

## PRESS RELEASES

### News Brief - 5/21/98

[Welcome to WGU](#)

[Return to Press Releases](#)

[What We Are](#)

For more information, contact:

[Who's Involved](#)

Pat Jones  
Barkley Evergreen & Partners  
816-512-9162  
[psjones@bande.com](mailto:psjones@bande.com)  
[www.wgu.edu](http://www.wgu.edu)

[Vision, History  
& Mission](#)

[Press Releases](#)

[Newsletters](#)

### Western Governors University Opens Campus for Tours

[Administration](#)

[About Your Privacy](#)

***Potential students, educators and corporations can now experience WGU's new online campus at [www.wgu.edu](http://www.wgu.edu)***

[Glossary](#)

[FAQs](#)

SALT LAKE CITY -- Western Governors University (WGU) is opening its doors for the first time today, inviting potential students, educators and corporations interested in this unique learning initiative to tour the new WGU virtual campus online at [www.wgu.edu](http://www.wgu.edu).

"We know there's been a lot of anticipation about our opening, and we're very excited to give people a chance to take a look for themselves," said Jeff Livingston, CEO of WGU. "In just a few minutes, people who know very little about WGU can gain a very thorough understanding of the university, its qualities and characteristics. Similarly, those who've been following WGU will be able to tour and experience many of the features and services we've designed specifically for distance learning."

Livingston said that while the site is very extensive and loaded with details on WGU, there is much more to come. "Some of the more intelligent components that really help students, like our SmartCatalog™, are in the final stages of testing and will be added prior to open enrollment. We're also continuing to work with educational institutions to add more program and course listings. These refinements are necessary now, before we accept our first student, but are also the kinds of efforts that will continue even after we begin enrollment."

#### What students will find

People interested in continuing education, expanding their skill set or pursuing a degree will find plenty of information about WGU and why it might be right for their needs. A tour of the site provides details on degree programs and courses offered through WGU, as well as a look at the resources and services that make it unique in comparison to any other university or higher education initiative. Actual student enrollment is expected to begin later this summer. Until then, people who visit the site are encouraged to leave information that will allow enrollment notification.

#### Educational institutions can now affiliate

Representatives from educational institutions will want to visit the new site to learn how affiliating with WGU provides a worldwide stage for their distance-delivered courses. Since WGU doesn't provide instruction itself, it relies on content from colleges, universities and corporations. WGU brokers these distance-delivered courses and supports them with an online bookstore, central library and other student support services. The site also lists current member institutions and criteria for affiliation.

#### Corporations can get involved... and benefit too

Major corporations across the country have already seen the benefits of affiliating with WGU and the possibilities this initiative holds for their organizations. By touring the site, company representatives can now explore the opportunities WGU offers for employee training, certification and continuing education, as well as partnering and sponsorship programs. Corporations can also contact WGU to learn how they can be content providers for the university.

#### About WGU

WGU is a competency-based, degree-granting, virtual university that delivers cost-effective education using the Internet and other advanced telecommunications and networking technologies. WGU's mission is to expand educational opportunities for learners everywhere by offering on-line access to courses from universities, colleges and corporate training programs through its unique SmartCatalog™. WGU was formed in 1997 as a result of the vision of the governors of the Western United States to share higher education distance learning resources. WGU's administrative offices are located in Salt Lake City, Utah, and its academic offices are in Denver, Colorado.