

# The Extension



## President's Message: Richard Williams

Looking out my window I watched the leaves turning their beautiful fall colors of red, orange, gold, and yellow and that means the start of another season of WSURA events. We started the year with a presentation on September 11 about Medicare by Scott Donahue, head of Medicare Simplified. Medicare is an important and complex program for retirees that Scott explained in a comprehensive but understandable manner. Next up was Professor Rubin Battino, following his well-received spring presentation on the Wright brothers. He spoke on October 13 about the role played by Charles Taylor, the Wright brothers mechanic who helped build the Wright brothers first airplane. Our next event is on November 2 when Professors Lee Hannah and Paul Leonard will discuss the upcoming election. This is always a very interesting and well-attended presentation especially in light of the important Ohio ballot issues 1 and 2. Watch your e-mails for more information about this and other exciting future events.



On some campus news, the *Dayton Daily News* recently reported that Wright State enrollment increased this fall for the first time since 2015 with a total student count of 11,036, an increase of 2.2 percent, with even larger increases reported for first time and graduate students. This is good news but still a long way from the enrollments of more than 17,000 that Wright State regularly enrolled until the double whammy of a campus financial crisis and COVID resulted in enrollment falling to its current level. Building enrollment back to anything near previous levels will be a challenging task for the university as suggested by the following data on trends in future nationwide enrollments.

The Great Recession of 2007-09 saw a reduction in birth rates from 4.3 million in 2007 to 3.8 million by 2018. Peak undergraduate enrollment nationwide of 18.1 million in 2010-11 fell to just under 15.1 million by the fall of 2022. Because of the baby bust, undergraduate enrollment is forecast to decline again starting in 2025 and continuing until 2029. Further, this decline will not occur proportionately across all sectors of higher education. The Higher Education Demand Index (HEDI) models the impact of demographic changes by type of school and geography. HEDI data indicates top-ranked schools enrollment actually increased 14 percent from 2012 to 2022 while enrollment at two- and four-year colleges experienced a 12 percent decrease in enrollment.

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### Upcoming Events

January 11, 11 am  
Foundation Building  
Board Room  
*Small Invertebrates  
Causing Engineering  
Nightmares*  
Professor Emeritus  
Tim Wood

Annual Luncheon  
April 29, 2024  
Nutter Center Berry Room



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This trend is expected to continue from 2025-29 when top-ranked schools will see small increases in enrollment while other four-year schools will see a 9 percent decrease. Furthermore, enrollment declines will be uneven geographically because of demographic changes. For example, the percentage change in the number of 18-year olds from 2012 to 2029 is forecasted to decline more in Ohio and other Great Lakes and New England states than states in the South and West.

## WSU Fast Facts 2023

Total Enrollment (all campuses):  
11,036

International Students:  
1,213 from 57 countries

Minority Students:  
2,419 (24.6 %)

Mean Age of All Students:  
23

Undergraduates:  
8,136 (73.7%)

Graduates:  
2,247 (20.4%)

Doctoral/Professional Students:  
653 (5.9%)

Full-time Students:  
8,490 (76.9%)

Part-time Students  
2,546 (23.1%)

Student-to-Faculty Ratio  
13:1

*Fall 2023 Fact Sheet*

## Spotlight on the Office of Student Advocacy and Wellness

WSURA is proud to be a supporter of Wright State's Raider Food Pantry, a service that has been available for more than a decade for those dealing with food insufficiency. What many retired faculty and staff may not know is that the pantry is part of the Office of Student Advocacy and Wellness in the division of Student Affairs. Formerly known as Student Support Services, the department is led by director Destinee Biesemeyer, with case managers Tylar O'Neal-White and Kyla Arroyo in place to provide a confidential, safe space for individuals in need of assistance in overcoming obstacles to their academic success.



According to Dean of Students Chris Taylor, food and housing insecurity are just two of the challenges impacting students, both graduate and undergraduate. Personal loss, family illness or death, and financial difficulties are often hurdles that contribute to an individual's inability to maintain balance in the college setting. Chris explained that the division provides clinical services for students through the Office of Counseling and Wellness, with non-clinical, no-cost assistance available through Advocacy and Wellness. To that end, staff members provide direct connections to local or state agencies and often accompany students to meetings with community resources.

Examples of interactions that assist students' college continuation challenges include the completion of financial aid applications and Satisfactory Academic Program (SAP) appeals. In partnership with the Raj Sooin College of Business, the department also provides office space for students to receive educational information and training to increase their financial literacy.

Finally, the staff hopes that students understand that they cannot "fix" issues that they encounter. Rather, they emphasize their purpose is to "offer support, resources and education to help them ... using their own strengths." The department offers 24/7 phone support at (937)-260-0167 and is located in 051 Student Union, next door to the Raider Food Pantry.

*Kathy Morris  
Liaison, Raider Food Pantry*

**FOOTNOTE:** *On October 19, a Wright State collaboration with Dayton's Foodbank and Premier Health distributed thousands of pounds of food to needy households from the Nutter Center parking lot.*

## Poetry Corner

### Living Large

by David A. Petreman



It's boiling down to fat  
guys on beautiful  
Harleys, midnight blue,  
and black, chrome eternally  
polished, reflecting the roundness  
of dropped bellies  
and trimmed white beards.  
They average 62 years and 78  
miles an hour, and are flourishing,  
doing what they've always done,  
the only ones to win the gas wars,  
ink from tattoos before it was a fad  
fading into thick arms still boldly  
grabbing onto life,  
riding into the sunset  
the rest of us have given up  
chasing.

*For more of David's poetry, Google  
**Candlelight in Quintero** (Dos Madres Press).*



David Garrison

We all remember the grease who  
rode a motorcycle in high school,  
but what happens to him as he  
ages?

No one answers that question  
better than WSU Professor  
Emeritus of Spanish and Latin  
American Literature David A.  
Petreman in this poem packed with  
chrome, tattoo, muscle, and  
memories.

## Updates on Two Recent Stories

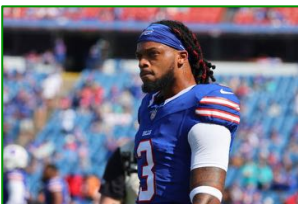
### More Student Debt Cancelled

Joe Biden is a stubborn man. When, as expected, the Supreme Court struck down his Revised Pay As You Earn (REPAYE) Plan, he swung into action.

First, he blasted the decision that came just as “The money was literally about to go out the door, snatching from the hands of millions of Americans thousands of dollars in student debt relief that was about to change their lives.”

Then he cancelled another \$9 billion in student debt. This move pleased economists who worried that resumption of repayments after a three-year hiatus could jeopardize the fragile economic recovery or even trigger a recession. The new repayment plan, Saving on a Valuable Education (SAVE), began enrolling borrowers in August. This allows 30 million borrowers to adjust their monthly payments based on family size and income.

### Triumphant Return



Buffalo Bills' safety Damar Hamlin returned to the football field against Miami on October 1, less than a year after he suffered a near fatal injury against the Bengals. Many players would have accepted that their football career was over, but not Hamlin. He followed the last of his teammates onto the field, running to the end zone with arms outspread where he took off his helmet and soaked up the cheers of the crowd.

“That moment was everything to me,” Hamlin noted. “I think it was more so about promising to myself than anything else, just showing myself that I have the courage. I got the strength, that I got the pride, everything. All those words in me to be able to go through something so traumatic and to be able to come back from it. To be able to do what I love at the highest level in the world is amazing.”

The Bills won 48 to 20.

## Unlikely Heroes

If you think things are chaotic now, imagine how much worse it could be if Vice President Pence had followed President Trump's orders to not declare Joe Biden the winner of the 2020 election. Torn about what to do, Pence consulted with fellow Hoosier Dan Quayle, who served as vice president under President George H. W. Bush.

The press was not kind to Dan Quayle. He was portrayed as a lightweight who, notoriously, misspelled the word “potato” when he erroneously corrected a student in a spelling bee in June 1992. He never lived it down. But when Pence called him to consult, he gave solid advice and a constitutional crisis was averted. We owe them both a large debt of gratitude.

### Estimated Monthly Payment Under the SAVE Plan

\$60k	\$227	\$130	\$34	\$0	\$0
\$50k	\$143	\$47	\$0	\$0	\$0
\$40k	\$60	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Income \$30k	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
\$20k	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
\$10k	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	1	2	3	4	5
	Family Size				

### Savings for a Sample Student Loan Borrower



ALEXANDER

ANNUAL INCOME: \$38,000  
LOAN BALANCE: \$25,000  
INTEREST RATE: 5%  
on a Direct Subsidized Loan

Alexander is a borrower with no dependents and makes **\$38,000** a year. He would save **\$91** per month under the SAVE Plan.

**\$134**

Previous Monthly  
Payment Under REPAYE

**\$43**

New Monthly  
Payment Under SAVE

Assumes family lives in contiguous 48 states. Estimates are for illustrative purposes only. Your loan servicer will calculate your actual monthly payment amount under the SAVE Plan.

Federal Student Aid

## My Hero

My parents married soon after my father received his draft notice for World War II. My sister was born in 1942 while he was serving in Germany. He returned home on the Queen Mary in September of 1945. I came along in 1948. My mother was the disciplinarian in our household. My father, though he had a temper, was usually the old softie. If I could make it to his lap as he sat in his favorite rocking chair, she couldn't touch me. Needless to say, I adored my father. When I was 12 years old, he literally saved my life.

A school friend hosted a slumber party that featured a scavenger hunt. Her mother warned us not to go near a construction site in the neighborhood, but it was too tempting. I stepped on a board with an exposed nail that went right through my Keds and deep into my foot. Later that night as I developed a high fever, the girls played nurse. The next morning as everyone was leaving, the hostess begged me not to say anything or she would get into serious trouble.

When I got dropped off at home, I told my sister what had happened. Both our parents were at work. Daddy returned home around noon and Sandy relayed the story. He came running into our bedroom and pulled back the covers. He could see the red line going up my leg. He snatched me up from the bed, carried me to the car, and drove to the nearest doctor's office. Fortunately, Dr. Casebere's home was right next to this office. Daddy pounded on the door until he answered. A tetanus shot soon put things to right.

But he wasn't just my personal hero, he was also a genuine war hero. His division landed on Normandy during the initial invasion. They freed the "Lost Battalion," blitzed across France, fought in Bastogne and the Bulge and pulled up just outside Berlin. He attained the rank of Technical Sergeant. Recently, while I was looking for something else, I came across his citation for the Bronze Star. It concludes: "For several weeks, this platoon sergeant performed the duties of section leader in the absence of an officer, during which time his outstanding leadership and great personal bravery were an inspiration to his men and aided immeasurably in the successful operation of his organization. Sergeant Baird's courage, initiative, and zealous performance of his duty honor his character as a soldier."



Mary Kenton

## A Woman's Place

Women who are old enough to receive *The Extension* have lived during an enormous expansion of women's rights and opportunities. We were born into a world where most women were homemakers and mothers. Young working women were often expected to retire when they got married. In the 1960s it was next to impossible for a woman to get credit in her own name if she happened to be married, even if she held a good paying job. Women made up a significant proportion of college students, though the old saw was that the degree they were seeking was an MRS.

Birth control was widely available, but in the event of failure, abortion did not become legal until *Roe v Wade* was decided on January 22, 1973. In a shocking turn of events, *Roe* was overturned on June 24, 2022, upending abortion's availability in a depressing number of states, including Ohio.

Nevertheless, women have continued to expand their role in society. A record number were elected to serve in the current Congress and 60 percent of college students were women at the end of the 2021-22 academic year. Women are 50.7 percent of the college educated labor force.

Not everyone is happy about the progress women have made. Far right factions advocate for traditional family roles. Some cross the line into misogyny, which is defined by Wikipedia "as a form of sexism that is used to keep women at a lower social status than men, thus maintaining the social roles of patriarchy."

Ohio is one of 17 states that has never elected a female senator. Nor has Ohio ever elected a woman as governor. Former Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley was the most recently defeated. Perhaps in the near future Americans will accept the idea that a women's place is wherever she wants to be.

By Mary Kenton

FOOTNOTE: *Wright State's fall enrollment shows men at 45.5 percent and women at 56.6 percent*  
Fall 2023 Fact Sheet

## Spinach-Chickpea Quiche with Bell Peppers

This relatively simple quiche can easily headline a company brunch or serve as a main dish for a chilly October weeknight dinner.



### Ingredients:

2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil  
 1 15-ounce can of chickpeas, drained, rinsed and patted dry  
 3 cups of baby spinach  
 4 scallions, chopped (white and green parts separated)  
 1 teaspoon ground coriander  
 Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper  
 3 large eggs  
 1 cup half-and-half  
 1 teaspoon grated lemon zest  
 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice  
 1 9-inch pie crust, thawed if frozen  
 ½ cup crumbled feta cheese  
 2 large bell peppers, any color, thinly sliced

### Directions:

Place baking sheet on the lowest oven rack; preheat to 425 degrees. Heat 1 tablespoon olive oil in a large skillet over high heat. Add the chickpeas, spinach, scallion whites, coriander, ¼ teaspoon salt and a few grinds of pepper. Cook, tossing until the spinach wilts, about 2 minutes. Transfer the mixture to a colander to drain and cool slightly. Wipe out the skillet and reserve.

Whisk the eggs, half-and-half, lemon zest, ½ teaspoon salt and a few grinds of pepper in a large bowl. Spread spinach mix in piecrust, top with the cheese, and pour in the egg mixture. Bake on the hot baking sheet until the eggs are set and lightly browned on top, about 30 minutes.

Meanwhile, heat the remaining 1 tablespoon olive oil in the reserved skillet over medium high heat. Add the peppers, season with salt and pepper. Cook, stirring until golden, about 3 minutes. Stir in the scallion greens, remove from heat. Add the lemon juice and toss. Serve with wedges of quiche.

*By Mary Kenton*

## WSURA Board 2023–2024

### Executive Committee

President: Dick Williams  
 President Elect: Barbara Bullock  
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 Secretary: Gail Whitaker  
 Treasurer: Carolyn Smith  
 Communications: Mary Kenton  
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     PERS: Barbara Bullock  
     STRS: Dick Williams

### Liaisons

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 Community Affairs: Donna Schlagheck  
 Friends of the Libraries: Peggy Bott  
 Raider Food Pantry: Kathy Morris

## Contact Us

E-mail: [wsura@wright.edu](mailto:wsura@wright.edu)  
 Website: [wright.edu/wsura](http://wright.edu/wsura)  
 Facebook.com/groups/WSURA



## Wright State Welcomes Students to Campus



About 2,000 students moved into on-campus housing this year, a 20 percent increase over last year, according to Susan Schaurer, vice president for enrollment management and chief recruitment officer at Wright State. A “clap in” was part of the welcome to campus.

## Wright State in National Rankings

According to a new *Wall Street Journal/College Pulse* national ranking for best value among national colleges and universities, Wright State University is one of the top 400 schools in the nation and No. 2 in the state among Ohio public universities in the value it provides its students. Universities that performed the best in this ranking kept costs low and put graduates on pathways to valuable careers. Wright State is proud to be considered one of the top 400 schools in the nation at providing value to its students. In the state, only Ohio State was ranked ahead of Wright State by the Wall Street Journal’s calculation.



Excerpt, Seth Bauguess  
Wright State University News Room  
October 3, 2023



# WRIGHT STATE UNIVERSITY

**Retirees Association**  
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy.  
Dayton, Ohio 45435-0001

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Aug. 15 — Fall

Editor: Mary Kenton

Editor Emerita: Marlene Bireley

Copy Editor: Robin Suits

Design Layout: Judi Engle

Send articles/information to  
Editor:

WSU Retirees Association  
3640 Colonel Glenn Hwy  
Wright State University  
Dayton, OH 45435-0001

Or email to [wsura@wright.edu](mailto:wsura@wright.edu)

## Medicare Seminar

More than 45 retirees and current faculty and staff looking forward to retiring attended a seminar on Medicare in the Student Union. Cosponsored with the Office of Faculty Affairs, the September seminar provided a detailed guide to Medicare.



The presenter (right), Scott Donahue, is co-founder of Medicare Simplified, a Cincinnati-based company that has assisted thousands with Medicare decisions. He personally has conducted more than 1,000 Medicare seminars. Medicare Simplified does not sell insurance and is not associated with any insurance company or government agency. Each attendee received a handout to follow along and take notes.

WSURA sponsored activities are announced by email, so make sure that we have yours on file.