of the season, one of a handful of Wichita's must-attend annual benefit events. Each fall, Rockin' the Roundhouse draws more than 1,000 attendees to Charles Koch Arena and counts on the active participation of hundreds of sponsors, contributors, event volunteers and attendees for its success. The fund-raising venture continues Sept. 29, 2012, when once again hundreds of Shockers will come together to Rock the Roundhouse.



Shocker Honors Scholar Banquet

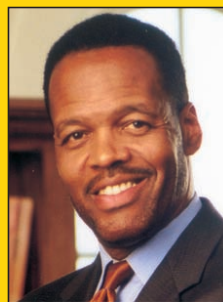
Attended by a broad range of university and community members (everyone from high school juniors, their parents and other guests to Wichita State alumni, current students, faculty and staff), this student-recruitment event recognizes the top 10 percent of area high school juniors for their academic success.

Senior Breakfast & Senior Luncheon

Each fall and spring semester, these Senior Send-Off events celebrate graduating seniors and welcome them into the Shocker alumni family. Seniors, faculty and alumni attend. Each senior who signs up receives a complimentary year membership in the association.

Distinguished Alumni Speaker Breakfast Series

Respected alumni from varied disciplines speak on campus about their career journeys — and share their experiences as a Shocker. Hailing from right here in Wichita and across the nation, the featured speakers attract a diverse audience. Attendees include WSU alumni, students, faculty and staff, as well as area professionals and corporate executives.



M. Lee Pelton '74
Willamette president
2001-2002 Series



Joyce DiDonato '92
Opera performer
2003-2004 Series



Mark Parkinson '80
Governor of Kansas
2009-2010 Series



Linwood Sexton '48
Civil rights advocate
2010-2011 Series



Donna Sweet '70/72
AIDS/HIV physician
2002-2003 Series

WSU Alumni Association Shocker Open

Shocker golfers “carry the bag” to support student-recruitment efforts at this annual fund-raising tournament – and have a ball doing it! Traditionally held at Wichita’s Willowbend Golf Club, the tournament attracts players of many ages and many different professional fields. Teams of four vie for top honors and prizes in three flights, as well as skill and hole-in-one competitions. All participants take home a bag full of fun – and useful! – giveaways. In recent years, the Shocker Open has expanded its participant activities to include a limited-item silent auction. In addition to player fees, money is raised to help underwrite the cost of the Shocker Honors Scholar Banquet through event and hole sponsorships.



Baseball Alumni Tailgate (BAT) Party

This family-friendly baseball tent party has become a traditional spring offering. Planned around a key baseball rivalry, party-goers enjoy Shocker comradery and the excitement of Shocker baseball. Special appearances by university personalities – and WuShock, of course! – thrill Shockers of all ages.

We’re Not Back to School Bash

WSU young alumni celebrate NOT going back to school in the fall at an outdoor party on campus. The late-summer bash features food, drink, music, games and special Shocker give-aways and prizes for young – and young in spirit – Wichita State alumni.

WSU Alumni Awards Banquet

Since 1955, this alumni and faculty recognition program has honored the best and the brightest for their achievements and service to their communities and to Wichita State. The formal awards ceremony is the highlight of the annual WSU Alumni Awards Banquet, attended by an impressive cross-section of our diverse Shocker community.

COMMUNICATIONS



The Shocker

Featuring Shocker personalities and issues of interest at Wichita State and the alumni association, *The Shocker* (short for *The Wheatshocker*) is the association's award-winning, full-color magazine. *The Shocker* celebrates the myriad accomplishments of alumni, faculty and of the university as a whole – and strives to foster pride in Wichita State University. The magazine's online site is at TheShockerMagazine.com.



Alumni communications keep news and information flowing throughout the world-wide Shocker community.

www.wichita.edu/alumni

The alumni association's online home offers members and guests a dynamic overview of the organization's many offerings. The site also provides safe, easy donation, event reservation and payment services.

The Shocker Online & Social Media

Every month, *The Shocker Online* provides via e-mail notification all kinds of timely event updates, news and information to subscribers. The alumni association also keeps members of the WSU alumni family informed through the use of social media.

Interact with us on [!\[\]\(d0262bbe9d2356661a2e89321dfcc781_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(8572950e410320d7dd023da827ff014d_img.jpg\)](#) [!\[\]\(b2b6a2e56e47cc582ad4ec3c8f1864c0_img.jpg\)](#)

TRADITIONS



Heart of the Matter


For all the concrete programs and projects the association initiates and sponsors in support of higher education at Wichita State, the true measure of this alumni organization lies in the collective power of individual thought and action.

In a very real sense, every single student, every educator and every supporter whose life path brought them to the university atop Fairmount Hill *are* Wichita State University and its alumni association.



As English professor Geraldine Hammond '31 once explained: "Institutions do not actually exist in themselves but are only abstractions of whatever the people in them at any given moment do and are, and all the continuity or meaning institutions can ever have is in whatever is recorded and remembered of what the people in them did and were while they were there."

WSU's rich past stands guardian to its future, while the association chronicles, with pride, our present.



Wheathead Mania

Wichita State students and members of the association's Shockers Forever group sport Wheatheads™ at a Shocker basketball game. A trademarked offering to alumni association members, Wheatheads™ are a fun favorite of Shockers of all ages.

Shockers Forever

Shockers Forever, the association's Student Alumni Association, is the student counterpart of the WSU Alumni Association. This student organization strives to help current students build a lifelong relationship with Wichita State – Shockers Forever!

Shockers Forever provides exclusive events, programs and networking opportunities that allow student to showcase their Shocker pride and enhance their student experience at Wichita State. Shockers Forever not only keep longstanding Shocker traditions alive – they *make* future traditions.

Our Presidents of the Board

The alumni association has a long, rich tradition of having distinguished graduates lead the organization as president of the board of directors.

From Harry Shuler '13/30, who served as the first president in a two-year term from 1913-15, to the current president, Kathy Winslow '04/09, the ranks of association leaders have been occupied by prominent individuals in a wide variety of professions.

In all, there have been 82 presidents in the organization's 99-year history. Among that group have been 13 women, including the trailblazing Marie Graham '15/16, a history professor who took the association's reins when it was just more than a decade old, serving from 1924-26.

Alumni Groups

Alumni spirit groups and professional societies serve as among the basic building blocks for alumni support of the university. Alumni group involvement offers WSU supporters diverse opportunities to maintain constructive ties with Wichita State.

The specific purposes and goals of alumni clubs are as diverse as their respective geographical settings or professional specialties. Yet each group shares the common objectives of serving as a Shocker communication vehicle and fostering loyalty among graduates, WSU faculty and staff, students, prospective students and university friends.

Among the alumni association's most active professional societies are the Elliott School of Communication Society, the WSU Social Work Society and the WSU Nursing Alumni Society, the latter of which is the longest-running continually active organization in the association's stable of societies.

Whether a society's annual focus is professional networking, development and/or recognition; student recruitment and engagement; scholarship development; or community service and outreach, society members enjoy the company of individuals interested in their own chosen discipline.



Spirit Groups & Watch Parties

Every sports season, the association helps alumni volunteers throw watch parties at a number of out-of-Wichita locations. Counted among the far-flung locales of recent spirit group get-togethers are Chicago, Kansas City and Washington, D.C.

In Wichita, the association partners with Fox and Hound Pub & Grille as the official watch-party place for Shocker fans to gather for WSU men's basketball away games. Party-goers watch the action on wide-screen TVs and net a chance to win Shocker merchandise during door-prize drawings.

Shocker Road Trips

For Shockers who thrive on live basketball action, the association sponsors booster bus trips to selected away games and to the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament in St. Louis. Trip packages include everything a fan needs to have a great time.

Alumni Travel

Alumni travel programs help Shockers tour the world. Destinations range from the exotic to the comfortably familiar – from cruising the Caribbean to mountain climbing in Switzerland to exploring the Southwestern charms of Santa Fe, N.M. For current travel opportunities, visit the association online.



Special Shocker Reunions

Along with the WSU Alumni Association's traditional sponsoring and organizing of each year's 50-year class reunion, alumni association staff and volunteers work to put together various reunion gatherings for special groups of Shockers.

In 2009, for example, former Shocker football players and coaches returned to campus in May for an all-years reunion, hosted by the alumni association. They enjoyed reliving their gridiron-playing days with a punt, pass and kick contest, commemorative jerseys – and a formal dinner where a panel of former players shared reminiscences.

In 2008, another unique reunion event, "30 Years of Shocker Excellence," featured former Shocker baseball players, and attracted some 500 attendees, including nearly 50 former players, including 19 All-Americans, 13 players with major league experience and 15 members of the Shocker Sports Hall of Fame.

African-American alumni came together in 2007 for a four-day event during which they shared memories of their college years spanning the tumultuous decade of 1964-1974. This year, the alumni association is gearing up to sponsor selected events and help host the Black Greek reunion set for April 27-29.

CONNECTIONS



Alumni Records

Recordkeeping is at the core of all association and many university programs, projects and events. In short, alumni records bring – and keep – Shockers together. Alumni Information Center staff maintain an incredible number of fields of information on some 175,000 alumni and university donors, and are responsible for more than 40,000 biographical files that preserve news releases, press clippings, correspondence and photos of alumni, faculty and notable university friends.



Shockers for Higher Education

Shockers for Higher Education is the alumni association's legislative advocacy network in Kansas. SHE members work to inform Kansas state and national legislators about our exemplary university – keeping them aware of issues at the University regarding higher education legislation. As natural spokespeople for Wichita State, alumni SHE volunteers are often the best people to make the university's case to legislative decision-makers.

Ties that Last a Lifetime ...

Norma Hilton was crowned Homecoming Queen in 1958. In 2009, she re-connected with fellow University of Wichita Class of 1959 graduates at their 50-Year Reunion. Classmates now living in 16 different states returned to campus in October for the celebration. The annual reunion is only one of scores of alumni association events and programs that bring Shockers of all interests and ages together.

Shocker Visa® Cards

Shocker Visa® cards help support the WSU Alumni Association. Shocker Platinum Visa card-holders earn points toward free University Bookstore gift cards, travel, merchandise and cash back – and the association benefits from “Shocker dollars” at work. Card-holders demonstrate Shocker purchasing power with each use. One of the cards celebrates the 2011 NIT Basketball Championship with the Shocker Championship Visa Check Card. Individuals can apply for both cards online at wsucard.com.



WuTag for Scholarship Dollars

These official Kansas license plates feature the one and only WuShock. The \$35 annual tax-deductible royalty fee funds student scholarships based on academic achievement and student need. Awarding \$40,000 to \$50,000 in scholarships to approximately 10 students each year, this program is a fun, easy way to support WSU and “drive” your Shocker pride.

The Heritage Fund

The Shocker Heritage Fund is an annual giving campaign that requests funds to support the events, programs and communications of the alumni association. This campaign reaches out to members nationwide for gifts ranging from \$25 to \$1,000. Gifts, in any amount, help keep Shockers connected to Wichita State and to one another. Donations to the Heritage Fund support student recruitment and scholarships, alumni events, recognition and reunions, professional chapters and societies, alumni communications and the maintenance of more than 140,000 database files and records of alumni and friends. For more information, visit www.wichita.edu/alumni/heritagefund.



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