**Students gain experience among professionals**

The Student Development Center on the College Place, Washington, campus functions as a resource to prepare students for the professional realm by helping build résumés, locating internships, and facilitating mock interviews. In April, the SDC put on an event called First Impressions, which provided students the opportunity to practice corporate mingling among their peers as well as professionals from over 20 organizations. This event also featured a presentation by Mark Ebb, Starbucks district manager.

**Dean of School of Social Work named Social Worker of the Year**

The National Association of Social Workers Washington Chapter (NASW–WA) recognized Susan Smith, professor of social work and sociology and dean of the School of Social Work and Sociology, as 2019 NASW–WA Social Worker of the Year. Smith specializes in mental health and social work practice and has an interest in the impact of mental health first aid training on resident assistants.

**Engineers Without Boarders creates Ducky Derby device**

WWU’s chapter of EWB has created a device to improve Walla Walla’s Ducky Derby, an event in which sponsored rubber ducks are released in Mill Creek to raise funds to prevent child abuse in the Walla Walla area. EWB-WWU built a mechanism to help collect the 20,000 rubber ducks following the event, since having people wade into the water to collect them is dangerous due to the uneven and slippery riverbank. EWB-WWU’s device made the process much easier and safer at this year's event.

**Students lead evangelistic series**

InTents, an evangelistic series put on by the students of the Public Evangelism class, was held for the 27th consecutive year. Students gathered under a tent pitched on Kretschmar Lawn to hear their peers speak on this year's theme, “It’s Your Call,” in which students told their personal stories and shared how they identified with a biblical character.
Increase in opportunity for education majors
Discovery Preschool, run by the School of Education and Psychology on the College Place campus, serves as a learning setting for students studying education. This year, hours of operation have increased to include afternoons, which allows students to have more opportunities to gain experience teaching young students and working as assistant teachers. Debbie Muthersbaugh, dean of the School of Education and Psychology, oversees the program.

Graduate student-run mental health clinic receives second grant
A free mental health clinic run by the students of the School of Social Work and Sociology on the Billings, Montana, campus received a second grant from the St. Vincent Healthcare Foundation. The $40,000 grant will help fund ongoing clinic operations and allow more aid to the people of Billings and the surrounding areas. The clinic also received three awards in 2018 for its work toward ending child abuse and aiding families impacted by incarceration.

Enactus at WWU assists with solar panel funding
WWU’s chapter of Enactus has raised funds to implement the use of solar panels at the Seventh-day Adventist school in Pohnpei, which will reduce the school’s costs by 60%. Enactus is an international organization that supports innovation and collaboration in order to identify solutions to complex issues and implement projects that provide a positive impact on communities. The WWU chapter is run out of the School of Business and is available to students of all departments.

Implementing our mission statement
WWU is on a journey to bring focus to our mission statement, which affirms that “every person is created in the image of God as a being of inestimable value and worth.” John McVay, president of WWU, announced eight areas of diversity focus that the university is pursuing in keeping with its mission. The plan, called Our Commitment to Diversity, is being shepherded into action, and progress will be reported annually. Read the full plan at wallawalla.edu/diversity.

Students hack Amazon Alexas
WWU’s Department of Computer Science hosted its annual Hackathon event in May. Eight teams worked to code Amazon Alexas to respond to unusual commands—such as indicating if mail has been delivered or counting how many people entered or exited a room—through a connection to motion sensors, touch sensors, LED lights, or a combination of the three.

See for yourself
Prospective students and their families say their campus visits are well worth the effort. Face-to-face meetings with professors, department employers, and financial aid counselors are invaluable when making decisions about college. We can even help with your travel costs. Schedule a campus visit online at wallawalla.edu/visit.