Career Development Center

The Twadorski Career Development Center is committed to supporting graduate student success by facilitating programs and providing services that assist with identifying career options, researching and connecting with employment and continuing education opportunities, and developing the skills necessary to have a competitive edge in the job market. Services for graduate students include individual appointments and drop-in hours, resume and cover letter reviews, mock/practice interviews, career fairs, job postings online in Ram Career Network (https://wcu-csm.symplicity.com/students), and an on-campus interviewing program. The center’s website links to a variety of job search sites grouped by Career Communities (http://www.wcupa.edu/_services/stu.car/documents/CareerCommunitiesatWCU.pdf) to facilitate an effective online job search.

The Career Development Center is located in 225 Lawrence Center (second floor) and is open year-round. For additional information, visit the Career Development website (http://wcupa.edu/cdc) or call 610-436-2501 to schedule an appointment.

Lawrence A. Dowdy Multicultural Center

The mission of the Lawrence A. Dowdy Multicultural Center (http://www.wcupa.edu/multiculturalAffairs) is to help provide and maintain a supportive environment that promotes the academic achievement and personal development of multicultural students at the University. This is accomplished by providing a wide range of services, programs, and activities aimed at meeting the educational, social, cultural, and developmental needs of multicultural students. In addition, the center collaborates with other offices, organizations, and departments to improve awareness of and appreciation for racial and cultural diversity for the University community.

The Multicultural Center serves as a general gathering place for all students and is also a home-base for the Lawrence A. Dowdy Multicultural Center Mentoring Program, the Board of Governors Scholarship program, and many multicultural student organizations. The center is located in Room 003 in Sykes Student Union and can be reached at 610-436-3273.

Sykes Student Union Building

The Earl F. Sykes Union first opened in 1975 as the community center for West Chester University. A building expansion and major renovations were completed in 1995, providing students with a 102,000-square foot multipurpose facility.

Taken from the Association of College Unions International's 2018 Role of the College Union statement:

“The college union advances a sense of community, unifying the institution by embracing the diversity of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and guests. We bolster the educational mission of the institution and the development of students as lifelong learners by delivering an array of cultural, educational, social, and recreational programs, services, and facilities.”

The ground floor features the Lawrence A. Dowdy Multicultural Center; Campus Store; Student Services, Inc. Service Center; a 350-seat theater; the Ram's Den Lounge/EcoGrounds coffee; and the east patio entrance. The first floor offers a food court and dining area; a multi-use outdoor pergola; a 5,000-square foot multipurpose ballroom designed for dances, concerts, banquets, and lectures; as well as the student union administrative offices and building Information Center.

The second floor houses the Student Affairs offices of the Fraternity and Sorority Life; Student Leadership and Involvement; Lesbian, Gay Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Ally Services; and Off Campus and Commuter Services. The Student Services, Inc. Business Office; the department of Student Activities; and the Center for Student Involvement are also located on the second floor.

The third floor Frederick Douglass Lounge Area features a 25-unit computer lab with quiet study and seminar space and a meditation
lounge. Sykes Union also features 17 rooms accommodating groups from 4 to 500 for meetings, programs, and events.

For information concerning Sykes Union, please call the Information Center at 610-436-2984/3360.

Center for Women and Gender Equity (CWGE)
Since 1974, we have been celebrating, honoring, and empowering our campus community. We do this through a diverse range of educational programs, resources, and advocacy for all people.

The Center for Women and Gender Equity (CWGE) is a confidential resource where you can report incidents of sexual misconduct (dating/domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and harassment). We will provide you the support and resources you need to take your next steps.

Mission
CWGE promotes a campus culture and climate that supports principles of social justice, equity, inclusion, and community. We advocate for a campus community that values the safety, equality, and intellectual advancement of women and historically marginalized groups at West Chester University.

CWGE provides education, resources, and advocacy primarily on gender-related issues. We facilitate, sustain, and advance dialogue about how gender intersects with race, ethnicity, class, sexual identity, ability, age, and nationality.

Our mission is accomplished through:
- Educational programs that address a wide range of social justice issues that affect the success, well-being, and empowerment of women
- Special events, workshops, and trainings that promote awareness of the ways in which gender bias intersects with racism, classism, homophobia, and other forms of oppression
- Leadership opportunities that build confidence and provide skills to enhance the personal and professional growth of women
- Coordinating campus-wide violence prevention initiatives, including programming designed to engage men as allies in violence prevention
- Building allies and partners-in-movement through programming focused on healthier forms of masculinity and the ways in which gender impacts our everyday lives
- Confidential support and referrals for students experiencing sexual misconduct
- Information and referrals about issues that disproportionately impact women
- Advocating for systemic changes that support women and historically marginalized groups

The Center for Women and Gender Equity is located at 220 Lawrence Center. For more information, visit www.wcupa.edu/womenscenter or call 610-436-2122.

Institute for Women
The Institute for Women was initially designed to serve as the parent organization to represent the interests of women on campus. The institute is an independent body headed by a director and board of directors. Along with the Commission on the Status of Women, Women’s Center, and Women’s Studies Program, the Institute for Women engages in campus activities for the benefit of women students, faculty, and staff.

The institute sponsors the Graduate Grant, Endowed Book Fund, and other activities to enhance the self-esteem and career success of women at the University. The institute prepares periodic reports on the status of women at the University and also secures Charlotte W. Newcombe Scholarship Grants for mature second-career women. The Institute for Women offers an annual grant of $750 to a woman graduate student who is accepted into a master’s degree program at West Chester University. Application and reference forms may be obtained on the Office of Graduate Studies (http://www.wcupa.edu/Grad) website. For more information call Alicia Hahn-Murphy, director, at 610-436-2122 or email aahahn@wcupa.edu (AHAHNN@wcupa.edu). Students can also visit the The Institute for Women (http://www.wcupa.edu/instituteForWomen) website for more information.

Veterans Affairs
Under the provisions of Title 38, West Chester University is an accredited university for the education of veterans. The University cooperates with the Veterans Administration to see that honorably separated or discharged veterans receive every consideration consistent with either degree or non-degree admission standards.

All veterans, certain dependents of disabled or deceased veterans, and war orphans who wish to obtain educational benefits under the appropriate public laws must register with the Veterans Affairs Office at initial registration. Veterans must renew their registration with this office at the beginning of each subsequent semester and each summer session. The Veterans Administration requires undergraduate students who are veterans to schedule at least 12 semester hours per semester in order to receive full benefits under the GI Bill®; and graduate students who are veterans to schedule at least 9 semester hours per semester in order to receive full benefits under the GI Bill®.

West Chester University participates in the Yellow Ribbon Program under the Post 9/11 GI Bill. The Post 9/11 GI Bill pays up to the in-state tuition and fees for all students in the program, depending on their qualifying benefit level. For out-of-state students at the 100% benefit level, the University will contribute (and the VA will match) funds to make up the difference between in-state and out-of-state tuition and fees.

West Chester University is compliant with the recent passage of PA Act 11 and HB131 (http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/legis/li/ucschecks.cfm?yr=2015&sessInd=0&act=11) (referred to as the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014). In accordance with Act 46 of 2014, West Chester University offers Priority Registration for Veterans. For guidelines regarding priority scheduling please visit the Registrar’s website (http://www.wcupa.edu/registrar/military.aspx).

The Greg R. and Sandra L. Weisenstein Veterans Center (http://www.wcupa.edu/veteranscenter) is located at 624 South High Street. The Veterans Center provides services and assistance to veterans, service members, and spouse/dependents with their transition to college. Services include but are not limited to Student Veteran Group (SVG) meeting headquarters, a veteran lounge and computer area, the University’s VA educational certifying official, assistance with VA educational benefits, and general VA information.

For information about the Department of Veteran Affairs (VA) benefits programs, assistance in completing the application for benefits, or to submit requests for enrollment certification, contact the Veterans Center (http://www.wcupa.edu/veteranscenter) at 610-436-2862 or e-mail veteranscenter@wcupa.edu.

Veterans’ Residency
West Chester University adheres to the guidelines set forth by the PA Act 11 and HB131 in order to demonstrate compliance with the Veterans Access, Choice, and Accountability Act of 2014. According to WCU policy, your residency status may require you to supply extra documentation to ensure you receive the proper, in-state tuition benefits. Please visit the Registrar’s residency section (http://www.wcupa.edu/registrar/residencyMilitary.aspx) for further information regarding military personnel.

Campus Recreation
At West Chester University, the Department of Campus Recreation is the primary destination for the Golden Ram campus community.
to engage in recreation, social, and wellness-orientated programs and services. Blending components of fitness and well-being with the co-curricular educational experience it is our mission to assist each person in exceeding academic goals while establishing healthy lifetime behaviors. While at WCU we encourage you to treat yourself and allow your mind, body, and soul to engage in some daily PLAY time; you've earned it!

The Student Recreation Center is the central hub for many of the quality programs and services we provide. Opened in August, 2012, the SRC welcomes over 2,500 Golden Rams through its doors on a daily basis! With over 70,000 sq. ft. of recreation activity space we believe we have something for everyone. Features of the SRC include: a 34-ft. tall climbing and bouldering wall; 13,000 sq. ft of strength and conditioning equipment including an extensive line of Life Fitness cardio and strength equipment; three fitness studios featuring a wide range of group fitness classes including many Les Mills formats; two hardwood basketball courts; two racquetball courts; one multi-activity court perfect for floor hockey, soccer, volleyball, and many other activities; outdoor sand volleyball and basketball courts; men's and women’s locker rooms; and the administrative offices for all full-time, Campus Recreation staff.

Beyond the many outstanding programs and services provided through the Student Recreation Center, Campus Recreation also offers many structured opportunities which may meet at other locations on or off campus. Examples include our highly respected Outdoor Adventure Pursuits program (OAP), which offers a number of weekend trips to various destinations for activities such as ice climbing, waterfall walking, backpacking and mountain climbing, kayaking or canoe excursions, archery camp, and other events featuring the natural beauty of our region. The OAP program provides an excellent opportunity to get off campus, dig into nature, and enjoy meeting other students who share your appreciation for the outdoors and sustainability. Additionally through our OAP program, we offer the always popular "Cocoa Clinics" which feature educational discussions on topics such as sustainability practices, international backpacking, the art of layers, and other practical but educational topics—all served with tasty hot cocoa!

Campus Recreation offers an exciting line-up of intramural sports leagues, tournaments, and one-day events. Leagues are divided into men's, women's, and co-recreational and feature competition against other WCU Golden Ram students. Examples of current/past intramural sports competitions include flag-football, soccer, basketball, canoe battleship, kickball, softball, volleyball, dodgeball, and many other FUN recreational but competitive sports. Many of the indoor competitions will take place at the Student Recreation Center while most outdoor events will be hosted at “South Campus” outdoor play-fields.

WCU’s Campus Recreation is also home to over 32 different Club Sport teams, with many competing and succeeding at the regional and national level. Examples of current Club Sport teams include men’s and women’s ultimate Frisbee, men’s and women’s water polo, Crossfit, men’s and women’s ice hockey, equestrian, Quidditch, rugby, wrestling, fishing, and many more. If WCU graduate or undergraduate students are looking to extend their competitive playing years or wish to learn a new skill, consider joining or starting a new club sport!

Through Campus Recreation we strive to provide our Golden Ram campus community a comprehensive and diverse line-up of healthy, fitness, FUN, recreational, and co-curricular programs and services. Through the many outstanding activities we provide, featuring innovative programming while also employing over 180 students in many leadership roles, we aspire to provide options for each person to create life-long healthy behaviors, opportunities for personal growth and awareness, and to create meaningful and positive relationships. We believe through the many programs and services we offer through employment you will find Campus Recreation truly does offer something for everyone!