The Golden Rams Society

Welcome! Thank you for your interest in The Golden Rams Society (GRS). We at West Chester University and the WCU Foundation pride ourselves on having GRS as an elite group of students, selected to represent the spirit of student philanthropy at various events and engage with both peers and donors.

Here at the Foundation, we believe that student philanthropy shows the heart of WCU. While GRS students help with University fundraising, GRS's goal is educating students on how giving back supports every aspect of student success. By expanding students' definition of philanthropy, we hope to build a better WCU, starting with the student body. As a GRS student, we want each member to advocate for students' involvement with WCUF and WCU Alumni Association (WCUAA) and demonstrate the change students can make.

Each GRS member gains valuable experience in a variety of skills, such as: fundraising, marketing, program planning, networking, and project management. Most importantly, a GRS member will have the opportunity to network with some of WCU's most distinguished and successful alumni, corporate leaders, and friends of the University.

All Golden Rams Society Members will receive a $250 scholarship after attending three (3) qualifying events to recognize their dedication and service to WCU and the Foundation.

This application will go over some of the basics of GRS, as well as asking a few questions about availability, extracurricular activities, and philanthropy. Because GRS students potentially meet with individuals important to WCU and its community, making sure each student is prepared, informed, and trained is vital. Additionally, this society has a social aspect, so students must be comfortable mingling and talking.

We hope to create a strong group of students who are all inspired by philanthropy and want to make WCU a better place for both students, alumni, and the community. Thank you for taking an interest in us and we look forward to working with you in the future. If you have any questions regarding the application process, please feel free to reach out.

Miranda "Randi" Ruppert
Annual Fund Coordinator
mruppert@wcufoundation.org

Golden Rams Society Member Service Requirements:

- **Training**
    - GRS Basics Sessions
    - Donor Engagement
    - Inclusive Leadership
    - iPad Payment

- **Attend/Staff a Minimum of Three (3) Events per Academic Semester** (*including but not limited to)
    - Foundation Office help
    - Presidential Scholarship Community Gala
    - President's Circle/Tanglewood events
    - Gold Box events
    - Alumni events

- **Fulfill One Peer-to-Peer Engagement Opportunity Per Year** (including but not limited to)
    - Article writing for a WCU student publication
    - Instagram takeover
    - Philanthropy outreach
    - GRS information table

- **Complete One Professional Development Component within their 1st Year** (including but not limited to)
    - LinkedIn set-up/workshop
    - Indeed set-up/workshop
    - Professional email writing workshop
    - Meet your Major Gift Officer

Other Service Objectives:
Participate in planning, organizing, promoting and conducting the Annual WCU Student Giving Program and fundraising initiatives.

- Use and help manage social media pages and other marketing resources to reach out to WCU students and promote the GRS, WCUF, and WCUAA.
- Must remain in good academic and disciplinary standing while at WCU and complete the minimum number of GRS service requirements for that semester.
- Serve as a liaison between WCUF and WCU.

Any GRS member who is not meeting the basic requirements may be asked to leave GRS. Scholarship is earned and not given, so failure to attend at least three (3) events a semester will result in not receiving a scholarship. Exceptions are made on a case-by-case basis; if you feel you cannot meet these requirements, please reach out to the Annual Fund Coordinator or a member of the Executive & Council Board.

West Chester University Foundation
Golden Rams Society Application

<u>INSTRUCTIONS</u>

1. Complete the attached application and the essay statements. Please include all the information requested.

2. Return the completed PDF application form <u>with</u> the essay statement to the Annual Fund Coordinator: Miranda (Randi) Ruppert at mruppert@wcufoundation.org. Incomplete or inaccurate information <u>will not</u> be considered.

3. Attend the **optional** Information Session to learn more about the Golden Rams Society and meet current members. E-mail mruppert@wcufoundation.org if interested for details.

4. Questions pertaining to this application should be directed to the Annual Fund Coordinator by emailing mruppert@wcufoundation.org or calling 610-436-6051.

5. All applicants must list the names and contact information for two references, one WCU reference (professor, counselor, advisor, staff member, etc.) and one non-WCU reference (boss, manager, HS teacher, coach, etc.).

6. There are two training sessions. You are required to attend **<u>ONE</u>** to be fully inducted into the GRS.

7. **After being selected and completing training,** you are invited to attend our **GRS Meet and Mingle Welcome reception.**

8. All dates and details for events will be emailed to members who have been accepted.

WCU Foundation
Golden Rams Society Application

Full Name: _____

Preferred Name: _____

ID#: _____   Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____   State: _____   Zip: _____

Declared Major: _____ (If undeclared, please state that.)

Credits Complete*: _____   Cumulative GPA*: _____ (*Incoming First Years, please put N/A here.)

Class Year: ☐ First Year ☐ Sophomore ☐ Junior ☐ Senior ☐ Graduate Student

Expected Graduation: _____

Current Extracurricular/Community Activities	Your Participation/Offices Held
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Please list any scholarships you have received:

_____

_____

References: (2 Required, 1 WCU and 1 Non-WCU Reference)

Name: _____   Email: _____

Phone: _____

Name: _____   Email: _____

Phone: _____

☐   **I authorize the West Chester University Foundation to conduct a review of my academic and judicial records with University Officials in order to affirm that I am a student in good standing.**

Signature: _____   **Date:** _____

Availability Questionnaire

GRS is a dedicated group of students. This dedication comes with a time commitment. We, the WCU Foundation, want to make sure that all potential members understand that. Below are a few questions regarding how much time you'll predict you'll be able to dedicate. Note: We understand student lives are busy and want to make it clear that GRS members won't be punished for a conflict with University affiliated events.

How much time **per week** could you dedicate to GRS (this includes meetings, events, responding to emails, etc.):

☐ 30-50 Minutes   ☐ 1-2 hours   ☐ 3-4 hours   ☐ 4+ Hours

Meetings are going to be held at a minimum of once a month. They are mandatory for updates and check-ins about important GRS events. We try and work around students' busy schedules. Please list below what time(s) of the week (Monday - Friday) would be best for YOU to hold these meetings.

Day _____   Time(s) _____

Day _____   Time(s) _____

Day _____   Time(s) _____

Day _____   Time(s) _____

Day _____   Time(s) _____

Essay Statements

Below are two short essay questions. Feel free to use the space below OR attach **BOTH** essay responses in a separate document. Just remember to state which response goes with which question. Please take the time to carefully think about your responses.

BOTH responses should be **between 200-350 words each**. While we are looking for content and thoughtfulness, please keep in mind grammar and clarity.

1. GRS was founded on the idea that student philanthropy can make real and effective change within a university. We want our GRS students to become inspirations for their peers. How would you try and convince your fellow students to consider getting involved? Remember, while most often philanthropic donations come in the form of monetary gifts, volunteering and fundraising are common as well.

2. Here at the Foundation, we want our students to feel inspired to speak up when they feel a certain group, club, people, or cause needs attention. Tell us what or who inspires you to become philanthropic. Please note that your cause does NOT need to be University-related; we want to see what truly inspires you to help your community.

Essay Response Area