

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to thank you for helping to make this year lively and productive, and to recap just a few of the successes we have enjoyed. We began the year by welcoming 50 exceptional new teacher-scholars to the faculty, and it is a joy to watch them become part of our community and contribute from the beginning to our increasing strength. In addition to these new colleagues, we announced support for two new centers and congratulated colleagues who received national and international prizes for teaching and research. For the first time, five Wake Forest scholars received NEH awards in a single year.

These accomplishments are less surprising when we realize that this year we achieved more external grants and awards than ever before. Considering the increase in funding for your projects, the many books and articles you produced, the fine teaching you accomplish each and every day, and your very high levels of service to Wake Forest and to our students, we are ending a year of which we can be very proud. President Hatch joins me in applauding these gains and expressing deep gratitude for your insight and devotion to your work.

I am also pleased to report that leaders across the schools are working hard to increase support for excellence and achievement at all levels of the faculty. Compared to the mean compensation at peer institutions in 2009–2010, we exceeded the mean for assistant and associate professors (4.5 percent and 3.6 percent respectively) and missed the mean for full professors by just 2.9 percent. In a year when compensation at many peer institutions held steady or declined, Wake Forest salaries grew in all categories, with the average assistant professor salary increasing by 18.2 percent. That we have reached the compensation goals called for in the Strategic Plan in two years instead of five demonstrates that President Hatch, the Board of Trustees and the Deans are committed to an even stronger Wake Forest in the future.

Along with increases in compensation, we have improved the merit evaluation process in each school. While the deans are still consulting with faculty to fine-tune their processes, the new approaches are enabling us to reward achievement in scholarship, teaching and service more judiciously and as a matter of course.

While we continue this initiative, we are also increasing other forms of support. It is great that so many of you are drawing on resources like the Provost's Fund for Academic Excellence, the Faculty-Student Lunch Program, the Teaching and Learning Center, the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, and the Professional Development Center. Please let me know how we can do even more to strengthen these offerings in the future.

At this moment of celebration and thanks, I offer deep appreciation for all you did this year to strengthen our fine academic program and wish you the all the best for a great summer.

With warm regards,

Jill Tiefenthaler
Provost

Supporting Academic Work

Summer Grants for Exploration of Educational Technology

The Office of the Provost announces a new program to provide funding for faculty summer projects that explore new technologies. This program has been created at the recommendation of the Strategic Planning Committee for Innovation in Technology and Information and is designed to identify and develop innovative techniques for integrating emerging technologies to enhance teaching, learning, and assessment. Successful proposals should identify the technology to be explored, support staff involved, resources required, a plan outline for exploration, and a budget. Proposals should be [submitted electronically](#) by **May 21**.

For additional information, visit the [Grants and Funding section](#) of the Provost's Office website, or consult the [Call for Proposals](#).

Center Planning Grants

The Provost's Office will award planning grants for the 2010 – 2011 academic year. Proposals are due by **May 28, 5:00 PM**, and instructions for submission can be found under the Centers and Institutes tab of the [Provost's website](#).

Capital Funding Awards

In April, the Provost's Office allocated approximately \$860,000 in capital funding to academic units for FY11. These awards were made in response to proposals that were submitted as part of the budget and capital request process. Funds were allocated for the renovation of classroom, studio, research, and performance space as well as for capital equipment purchases ranging from treadmills and electrocardiogram systems (Health and Exercise Science) to new instruments for the bands (Music). The awards have been announced to individual deans and department chairs. Look for the call for capital funding requests for 2011-2012 in the fall.

QEP International Awards

Congratulations to the following faculty members and students who have been awarded funding through the QEP:

International Course Development

Sara Lischer (Political Science): Human Rights in a Global Context

David Phillips (Women's and Gender Studies): Transformative Models: LGBT Identities and Cross-Cultural Translation

Charles Wilkins (History): Power and Dissent in Modern Arabic Literature

Hosting International Conferences

Mary Lynn Redmond (Education): NC Summit on Foreign Languages and Cultures

International Scholars for Fall 2010

Jed Macosko, Martin Guthold, and Keith Bonin (Physics): Hongfeng Lu from the College of Science, CAU, Beijing, China

Wanda Balzano (Women's and Gender Studies) and **Nelly Van Doorn-Harder** (Religion): Eva Midden from Utrecht University, the Netherlands

Boot Camp for Profs®

Congratulations to the following faculty members who have been selected by the Teaching and Learning Center Advisory Board to attend "Boot Camp for Profs®," a unique program that offers pedagogical growth and renewal for professors at all stages of their careers.

- **Bruce Barnhart** (English)
- **Tracey Coan** (Law School)
- **Heath Greene** (Psychology)
- **Stan Mandel** (Schools of Business)
- **Darlene May** (Religion)
- **Max Negin** (Communication)
- **Rebecca Thomas** (German and Russian)
- **Ulrike Wiethaus** (Religion)

Leadership Development Program Graduates

Congratulations to the faculty and staff who recently completed the inaugural Leadership Development Program (LDP) that was offered through the Professional Development Center and sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the Office of the Vice President for Administration. LDP participants met monthly throughout the academic year to discuss leadership, coaching, persuasion, and influence. Additionally, participants were divided into teams to complete four capstone projects: Life-Work Balance, Campus Communications, Community Engagement, and Sustainability.

Edward Allen (Mathematics)

Wanda Brown (ZSR Library)

Carole Browne (Biology)

Jonathan Christman (University Theatre)

Christa Colyer (Chemistry)

James Curran (Biology)

Steve Duke (International Studies)

Donna Hamilton (Legal)

Dwight Lewis (Athletics)

Dave Marmion (Athletics)

Donna McGalliard (Residence Life)

Michele Phillips (Budget and Fin. Planning)

Mary Lynn Redmond (Education)

Scott Shafer (Schools of Business)

Gale Sigal (English)

Stan Thomas (Computer Science)

Mike Tesh (Human Resources)

John Wise (Hospitality Services)

David Yamane (Sociology)

The Aspiring Leaders Program, which is geared towards faculty interested who might have interest in future leadership positions (from Center Director to Department Chair) will be launched this fall. For more details, please contact [Andrea Ellis](#).

Recognizing Faculty Achievement

Tenure and Promotion News

The following tenure and promotion recommendations were approved by the Board of Trustees at their recent meeting. Congratulations to these faculty members for their fine achievement!

Promoted from Associate Professor to Professor

David Carroll	Physics
Christa Colyer	Chemistry
Cynthia Gendrich	Theatre and Dance
Hugh Howards	Mathematics
Robert Nash	Schools of Business
Rebecca Thomas	German and Russian
Ronald Thompson	Schools of Business
Mary Wayne-Thomas	Theatre and Dance

Promoted from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor with Tenure

Adam Friedman	Education
Alyssa Howards	German and Russian
Sarah Lischer	Political Science
Jed Macosko	Physics
Kathryn Mayers	Romance Languages
Lynn Neal	Religion
Monique O'Connell	History
Sarah Raynor	Mathematics
Jessica Richard	English
Michelle Steward	Schools of Business

Promotion from Assistant Librarian to Associate Librarian

Craig Fansler	Z. Smith Reynolds Library
Sarah Jeong	Z. Smith Reynolds Library
Kaeley McMahan	Z. Smith Reynolds Library
Mary Scanlon	Z. Smith Reynolds Library

Award for Distinguished Teaching

Jason Parsley (Mathematics) was named the 2010 recipient of the South East Section Award for Distinguished Teaching by a Beginning College or University Mathematics Faculty Member. Congratulations, Jason!

Faculty Publications

Congratulations to the following faculty members for books and creative work published recently:

- **Brunette, Peter.** (Art) *Michael Haneke*. University of Illinois Press, February 2010.
- **Locklair, Dan.** (Music) *The Music of Dan Locklair*. [Compact Disc] Loft Recordings, April 2010.
- **Pressley, Lauren.** (ZSR Library) *Wikis for Libraries*. Neal-Schuman Publishers, March 2010.
- **Young, Julian.** (Philosophy) *Friedrich Nietzsche*. Cambridge University Press, March 2010.
- **Wilson, Edwin Graves.** (Provost Emeritus) *The History of Wake Forest University, Volume V, 1967-1983*. Wake Forest University, April 2010.

Teaching Innovation Award

The Teaching and Learning Center and the Committee on the Teaching and Learning Center are pleased to announce that **Susan Borwick** (Music) has been awarded the 2009 – 2010 Teaching Innovation Award for her course, Music 207: American Music. Susan's course embodies the ideals of active learning, reflection, and cooperation, and the committee was impressed with the way she integrated different types of learning into the curriculum. Congratulations, Susan!

Research Funding Updates

External awards received this fiscal year-to-date are \$8.7 million, \$739,000 ahead of the total received in all of last year. Since July, 140 proposals have been submitted, requesting over \$53 million.

Congratulations to **Cindy Gendrich** (Theatre and Dance) and **Christina Tsoules Soriano** (Theatre and Dance) who each received her first award for a sponsored project at Wake Forest. Cynthia will develop an NEH Enduring Questions course, "Why Do People Laugh?" as a first-year seminar, and Christina will consult with Glenna Baston (Winston-Salem State University) on *Effect of Modern Dance on Balance and Mobility in a Group of Adults with Early-to-Middle Stage Parkinson's Disease*.

Two additional faculty received NEH awards (joining **Cindy Gendrich** (Theatre and Dance), **Claudia Kairoff** (English) and **Michaëlle Browers** (Political Science) whose awards were already announced). **Kendall Tarte** (Romance Languages) won her Summer Stipend for the project “France on the Page: Portraying the Wars of Religion,” and **Emily Wakild** (History) received a Summer Stipend award for “Revolutionary Nature Conservation in 1930s Mexico.”

Several faculty received internal awards this spring. **Oana Jurchescu** (Physics) was awarded a grant from the Science Research Fund, and **Eric Jones** and **Steve Folmar** (Anthropology) and **Kristin Bennett** and **Adam Friedman** (Education) received awards from the Social, Behavioral and Economic Science Research Fund.

Appointments

Dean of the School of Divinity Appointed

Following a nationwide search, **Gail O’Day** has been appointed dean of the School of Divinity. Currently A.H. Shatford Professor of New Testament and Preaching and senior associate dean at the Candler School of Theology of Emory University, Gail brings a wealth of administrative experience to her new role at Wake Forest. A graduate of Brown University, Gail earned a Master’s of Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity School and a doctorate in New Testament from Emory. She is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ, and a renowned New Testament scholar. Gail will join our community on August 1, replacing the School of Divinity’s founding dean, Bill Leonard, who is retiring. Gail’s husband, Thomas Frank, will also join the faculty as University Professor. We look forward to welcoming them both to our community!

Associate Provost Appointed

Professor of Law **Jennifer Collins** will join the Provost’s Office as associate provost for academic initiatives this summer. She replaces Michele Gillespie, who is returning to the History Department. Jennifer is an exceptional teacher-scholar who will bring an energy for faculty excellence and a commitment to the Strategic Plan into her new role. She teaches courses on criminal law, criminal procedure, family law, and gender and the law, and is an expert on issues involving families and the criminal justices system. In 2009 she was selected by the graduating class as the recipient of the Jurist Excellence in Teaching Award, and she was named the winner of the Joseph Branch Excellence in Teaching Award in 2010. Her co-authored book *Privilege or Punish? Criminal Justice and the Challenge of Family Ties* was published in 2009, and she has written many published and forthcoming essays and articles on families and the criminal justice system. Prior to entering legal academia, Jennifer was an assistant United States attorney in the District of Columbia, where she specialized in homicide cases, and clerked for Judge Dorothy Nelson of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. She received her undergraduate degree in history from Yale University and graduated from Harvard Law School.

Teaching and Learning Center Faculty Co-Director Announced

The Teaching and Learning Center Advisory Committee is pleased to announce that **Sue Rupp** (History) has been selected as the TLC Faculty Co-Director for 2010 – 2013. Sue teaches courses on European political and cultural history. Her scholarship explores political and social modernization in late imperial Russia.

New Fellows Appointed to the Provost's Office

Rachel Cook ('09) and **Nitya Anand ('09)** will join the Provost's Office as Fellows this summer. Rachel will work as the Provost's Office Fellow, and Nitya will work in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Updates and Upcoming Events

Classroom Scheduling Software Implementation (Ad Astra)

Jeannette Rork (Registrar's Office) and **Michele Gillespie** (Provost's Office) assumed oversight of the Ad Astra classroom scheduling project last fall, following 18 months of effort by an ad hoc committee led by Rick Matthews, the Registrars' Office, several associate deans, and several administrative assistants. This committee's research identified significant under-utilization of classroom space, and led to the review of available software packages that would allow administrative assistants to retain control of classroom space for course scheduling while also allowing others to identify available space and have the opportunity to request it from holding departments. The university acquired Ad Astra last winter after significant evaluation, and the Ad Astra Implementation Team (AAIT) is beginning the process of implementation. The AAIT recently met with the associate deans to review a proposed timeline and process. Next steps include meeting with department chairs and administrative assistants by division, followed by an inventorying of rooms and equipment over the summer, training for administrative assistants and a trial program next fall, with a proposed implementation date of February 2011.

From Blackboard to Sakai

This spring, Wake Forest began the transition from Blackboard to Sakai, a free and open source online collaboration and learning management system. Blackboard was originally slated to be available through December 2010, but due to license expirations in September, Blackboard will now be available according to the updated schedule below:

- Today – July 12: Blackboard will be available to everyone.
- July 12: Sakai is available campus-wide. Migration of course data from Blackboard to Sakai begins.
- July 13 – August 14: Only faculty teaching courses in Summer Session II will have access to their courses in Blackboard.
- August 15: Blackboard will no longer be available. All courses are available in Sakai.

This decision was approved by the Committee for Information Technology (CIT) and the Information Technology Executive Committee (ITEC). Academic users of Blackboard can learn more about Sakai implementation from the Instructional Technologist in their department. Future communications from the Dean of the College will address Sakai for academic users. Register for a Sakai course today through the [Professional Development Center](#).

Wireless Upgrades and Visitor Wireless

Information Systems staff and contractors are working to upgrade the wired and wireless computing network for our campus. The new wireless network will provide increased reliability, faster connection speeds, and enhanced information security. The installation will begin with residence halls this summer.

As part of the network upgrade, a new guest wireless access called “WFU Visitor Wireless” will be created. Wake Forest users will be able to create visitor wireless accounts for individuals visiting our campus. A helpful web page will provide easy-to-use instructions for creating these accounts, which will be available up to 7 days in advance and will be good for a maximum of 7 days. Provisions will be made for wireless access by attendees at conferences on campus. Information Systems will provide more information to campus computer users about the new network and the visitor wireless accounts in the coming months.

WebEx

Wake Forest will begin a six month pilot of WebEx video collaboration early this summer. The Strategic Planning Committee for Innovation in Technology and Information has identified that video conferencing and collaboration will be a key tool for enhancing scholarly interaction and student learning. More details will be coming soon, but you may [preview the technology](#) or contact [Nancy Crouch](#) for details now.

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Thank you for your attention to this newsletter. The Provost’s Office seeks your comments, suggestions and ideas for its continued development. To comment or suggest items to include, please be in touch with [Provost Jill Tiefenthaler](#).

