WELCOME!

Prospective Faculty Resources

[This document provides an overview about Washington State University, the community of Pullman, and the surrounding Palouse region, as well as website links for additional information; and was partially funded through proceeds from the National Science Foundation ADVANCE Grant No. 0810927.]
Welcome! As prospective faculty you have questions. We would like to provide you with the answers. This document provides an overview about Washington State University, the community of Pullman, and the surrounding Palouse region. We provide you with electronic links to assist you in further exploration. Please let us know if there is anything related to your visit with which we can assist you. Welcome to Washington State University!

I. Provost’s website for Prospective Faculty: http://provost.wsu.edu/prospective-faculty.html.

About Washington State University
Founded in 1890, Washington State University (WSU) is a top-tier research university and the state’s land-grant university. Approximately 24,400 students are enrolled on four campuses. The University offers approximately 200 fields of study with 122 majors, 77 masters, 61 doctoral, and 3 professional degrees. WSU employs more than 1,400 instructional faculty, 965 non-instructional faculty, and more than 3,600 classified and professional staff. It has an annual operating budget of $731.5 million. The University is organized into the Colleges of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences; Business; Communication; Education; Engineering and Architecture; Liberal Arts; Nursing; Pharmacy; Sciences; Veterinary Medicine; and Honors.

National Rankings
WSU is one of only three universities in the Pacific Northwest and one of only 95 public and private research institutions with the Carnegie classification of “Very High Research Activity.” U.S. News & World Report’s “America’s Best Colleges” 2007 edition ranked it as one of the nation’s 55 leading public research universities; rating it above 70% of public national universities. Kiplinger’s included WSU in its list of the top “100 Best Values in Public Colleges.” Money magazine ranked it in the top 15 colleges in the West in three of the past four years.

A World-class Faculty
A 2006 report by The Center for Measuring University Performance ranked WSU as one of the top 50 public research universities. The report ranked WSU 39th among public universities in the number of National Academy members (with 8) and 37th in prestigious faculty awards (with 11). A 2007 report on scholarly productivity by Academics Analytics rated faculty members at WSU in the top ten in their fields in eight different disciplines (plant sciences, veterinary medical sciences, animal sciences, food sciences, agronomy and crop sciences, zoology, American studies, and horticulture). WSU faculty members receive approximately $250 million in support for research and public service projects each year. In 2006, total research expenditures per faculty member per year were approximately $228,000, grant and contract revenues per tenure-track faculty member were approximately $180,000 and citation impact (number of citations per published paper) was approximately 5.5.

Updated 9/24/2014
Students
The WSU student to faculty ratio is approximately 14 to 1. WSU students represent diverse social, economic, and ethnic backgrounds. Approximately 3,900 of WSU students hail from outside the state of Washington, and approximately 1075 students come from more than 105 foreign countries. WSU annually awards more than $170 million in scholarships and financial aid awards to approximately 12,000 students. Entering 2007 freshmen had an average GPA of 3.42 and an average SAT score of 1111. Approximately 37.7 percent had GPAs of more than 3.60. Study abroad has increased rapidly in recent years. WSU offers 100 programs in 70 countries through partnerships with 120 international universities, including 24 direct student-exchange programs. The university’s 3,000 graduate students engage in instruction and research, contributing as authors or coauthors of 70 percent of the papers published by faculty. WSU has many famous alumni, ranging from Edward R. Murrow to Gary Larson. WSU Alums are among the most loyal of all graduates of public universities. They show this loyalty in many ways. The WSU Alumni Association is the nation’s leader in membership growth for similar size universities across the country. Although the University of Washington is much larger than WSU, WSU alumni beat UW alumni in repeated competitions. For example, the two schools competed to raise money for victims of Hurricane Katrina. The prize was a display of the colors and logo of the winning school during Apple Cup week (the week preceding the traditional football competition between the two schools) on the Space Needle in Seattle. When the contest ended, the Space Needle looked beautiful in WSU Crimson and Gray. The State of Washington also sells car license plates that display the school logos. The slightly higher charge for those plates goes to the scholarship fund at the school. Remarkably, given the size difference between the schools, Cougar (WSU) plates substantially outsell Husky (UW) plates. 12,800 people proudly display their Cougar spirit on their license plates.

The Multi-Campus System
WSU is located on four campuses all of which adhere to the same set of practices and policies. Degree requirements are similar across campuses and faculty members are considered part of one faculty, regardless of their location. All four of the campuses are physically beautiful, well maintained, and linked to a telecommunication system that enables live interactive courses to be broadcast among the campuses. Virtual tours of the campuses are available at [http://virtual-tour.wsu.edu/](http://virtual-tour.wsu.edu/).

- **WSU Pullman:** WSU Pullman is the flagship campus for the university. The 620-acre campus serves as home to more than 18,000 students, as well as the university administration. WSU Pullman is a hub for most of the university’s student organizations, its athletic teams, galleries, performance venues, and museums dedicated to art, anthropology, zoology, and other topics. The Pullman campus is largely residential with 46% of students living in residence halls, university-owned apartments, or fraternity and sorority houses.


- **WSU Spokane**: Located about 80 miles north of Pullman, the Spokane “Riverpoint” campus is home to the College of Nursing, College of Pharmacy, and the Interdisciplinary Design Institute, which operates programs in architecture, interior design, landscape architecture, and construction management. WSU Spokane also offers the WWAMI Medical Education Program, a cooperative program between the University of Washington and the states of Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho. The program provides medical education to Northwest students. The Spokane campus serves nearly 1600 students, and has several new facilities, including classrooms, wet and dry labs, studios, a library, and computer labs (http://www.spokane.wsu.edu/). The campus is located across the river from Gonzaga University. As a result, efforts are underway to develop a “university district” in the city of Spokane.

- **WSU Tri-Cities**: WSU Tri-Cities is located on 200 acres along the banks of the Columbia River. It serves 1100 students through 30 different degree programs (12 masters and 17 bachelor programs). As WSU Vancouver, WSU Tri-Cities was initially designed to offer only the junior and senior years of college. It now offers the entire curriculum. WSU Tri-Cities provides a wide range of services to Southeastern Washington. The campus is home to WSU Business Links, an economic outreach program; Northwest Public Radio and Television; and the Food and Environmental Quality Laboratory. It is also the site of the Consolidated Information Center Libraries which includes the Hanford Technical Library, U.S. Department of Energy Public Reading Room, Max E. Benitz Memorial Library, and the Southeastern Washington Business Information Center (http://www2.tricity.wsu.edu/).

- **WSU Vancouver**: Situated on 351 scenic acres in southwest Washington, across the river from Portland, Oregon, WSU Vancouver serves approximately 2350 students through 15 bachelors and 8 masters degree programs. WSU Vancouver was initially designed to offer only the junior and senior years of college. It now offers the entire four year curriculum. The Vancouver campus includes state-of-the-art multimedia facilities, bicycle and pedestrian trails, an outdoor amphitheater, a 200-seat lecture hall, a disc golf course, two art galleries with rotating shows, outdoor public art, a workout facility, an outdoor sports court, and other amenities (http://vancouver.wsu.edu).

**The PAC-12 Conference**

The WSU “Cougars” compete in the prestigious Pacific-12 Conference, known as the Conference of Champions. Other members of the PAC-12 are: Arizona State, Oregon State, Stanford, and the Universities of Arizona, California at Berkeley, California at Los Angeles, Colorado at Boulder, Oregon, Southern California, Utah, and Washington. WSU fields athletic teams in women’s sports (e.g., basketball, cross country, golf, rowing, soccer, swimming, tennis, track and field and volleyball) and men’s sports (e.g., baseball,
basketball, cross country, football, golf, track and field). Cougar sports teams have had a great deal of success. The football team has appeared in the Rose Bowl on four occasions (1916, 1931, 1998, and 2003). Other bowl appearances include the 1981 Holiday Bowl, 1988 Aloha Bowl, 1992 Copper Bowl, 1994 Alamo Bowl, 2001 Sun Bowl and 2003 Holiday Bowl. (Yes, the Cougars went to two Bowl Games in 2003. The Rose Bowl was played in January; the Holiday Bowl, in December.) In 2008, the men's basketball team advanced to the Sweet Sixteen. One current and four former student-athletes competed in the 2008 Olympic Games, three of them for the USA team in track and field.

**Resources of interest to new faculty member:** We extend a warm welcome to our new faculty! To learn more about our new faculty please visit [http://newfaculty.wsu.edu/](http://newfaculty.wsu.edu/). Below are some of the many resources that may be of interest to new faculty:

**Shared Governance**
Shared governance is the basic operating principle of WSU. Decisions regarding the academic mission of the university are made jointly by the administration and the faculty. The Faculty Senate is involved in academic planning, curriculum development, and institutional governance. It approves new academic programs, proposed changes in the organization of academic units, and new and changed courses. It also periodically reviews existing academic programs. The leaders of the Senate meet regularly with the Provost and President. The Faculty Senate also publishes the Faculty Manual ([http://facsen.wsu.edu/faculty_manual/](http://facsen.wsu.edu/faculty_manual/)) which contains the policies and procedures that govern the faculty.

**Faculty Performance Reviews**
Faculty members are evaluated each year using an online, web-based annual review form ([https://worqs.wsu.edu/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fDefault.aspx](https://worqs.wsu.edu/login.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2fDefault.aspx)). Tenure-track faculty members are given an additional, progress-towards tenure, review annually with a dry run for tenure in the third year ([http://provost.wsu.edu/manuals-forms/Third%20Year%20Review12-21-11Guidelines.pdf](http://provost.wsu.edu/manuals-forms/Third%20Year%20Review12-21-11Guidelines.pdf)). The evaluations received in these yearly reviews should lead logically to the eventual tenure decision ([http://provost.wsu.edu/manuals-forms/2011TENURE_PROMOTIONGUIDELINES.pdf](http://provost.wsu.edu/manuals-forms/2011TENURE_PROMOTIONGUIDELINES.pdf)). To make the review process as transparent as possible, a session on faculty performance reviews is included in New Faculty Orientation ([http://provost.wsu.edu/newfaculty_orientation/](http://provost.wsu.edu/newfaculty_orientation/)); a manual describes and interprets the review processes for faculty members ([http://provost.wsu.edu/manuals-forms/ManualonFacultyEvaluation2010.pdf](http://provost.wsu.edu/manuals-forms/ManualonFacultyEvaluation2010.pdf)) and two workshops on faculty performance reviews are offered each year ([http://hrs.wsu.edu/tenure](http://hrs.wsu.edu/tenure)).

**Faculty-Friendly Policies**
Several University policies provide special help to faculty members in dealing with issues that may impede their performance. These policies include:
• **Partner Accommodation** - The Provost’s Office will provide, pending the availability of funds, matching funds for half of a position for two years or one third of a position for three years for the domestic partner or spouse of a University employee. Although this funding is not guaranteed, in recent years, the Provost has accommodated all reasonable requests.

• **Stopping the tenure clock** – The tenure clock can be stopped for as many as two years for becoming a parent. The clock can also be stopped for care of a partner, dependent, or parent; for time lost because of a serious illness; for time lost because of professional circumstances beyond the candidate’s control; and for leave without pay. Specific information can be found in the faculty manual section III.D.3.f pages 18-19 ([http://facsen.wsu.edu/faculty_manual/Section_III_updated.pdf](http://facsen.wsu.edu/faculty_manual/Section_III_updated.pdf))

• **Part-Time Tenure/Tenured Policy**: Tenured and tenure-track faculty members may sometimes benefit from a part-time appointment. The University wishes to accommodate these faculty members if possible without negatively impacting their program, department, or University function. As a result, tenure-track and tenured appointments for not less than 50% time may be offered for all ranks. The duties (e.g., teaching, research and service expectations) and support provided (e.g., start up money, teaching and/or research assistance) will be the same as for a full-time faculty member except they may be prorated for the percentage of the appointment. The duties and support for a part-time faculty member should be specified in the offer letter signed by the faculty member, chair, dean, vice chancellor (for branch campus faculty members) and provost. Part-time faculty members have all of the rights and responsibilities of full-time faculty members except as otherwise provided in the *Faculty Manual*, and subject to the following rules that are specific to their positions. Revised Part-Time Tenure Policy passed by Faculty Senate (2/14/13) (see [http://facsen.wsu.edu/archives/agenda_archives/Agenda_092712-041113/092712-041113.html](http://facsen.wsu.edu/archives/agenda_archives/Agenda_092712-041113/092712-041113.html); Feb. 14th, 2013; B7 Exhibit G.)

• **Modified Duties** - Faculty members with significant care giving responsibilities may alter their duties for a semester away from inflexible responsibilities (e.g., teaching) towards more flexible ones (e.g., scholarship) without any loss of salary. Decisions about modified duties are made in consultation with the chair, dean and provost.

• **Professional Leave (Sabbatical)** - After five years of active service (6 years for pre-tenure faculty), faculty members and administrative professionals are eligible for a one-semester sabbatical at full pay or a two-semester sabbatical at three-quarter pay. Sabbaticals are assigned through a competitive application process. Anyone granted a sabbatical must provide a report upon his or her return to the University.

• **Reasonable Accommodation** – Anyone with a disability may apply for a modification or adjustment of a job, work environment, policy, practice, or procedure that will enable that individual to enjoy equal employment opportunity with others. Reasonable accommodations are negotiated on an individual basis through the Human Resources Services Office.

• **Phased Retirement** – Faculty members who are 55 years old or older and who have served the University for at least 10 years can reduce their work time, and therefore
their salaries, from 100% to 50% over a period of up to seven years. The details of a phased retirement agreement are negotiated on an individual basis by the faculty member with his or her department chair, dean and provost.

**Start-up Funds:** The University provides competitive start-up packages to new faculty members. Start-ups are negotiated on an individual basis at the time of hire. Dollar amounts vary across fields depending on the costs required to develop a competitive program of scholarship or research.

**Seed Grants for New Faculty** The Office of Research holds a yearly competition for seed-money grants for assistant professors or the equivalent, hired within the last 3 years. Applicants submit a proposal for up to $20,000 over 15 months to support their scholarly, creative, or research programs. Those who receive funding submit a final report, develop a grant proposal for external funding, and present the supported work. The deadline for these grants is in the spring semester. For more information, please contact the Office of Grants and Research Development ([http://www.ogrd.wsu.edu/](http://www.ogrd.wsu.edu/)).

**Teaching Resources:** The Office of Assessment of Teaching and Learning ([http://oai.wsu.edu/](http://oai.wsu.edu/)) provides a variety of teaching resources [http://oai.wsu.edu/teaching_resources.html](http://oai.wsu.edu/teaching_resources.html).

**Mentoring:** Each assistant professor at WSU should have a mentor or mentors. Mentoring is also advised for all associate professors. The number and duties of mentors differ across departments. A description of different mentoring systems can be found at [http://provost.wsu.edu/faculty_mentoring/](http://provost.wsu.edu/faculty_mentoring/). If you are not being mentored and wish to have a mentor or mentors, please discuss this with your department chair or school director.

**National Science Foundation ADVANCE Grant** The University received a 5-year $3.75 million grant from the National Science Foundation to improve the recruitment and retention of women faculty members in the STEM disciplines (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). Faculty members in 10 departments are specifically targeted by the grant. These departments are housed in the College of Sciences (Chemistry, Mathematics, Physics, and the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences), in the College of Agricultural Human and Natural Resource Sciences (Biological Systems Engineering), and in the College of Engineering and Architecture (Chemical and Bioengineering, Civil and Environmental Engineering, Electrical Engineering and Computer Science, Mechanical and Materials Engineering, Engineering and Computer Science at Vancouver). For more information about programs offered through the grant, please go to [http://advance.wsu.edu/](http://advance.wsu.edu/).

**Celebrating Faculty Excellence:** Showcase is WSU’s yearly celebration of faculty and staff excellence ([http://www.showcase.wsu.edu/](http://www.showcase.wsu.edu/)). It is held in the spring every year, usually on the first Friday after Spring break. Showcase begins with a poster session of faculty work during the morning. The posters are followed by a free lunch at which the Distinguished
Faculty Address is presented. A reception for emeritus faculty and staff is held in the afternoon followed by the Celebration of Excellence dinner. This elegant dinner honors faculty members who have achieved tenure and promotion as well as faculty and staff members who are recipients of university-wide awards (http://showcase.wsu.edu/awards/award2012.html#.VCMabBbuoo5.)

**Benefits:** Faculty members participate in the TIAA-CREF retirement program. Their contributions to the program are matched by the University up to a limit that varies with age. The University provides basic long-term disability and life insurance, with the option of purchasing additional coverage. In addition, faculty members receive their choice among several health insurance policies which include medical, prescription, vision, dental, and mental health care. Health benefits are available to domestic partners, as well as to spouses. The university greatly subsidizes, but no longer fully funds, medical insurance for the faculty member and his/her family. Retired faculty members are allowed to purchase the health insurance as their primary plan until age 65, at which time the state’s plan will be secondary to Medicare. For more information visit the Human Resource Services benefits website http://hrs.wsu.edu/New%20Employee%20Information at or call HRS at 509-335-4521

**Diversity Resources:**
- List of Faculty Organizations: http://diversity.wsu.edu/faculty-and-staff-associations/
- The Division of Student Affairs, Office of Equity and Diversity: http://diversity.wsu.edu contributes to the educational mission of Washington State University by helping recruit, support, and retain students, staff, faculty and graduate assistants. As a result, more students fulfill their personal and educational objectives and aspirations.
- Center for Human Rights: http://chr.wsu.edu (CHR) seeks to integrate principles of equal employment opportunity, affirmative action, fairness and equality into all academic and employment activities and practices throughout Washington State University (WSU)
- Gender Identity/Expression and Sexual Orientation Resource Center (GIESORC/GLBTA): http://thecenter.wsu.edu supports lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning and allied members of the WSU community.
- Multi-Cultural Student Services: http://mss.wsu.edu Providing culturally relevant services to promote the successful transition, persistence, achievement, and graduation of multicultural students.

**Work-Life Resources:** http://www.worklife.wsu.edu/General%20Information
As employees of WSU, the faculty and staff receive benefits http://www.hrs.wsu.edu/Benefits and optional services including:
- 11 paid holidays (with some variation in certain work sites)
- 3 Medical plan options (including vision care)
- 2 Dental plan options
- Life Insurance coverage
- Long Term Disability Insurance
• Retirement Plan with employer contributions
• Flexible Spending Account for Medical and Dependent Care
• Auto and Homeowners Insurance Discounts
• Long Term Care Insurance
• Guaranteed Education Tuition GET
• Confidential, personal counseling through WSU's Employee Assistance Program
• Cougar card discounts for select campus and business purchases
• Transportation on Pullman Transit at no charge.
• E-learning training via Skillsoft, which includes over 2,100 training courses and over 8,000 books for professional or personal growth
• Instructor-led training for employees on Pullman campus
• Access to electronic verification of paychecks/direct deposit of paychecks
• Waiver of tuition fees for many academic classes offered on campus.

The Faculty-Staff Activity Program: Members of the faculty and staff may pay a fee of $199 per year (http://facultystafffitness.wsu.edu/membership.aspx) to join the Faculty–Staff Activity Program (http://facultystafffitness.wsu.edu/). In return, they receive a locker, towel service, and exclusive access to most of the University’s athletic facilities at noon every day. Faculty and staff groups compete in most activities most days (e.g., basketball, volleyball, aerobics, tennis, racquetball, squash). Faculty members can also buy a membership in the Student Recreation Center at a reduced rate (currently $426/year). The Student Recreation Center (http://urec.wsu.edu/) is an impressive building that contains a 5-lane lap pool; a leisure pool; a 53-person spa with a cascading waterfall; an elevated 1/8 mile track; a sport court for indoor soccer and roller hockey; 6 courts for volleyball, basketball, and badminton; 4 racquetball-squash courts; 3 multipurpose rooms; a 17,000 square feet free weight and cardio-fitness training area; a food bar; indoor lounges with sitting areas, games, and fireplace; and an outdoor sundeck.

On-Site Child Care
Washington State University provides day care through the Children’s Center. The Center practices a developmentally appropriate approach to early education as advocated by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The curriculum emphasizes learning as an interactive process. The Center’s goal for early education is to ensure that children acquire the foundations for healthy development and learning. For further information, please go to http://www.childrenscenter.wsu.edu/.

Childcare Resource and Referral
This website: http://www.wsu.edu/CCRR/ provides information on local licensed child care along with tips for selecting a child care provider. Child care providers are also offered professional training, educational scholarships, and many other resources.

Whitman County Child Care Data Report:
http://www.wsu.edu/CCRR/images/08_42_Whitman_FINAL.pdf.
Centers: 16; Family Providers: 17; Preschools: 9

Asotin County Child Care Data Report:
http://www.wsu.edu/CCRR/images/08%20Asotin%20FINAL.pdf.
Centers: 11; Family Providers: 2; Preschools: 2

**Elder Care**
Resources for elder care and support include support groups, training, library resources, benefit and leave options, and caregiver lecture series. For more information about local resources, please go to http://www.bishopplace.net.
II. About Pullman and the Surrounding Area

Washington State University is located in Pullman, a dynamic center of higher education, research, and culture nestled among the beautiful rolling hills of southeastern Washington. Review the Pullman, Washington Chamber of Commerce page for more information: http://www.pullmanchamber.com/live-in-pullman/.

Pullman lies in the heart of the Palouse, a geographic area covering some 10,000 square miles of northwestern Idaho and southeastern Washington. The Palouse area is a photographer’s dream, depicted in the book, The Most Beautiful Place in the World, Impressions of 10 Master Photographers, as the “Louvre of Farmlands.” It is the perfect combination of topography, weather, crops (including wheat, lentils and dry peas) and farming methods. A June 1982 National Geographic cover story called the region “A Paradise Called the Palouse” and the October 2001 National Geographic Traveler Magazine featured the Palouse region in their cover story, “50 Places of a Lifetime.”

Pullman is located in southeastern Washington approximately 80 miles south of Spokane and 8 miles west of Moscow, Idaho, home to the University of Idaho (approximately 11,400 students on a 1,580-acre campus). According to the 2000 census, 24,675 people live in Pullman. The small size makes Pullman a poor choice for those who thrive on big-city life. Nevertheless, because Moscow is close and is similar in size to Pullman (approximately 22,000 people), the region provides the activities and attractions that come with the presence of two large Universities along with the charm and safety of a small town. A trail for walking, jogging, bicycling or skate boarding connects the two cities.

Pullman has a four-season climate that is classified as semi-arid (average rainfall of 21 inches; average snowfall of 28 inches). The summers are ideal with hot dry weather. From approximately July 5 until the end of September, the humidity is low, the sky is blue with few clouds, and the days are hot. Because Pullman is at an altitude of approximately 2500 feet above sea level, however, nights are cool even during the hottest weather. The low humidity also reduces the number of insects. Winters are colder and wetter, but winter in Pullman is mild compared to winters in the Northeast and Midwest. Winter can also be left behind in favor of the milder climate experienced by Lewiston, Idaho and Clarkston, Washington, 40 miles south of Pullman. Although located close to Pullman, these towns have a different climate, and a relatively mild winter, because they are located almost at sea level and at the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater Rivers.

Pullman is often described as “a great place to raise children.” The community personifies the image of small-town friendliness with a mild climate, clean air, highly rated schools, and a low crime rate. Its small size makes transporting children from event to event easy or unnecessary. Its small size and isolated location create a relatively safe environment. Many activities are available for children during off-school hours. For example, 2008 summer sports camps at the University alone included football, boys and girls basketball, volleyball, baseball, soccer, track, and tennis. Pullman Parks and Recreation also offers a variety of sports activities for both
children and adults ranging from youth soccer leagues to adult golf lessons, white water rafting trips to fly fishing lessons. The Palouse Discovery Science Center promotes science, math, and technology literacy through the use of educational programs, exhibits, teaching collections, and activities emphasizing hands-on learning. The center features permanent as well as traveling exhibits and a planetarium.

The public schools in Pullman are consistent with the high quality that would be expected in an area with two major universities. Pullman has been recognized in a Hearst Foundation Publication as one of the top 100 school districts in the United States. In addition, Pullman was rated number one for communities up to 50,000 in population for support of public education in both funding and volunteerism. The Pullman public schools include Franklin Primary School, Jefferson Primary School, Sunnyside Primary School, Lincoln Middle School, and Pullman High School. Approximately 700 students attend Pullman High School. It offers honors and advanced placement courses as well as running start course work through WSU and area community colleges. Pullman High has one of the highest passing rates for the WASL (a Washington State assessment of achievement) for public schools in the state. For more information see http://www.psd267.org/pages/Pullman_School_District_267.

The town has several parks that are equipped with picnic tables, grills, tennis courts, swings, climbing areas, etc. Several golf courses are also located either in Pullman or close by (WSU’s Palouse Ridge Golf Club, 18-hole Scottish Links style championship course; University of Idaho Golf Course, 18-hole, Par 72; Colfax Golf Course, 9-hole, Par 35; St. John Golf Course, 9-hole, par 35; and Tekoa Golf Course, 9-hole, par 35).

Pullman is an ideal location for those interested in outdoor activities. Mountain biking, hiking, downhill and cross country skiing, snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, golf, camping and white water rafting are all available within easy driving distance. Several large and beautiful lakes are located in the Idaho Panhandle within a 1.5- to 3-hour drive of Pullman (e.g., Couer D’Alene Lake, Priest Lake). Excellent boating and rafting experiences are available on the Snake and Clearwater Rivers, a 30 to 40 minute drive south of Pullman. Some of the best white water experiences in the country are available around Riggins, Idaho, approximately 4 hours southeast of Pullman. Many ski areas are also located within an easy drive (e.g., Schweitzer Mountain, 2 hours; McCall, Idaho, 4 hours). A slightly longer drive (up to one day) will take you to spectacular scenery in every direction. Some of the largest wilderness preserves in the US are located in Idaho to the southeast of Pullman. The Wallowa Mountains in Oregon are approximately a 3 hour drive to the south. The Cascade Mountains of Washington, including the spectacular Mt. Rainier, Mt. Adams, Mt. St. Helens, and Mt. Baker, are located within a 4 to 6 hour drive. The Olympic Mountains and rainforests of Washington require a slightly longer (6 to 8 hour) drive. Banff, Jasper, and the Canadian Rockies are approximately a one day drive to the north. In addition, the beaches on the coast of Washington and Oregon can be accessed by a 7 to 8 hour drive and the San Juan Islands, off the coast of Washington, provide a delightful destination within a 6 hour drive and ferry ride from Pullman. The WSU Outdoor Recreation Center rents outdoor equipment. The center also provides information on recreational activities available in the Northwest, as well as various classes and cooperative trips. Pullman
is relatively close to several of the world’s most attractive cities. Spokane is a 1.5 hour drive to the north; Seattle, a 4.5 hour drive to the west; Portland, Oregon, a 6 hour drive to the southwest; and Vancouver, B. C, a 7 hour drive to the northwest.

Pullman is served by the Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport which offers several daily flights to and from Seattle. Airports located in Lewiston, Idaho (approximately a 1 hour drive) and Spokane, Washington (approximately a 1.5 hour drive) offer non-stop connections to airports such as Denver, Chicago, and Salt Lake City.

The Pullman Chamber of Commerce website provides further information about the following topics: http://www.pullmanchamber.com/#
- 1. Public Schools
- 2. Healthcare
- 3. Low Crime Rate
- 4. University Town
- 5. Excellent Housing
- 6. Community Support
- 7. Scenic Beauty
- 8. Business Environment
- 9. Mild Climate
- 10. Rich History

Transportation Alternatives

- Transit: Pullman Transit: http://www.pullmantransit.com
  Pullman Transit operates Monday through Saturday during the academic year, providing a shuttle service between the University of Idaho and Washington State University campuses for a $2 fee, as well as charter services.

Wheatland Express/Spokane Airport Shuttle: http://www.wheatlandexpress.com/ 334-2200
  Wheatland Express operates a commuter bus between Moscow and Pullman. It provides transportation between Moscow, Pullman, Colfax and the Spokane International Airport. Wheatland Express also provides transportation for group charters and tours of the Palouse.

- Carpools, Vanpools, Rideshare:
  WSU-Carpool list is for Washington State University Staff, Faculty and Students to post and review carpool information about rides needed as well as carpool openings.
  WSU Coordinated Vanpools: 509-335-9085.
WSU Motor Pool coordinates vanpools from Palouse, Colfax, Colton, Uniontown, and the Lewiston/Clarkston Valley.

**Whitman County Public Transportation Area Vanpools:** coast@qwestoffice.net, 509-397-2935

**Asotin County Public Transportation Area Vanpools:** kgates@asotinoptba.com, 509-758-3567

- **The Palouse Rideshare** [http://palouserideshare.org/](http://palouserideshare.org/) project is a website based system designed to connect riders with drivers in the Palouse region and beyond. Palouse Rideshare is intended to provide rider and driver connections for those who commute or travel the same routes on a regular basis. Palouse Rideshare does not provide ride sharing for occasional or one-time only trips.

- **Palouse-Clearwater Environmental Institute**
  We own and operate a regional VanPool system with support from the Idaho Transportation Department and matching funds from local supporters including the University of Idaho.

  In order to promote alternatives to commuting in single-occupant vehicles, the University supports the Emergency Ride Home (ERH) program. This program provides assurance of a ride in an emergency for those who use alternative commuting methods.

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**Moscow, Idaho**

Located 8 miles from Pullman, Moscow is home to the University of Idaho (U of I). The U of I enrolls nearly 11,400 students from all states and 92 foreign countries on a 1,580-acre campus. The Campus contains an Arboretum & Botanical Garden that provides several acres of trails and plantings. The University is organized into the Colleges of Art and Architecture; Agricultural and Life Sciences; Business and Economics; Education; Engineering; Graduate Studies; Law; Letters, Arts, and Social Sciences; Natural Resources; and Science. The U of I Vandals compete in men’s and women’s intercollegiate athletics in the Western Athletic Conference. Moscow has gained national attention in the arts. The Lionel Hampton International Jazz Festival, Festival Dance, Idaho Repertory Theatre (a professional summer theater company), Renaissance Fair, Rendezvous in the Park, and the Prichard Art Gallery are part of the reason why Moscow has been repeatedly rated as one of the “Best 100 Small Art Towns in America”.

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Updated 9/24/2014
Lewiston, Idaho and Clarkston, Washington

Lewiston, Idaho and Clarkston, Washington (named after Lewis and Clark) are located across the Snake River from each other, approximately 40 miles south of Pullman. The drive from Pullman to this area includes a drop in elevation of approximately 1800 feet (from approximately 2500 feet above sea level in Pullman to approximately 730 feet in Lewiston-Clarkston). The drop can be accomplished by either the new or the older road. The newer grade, constructed in the late 1970s, is approximately 7 miles (11 km) long. Both grades provide an excellent view of Lewiston, Clarkston, and the surrounding landscape. Lewiston is the second largest city in the Idaho Panhandle behind Coeur d'Alene (population of 30,904, 2000 census; 31,293, 2006 estimate). Its main industry is paper and timber products production. Some oceangoing vessels can reach Lewiston because it is located at the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater Rivers. As a result, Lewiston provides Idaho's only seaport and the western United States' farthest inland seaport. Barges of timber products, grain and other goods are shipped via the Snake-Columbia system to the Pacific Ocean. A system of levees protects against flooding along much of the Snake River and provides an excellent area for walking, biking and skate boarding. Lewiston is also home to Lewis-Clark State College.

Spokane, Washington

Spokane is located approximately 80 miles north of Pullman. With a population of 204,400, it’s the second largest city in the state of Washington (behind Seattle) and the largest city between Seattle and Minneapolis. It’s also the fourth largest city in the U.S. Pacific Northwest, behind Seattle, Portland, and Boise. Greater Spokane is much larger than the city alone. 459,000 residents live in Spokane County. With neighboring Coeur d’Alene, Idaho, the population reaches nearly 700,000 people. Spokane hosted the first environmentally themed World’s Fair in Expo ’74, becoming the then-smallest city to ever host a World’s Fair. The event transformed Spokane's downtown, removing a century of railroad industry and reinventing the urban core. Many of the structures built for the World's Fair are still standing and in use. The United States Pavilion sits next to an IMAX theater, and the Washington State Pavilion became the INB Performing Arts Center. The Expo site itself became the 100 acre Riverfront Park, containing, among other features, the U.S. Pavilion, the turn-of-the-20th-century Looff Carousel, and the Great Northern Railway clock tower, the last remnant of the vast rail depot that was demolished for Expo ’74.