

WGU | ALUMNI NEWSLETTER



TEACHERS COLLEGE

Dear Graduate,

It has been an extraordinary few weeks as our world faces historic challenges. We want to let you know we are thinking of each one of our alumni across the country and world. We have been inspired by the good that you are all doing in your communities and wish you good health and safety.

Greetings to all alumni of WGU's Teachers College!

We hope you are finding success in all you do.

Meanwhile, TC leadership is exploring ways to be more supportive of TC alumni upon graduation. Through a mini-research study with CALS (WGU's Center for Applied Learning Science), we are establishing the feasibility of

- a peer-mentoring program in which our alumni who are experienced teachers or school principals could provide mentoring support to our newly graduated beginning teachers and/or principals either through online feedback or video coaching, and
- an online professional learning community in which alumni, current students, and TC faculty could interact with calls for help, giving just-in-time responses, and discussing special interest topics for exchange of resources and ideas.

Please let us know if you would like to get involved by emailing your interest to

Wishing you all the best in 2020!



10 Suggestions to Help You Lead During a Pandemic

During the coronavirus health pandemic, it has become very clear that the world is not short on leaders. There are many different types of leaders all around us. What is clear is that many leaders are not necessarily experienced in leading during these circumstances. This article provides a variety of ways to help leaders continue to inspire others during this time. **Tip:** it's time to cultivate hope.

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Smithsonian Institution Launches Portal for Distance Education

In an effort to help provide education resources during school closures, all of the Smithsonian's 19 members and the National Zoo have come together to curate a collection of 1.7 million free multimedia tools and experiences. Start learning now!

[READ MORE](#)



Time Management: Working from Home

Working from home is a great opportunity, but it can also be difficult to stay focused and on task (trust us—working for an online university is just as hard!). Watch this course by productivity expert Dave Crenshaw. It highlights the best ways to set up your desk, organize your schedule, and tips on how to avoid burnout. Watch this **FREE** course now with your WGU credentials.

[WATCH NOW](#)



Regional Accreditation Agencies are Going National

The U.S. Department of Education is now experimenting with allowing regional accrediting organizations to accredit anywhere in the country. According to Inside Higher Ed, the USDE is interested in opening up the process to allow for more competition. Read on to learn about the pros and cons.

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Stay Involved & Get Connected

WGU Alumni LinkedIn Group and Teachers College Facebook

Being successful is equal parts what you know and who you know. You already know a lot. Now you can help yourself even more by becoming part of the [LinkedIn WGU Alumni group](#) and [Facebook Teachers College group](#). Join now and start connecting.



Use the Alumni LinkedIn Tool

Did you know that there are more than 140,000 Night Owls on LinkedIn? Once you've joined the [WGU Alumni group](#) on LinkedIn, [update your LinkedIn profile](#) so you can start networking. You can also use the [LinkedIn Alumni tool](#) to find alumni in your target industry. Connect with them and try conducting [informational interviews](#).



[Apply to Be an Alumni Ambassador](#)



Do you consider yourself WGU's biggest fan? Then why aren't you a WGU Alumni Ambassador? This is a leadership opportunity for alumni who are dedicated to representing the university. Members share their time and experience by engaging with potential students, current students, and other alumni. Click [here](#) to learn more and apply.

ALUMNI AMBASSADORS



Career & Professional Development on Facebook

Join the Career & Professional Development Facebook group! Created for students and alumni to assist in career coaching, advice, recommendations, suggestions, and career opportunities. [Join here!](#)

Free Professional Development Courses

Did you know that as a WGU alum, you have access to hundreds of professional development courses via LinkedIn Learning? Use them to renew your state teaching license, develop a new skill or perfect a current skill you already have. Simply create an account with our new platform [Handshake](#) to gain access.

WGU: Alumni Ambassadors

Get Free Access to SimpleK12



Just like your experience with WGU, SimpleK12 is completely online, on your schedule, and on-point with education trends. This great resource is available to you for **free**, but licenses are first-come, first-served. You'll find a plethora of educational perks, including:

- The ability to earn CEUs/clock hours
- 500 + webinars each year — live and recorded
- Shared resources like eBooks, student projects, and lesson plans

Each seat is valued at \$397. Since licenses are limited, we encourage you to only [sign up](#) if you plan to utilize this great resource. You could be placed on a waitlist.



Here's How to Actually Use Tech in the Classroom

The importance of using technology in the classroom has been a big topic recently. We know it can be beneficial and that there are tools out there to help. But just how do we get started? Discover the seven questions educators need to ask themselves to determine when to use tech.

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How to Teach STEM in Any Discipline

Oftentimes STEM is surrounded by many misconceptions—some believe what the acronym encompasses is too limited. Others don't think it needs to go beyond more than basic math. This article provides ideas and resources on how to take STEM beyond the math lab and into a variety of courses. Have you ever thought about introducing STEM in the English class?

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Capstone Excellence Award Recipients | Biannual Report

August 2019 – January 2020 CEA Awards

The WGU Excellence Program is proud to recognize the 147 students who received the prestigious Capstone Excellence Award in the past six months.

These culminating capstone projects must meet strict criteria, including ingenuity, mastery, or synergy for the greater good. Capstone Faculty Evaluators nominate deserving capstone projects, followed by a two-step Evaluation Management review. See additional eligibility criteria [here](#).

The [CEA Biannual Report - January 2020](#) shows by college the WGU graduates who received the Capstone Excellence Award for their work. Please join us in celebrating

the success of our most recent Capstone Excellence Award recipients, as they begin a new season in their careers as distinguished WGU graduates.



Uncharted Territory: A Guide to Reimagining Higher Education

The outlook of higher education is full of change and challenges, yet it is incredibly important for our society. Now could be the best time to reevaluate and create new approaches in higher ed. Read this guide from the [d.school's](#) Stanford 2025 project that highlights ways that innovators are creating new possibilities.

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Whooo's in the News!

WGU alumni are doing incredible things!

Here's a small sampling of what they've been up to. If you have any great news to share, please send it our way!

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Western Governors University
4001 South 700 East
Suite 700
Salt Lake City, Utah 84107

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