

March 24, 2011

Dear Colleagues,

As spring approaches, I am pleased to write to you about fresh forms of support for innovative academic work. In my annual address to the faculty in February, we discussed the University's goals to build one of the best faculty of teacher-scholars in the world, bring the right students and mix of students to Wake Forest as well as offer them excellent support, and create an intellectual climate that maximizes opportunities for faculty-student engagement. Then we asked how to increase support for these aims in light of challenging economic conditions.

We listed several strategies and explored one of them—increasing revenue—for its capacity to strengthen our academic profile and encourage new forms of creative work. We looked at several examples of programs that are achieving these aims and recognized their leaders for the insight and energy they contributed to get these new programs off the ground.

In preparing for the address, conversations with faculty and staff led me to wonder how we might use our vast array of experience and creativity to develop our capacity further. For example, as a collegiate university, we are rightly proud of our courses of study and we want to protect their excellence. In light of new conditions, are there new methods we should consider? Are we doing enough to encourage team teaching? Are there curricular components that could help more students get more out of internships and similar experiences? Has our newly robust focus on interdisciplinary scholarship found its way into the classroom as fully as it should? Of course, we know that almost any investment in faculty/student interaction is a good one. But how can we go even further to extend those gains?

Questions like these are not easy, and I predict that we will be talking about them quite a bit in the weeks and months to come. To spark that conversation, I am announcing a new grant program that my office will sponsor starting this spring. Called the [Provost's Fund for Academic Innovation](#), this program is designed to promote innovation in the curriculum or the learning environment. Please visit my website for the criteria and deadlines for application.

My goal for the academic innovation fund is to encourage all of us to build on our current work and invent new approaches to learning that are in sync with our mission. Based on your past record, I am prepared to be completely amazed at what we can achieve.

With warm regards,

Jill Tiefenthaler
Provost

Supporting Academic Work

New Provost's Fund for a Vibrant Campus

A new fund to support academic initiatives has been created in response to faculty demand. It provides 2:1 matching funds up to \$5,000 to allow faculty, schools, and departments to bring exciting guest speakers and performers to campus. Deadlines are April 1 and October 1; see [guidelines](#).

As a result, Provost's Fund for Academic Excellence guidelines have been revised to clarify its purpose: to support symposia and other large-scale events that reach across departments and units to facilitate intellectual community at Wake Forest. This fund provides a 2:1 match up to \$10,000. Revised guidelines can be found [here](#).

Please contact Associate Provost [Jennifer Collins](#) (758-3852) with questions about either fund.

Provost's Fund for Faculty Travel

This fund supplements support for faculty who are presenting, discussing, or chairing a session at an academic conference or other professional event or conducting other work-related travel approved by the department chair or dean after department or school allocations have been exhausted. Awards are restricted to tenured and tenure-stream Reynolda campus faculty and lecturers, senior lecturers, and visiting faculty on continuing (two or more year) appointments.

The Provost will also fund some applications each year for faculty to attend nationally or internationally prestigious seminars, conferences, institutes, or workshops that are clearly designed to benefit both teaching and research through a group discussion format. Visit the Faculty Resources page of the Provost's website for further information and necessary forms, or contact [Barbara Meredith](#) (758-3142).

Institute for Public Engagement Grant Programs

Grants up to \$700 are offered to offset the costs associated with service-learning and public engagement projects that: 1) integrate community-based learning with teaching and/or research; 2) address a community-defined need or deliver a needed service; and 3) engage students and faculty in implementation. Proposals will be considered throughout the academic year.

IPE will also support faculty participation at professional conferences, both individually and in panels, through funds for travel and related costs. Proposals highlighting the academic components of public engagement or service-learning will be reviewed on a rolling basis.

Other IPE resources to support faculty public engagement efforts include mini-grants, the Community Fellows Fund, and the Hattery Family Fund for community-based participatory research. Contact the Institute for Public Engagement for details.

Center for Energy, Environment, and Sustainability

CEES announces funding opportunities for research, scholarship, and working groups related to energy, environment, and sustainability, broadly defined. Though the center has formed core groups in Renewable Energy Research; Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services; and Policy, Enterprise, and Markets, we support all areas of scholarship and encourage new faculty and student groups addressing problems related to the center's mission: building a community committed to meaningful change. For more information on funding opportunities, contact [Tiffany White](#) (758-2337). For information on affiliating with CEES, visit <http://cees.wfu.edu>.

Difficult Dialogues: An Interactive Theatre Performance and Workshop on Heterosexism

Do your classes work in groups or meet in groups outside of class? Ever wonder what they talk about while the teacher's away? On March 31, Visiting Artist Suzanne Burgoyne, Curators'

Distinguished Teaching Professor at the University of Missouri, will explore these questions. First, an interactive workshop based on campus climate research depicts a student project meeting in which buried tensions erupt in offensive speech. Next, in interactive theatre, a short play presents an unresolved question of social justice. Following the sketch, actors stay in character to answer audience questions about their behavior and to discuss, more generally, how to create a “safe space” to conduct student conversations. This workshop is sponsored by the Office of the Provost, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion, and the Teaching and Learning Center. For more information, contact [Catherine Ross](mailto:Catherine.Ross@wfu.edu) (758-4559). To register, visit <http://pdc.wfu.edu/event/3273/>.

Off-Campus Connections

Faculty who live in Forsyth County and wish to host a student event in their home may do so at no cost through the Provost's Off-Campus Connections program. ARAMARK will deliver a full meal for groups of eight or more. Faculty must complete an Off-Campus Connections order form indicating number of guests, address, date, and time and email it to ARAMARK at connections@wfu.edu at least 48 hours prior to the event. Please direct questions about the program to Provost’s Office Fellow [Rachel Cook](mailto:Rachel.Cook@wfu.edu) (758-4073).

Provost's Faculty/Student Lunch Program

Faculty may lunch with undergraduate students on the meal plan for free in the Fresh Food Company and the Magnolia Room. Simply present a completed Lunch Program Coupon to the cashier. Please direct questions to Provost’s Office Fellow [Rachel Cook](mailto:Rachel.Cook@wfu.edu) (758-4073).

Faculty/Student Engagement Fund

Faculty who host students outside of the classroom may be reimbursed for up to \$125 per class or \$8 per student, whichever is less. Lower division advisers may also use this fund to treat their advisees as a group once a semester. Submit a completed Expenditure Voucher noting the event date, reimbursement amount, and number of students to Barbara Meredith, Provost’s Office. Original receipts are also required. Contact [Barbara Meredith](mailto:Barbara.Meredith@wfu.edu) (758-3142) with questions.

Recognizing Achievement

Faculty Books

Congratulations to the following faculty whose first-edition books were recently published:

- Craig, Robin, **Michael D. Green**, Andrew Klein, and Joseph Sanders. (Law). *Toxic and Environmental Torts: Cases and Materials*. West Law. November 2010.
- **Taplin, Ian**. (Sociology). *The Modern American Wine Industry: Market Formation and Growth in North Carolina*. Studies in Business History 1. Pickering & Chatto Publishers. February 2011.
- **Young, Julian**. (Philosophy). *Friedrich Nietzsche: A Philosophical Biography*. Cambridge University Press. 2010.

Julian Young (Philosophy) has been awarded the American Publishers Award for Professional and Scholarly Excellence, or PROSE Award, for 2010. It recognizes the year's best professional and scholarly publications in over 40 categories. For details on PROSE awards, visit <http://www.proseawards.com/current-winners.html>.

Susan Smith (ZSR Library) was recently named the 2011 winner of the Kovacs Award for Outstanding Alumni Achievement by the University of North Carolina at Greensboro Department of Library and Information Studies. This award is presented annually to a graduate of the UNCG-LIS who has made significant contributions to libraries, library users, and Information Studies.

Research Awards

Wake Forest investigators have received nearly \$6.3 million from external sponsors so far this fiscal year. Seventy-one requests totaling over \$43 million have been submitted.

Several faculty received their first external awards as independent investigators at WFU:

- **Wayne Pratt** (Psychology) received a National Institutes of Health AREA grant for *Meso-accumbens serotonergic involvement in appetitive and consummatory behaviors*.
- **Nelly Van Doorn Harder** (Religion) received East-West Center funding to co-sponsor the 2010 ASDP Faculty Outreach Workshop, *Health as Metaphor and Reality in Religions of Asia*.
- **Ulrike Wiethaus** (Religion and American Ethnic Studies) was awarded a 2010 Student Science Enrichment Award from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund for her project, *Cherokee MedCaT Academy Medical Center and Technology: Enriched Student Experiences in Health Careers*.
- **Len Preslar** (Business), with Zachary Cary, PhD candidate (Biochemistry), received a grant from the North Carolina Biotechnology Center for *Wake Forest University Schools of Business Biotechnology Conference and Case Competition*.

Thursdays Next Door to Starling

Jointly sponsored by the Office of Admissions and the Office of the Provost, these informal talks highlight the outstanding research, teaching, and community engagement of faculty. Join us on Thursday, April 7, at 4:00 P.M. for a program featuring **Jessica Richard** (English), **Michaëlle Browers** (Political Science), and **Terry Baker** (Business). To register, click <http://pdc.wfu.edu/event/1951/>.

New Appointment

After a nationwide search, **Harold Pace** has been appointed Assistant Provost for Academic Administration and University Registrar, effective July 1, 2011. Currently the University Registrar at Notre Dame, Harold brings a wealth of administrative experience to his new role at Wake Forest. Prior to Notre Dame, Harold served as Registrar at Louisiana Tech and Assistant Registrar at Texas A&M. He holds a PhD in educational administration from Texas A&M, a

master's degree from East Texas State (now Texas A&M at Commerce), and a BS from Southern Arkansas. We look forward to welcoming Harold and his wife Cathy to the Wake Forest community!

Upcoming Events, Updates, and Information

Winston-Salem and the World Scene Event: Dr. Nuhu Yaqub Presentation

On Monday March 28, Dr. Nuhu Yaqub will speak on "The Pervasiveness of Corruption in Africa" at 4:30 P.M. in the Welcome Center, Kulynych Auditorium. For details and to register: <http://pdc.wfu.edu/event/3314/>

Dr. Yaqub is our Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence for 2010-2011 and is hosted by the Department of Political Science. He served as Vice Chancellor (President) of the University of Abuja, Nigeria from 2004-2009. This event is part of Winston-Salem and the World Scene: a collaboration of higher education institutions within Winston Salem. The 2011 focus area for events is Africa. The collaboration includes: Forsyth Tech, Salem College, UNC School of the Arts, Winston-Salem State University, Winston-Salem International Business Council, and Wake Forest University.

Gatekeepers Workshop Series

Gatekeepers Workshops continue to provide opportunities for Wake Forest staff and faculty to engage in training, discussion, and collaboration in support of a diverse and inclusive campus community. To date, more than 450 staff and faculty have participated.

Workshops include:

- Gatekeepers I: Enhancing our Community through Inclusion
- Gatekeepers II: Cross-Cultural Conflict & Dialogue
- Gatekeepers III: Contact Theory & Dialogue

Gatekeepers Recognition Ceremony

If you participated in a Gatekeepers Workshop, please join us for the Gatekeepers Recognition Ceremony, which will take place on Friday, March 25, 3:30-5:00 P.M. in the Reynolda Hall Green Room. To RSVP, [click here](#).

BIG Campus Connect

The second annual BIG Campus Connect will take place from Tuesday, March 29-Friday, April 1. Daily faculty/student engagement activities include Team Trivia at Shorty's; a charity auction, featuring personal training sessions and guitar lessons from some of our talented faculty; a talent show, and a Deacon-style Amazing Race. Faculty and students are encouraged to form mixed teams of 4 or 5 to compete for great prizes, including restaurant gift certificates and sports tickets. Contact Provost Fellow [Rachel Cook](#) (758-4073) for more information.

Losing to Win: Race and Intercollegiate Sports Conference

On Wednesday and Thursday, April 13 and 14, Benson University Center, the conference will examine the relationships between race and intercollegiate sports through a wide lens to include

the perspectives of athletes, academics, administrators, and journalists. For more information or to register, visit <http://losingtowin.wfu.edu>.

Faculty Appreciation Spring Event

On Wednesday, April 27, 4:30-6:30 P.M., come celebrate the successes of the academic year and catch up with colleagues over food and drink at Reynolda Gardens. RSVP to [Debra Alty](#) by April 18.

Budget News

The new dates for the FY12 budget cycle are:

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| March 25 | Deans, Student Life, Career Development submit budgets to the Provost. |
| April 15 | Board of Trustees vote on FY12 budget. |
| April 18 | Departments notified about their FY12 Capital and Strategic Initiative requests. |

Professional Development Center

Thank you to the following faculty and staff for their willingness to lead the following sessions:

- **Dee Oseroff-Varnell** (Communication) – Presentation Skills Class
- **Maria-Encarna Turner** (Romance Languages) – Spanish
- **Sam Gladding** (Counseling) – Humor
- **Catherine Ross** (TLC) and **Melissa Clodfelter** (PDC/Divinity School) – "I Don't Have Time to Attend This Workshop"

Google Mail and Calendar Pilot

The third phase of the pilot for Google Apps for Education began in early January as Chemistry, Theatre, Office of the Dean of the College, and Office of the Provost joined. The Committee on Information Technology, IT Partners Council, and IT Executive Committee receive regular updates, and the IT Executive Committee will decide on the future of e-mail and calendars later this spring. Read more about the pilot and its timeline [here](#).

WFUvisitor Wireless Account

Wake Forest students, faculty, and staff may create a WFUvisitor wireless network account for any individual visiting the university for up to six months. Medical school colleagues can now obtain visitor accounts upon request at the Bridge; they no longer need a Reynolda campus sponsor. Reynolda campus visitors may obtain 7-day WFUvisitor wireless account access in person at the Bridge. Read full details [here](#).

Call for Articles and Stories Regarding Faculty Use of Technology

The Future Technologies Group wants to make it easier to share our successes, challenges, and lessons learned. We will soon create a website as a gateway to advances and innovative uses of academic technology on campus. You will be able to find out about technologies others have used to address specific learning challenges you may have encountered.

However, we need your stories. Would you be willing to write a few paragraphs on an application of technology in your teaching or research? If such a story is already available on the web, would you provide the link? Click [here](#) to learn how to share your insight with the campus.

Dedication of Casa Dingedine in Managua, Nicaragua

On February 25, President Hatch dedicated Casa Dingedine, the university's new conference center in Managua, Nicaragua. Home of the Nicaragua Nexus, Casa Dingedine is the first international location designated as a training and service center for not only Wake Forest students and faculty but the local community. It was made possible by the generous gift and extraordinary service of Karyn and Tom Dingedine (WFU Trustee, MBA '78), reflecting their commitment to Wake Forest and Pro Humanitate.

More than 75 guests were present for the ceremony and reception. In addition to Wake Forest faculty and staff, many of our Nicaraguan partners attended. For more information about the Nicaragua Nexus, visit wfu.edu/nicaragua/. To inquire about using Casa Dingedine for academic programs, contact [Kline Harrison](#).

Information Systems

Information System (IS) has initiated a new way to keep the Wake Forest computing community informed about technical updates and outages. Visit the IS Service Desk Twitter page: <http://twitter.com/WFUServiceDesk#>. No log-in is required.

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Thank you for your attention. To submit your comments, suggestions, and items to include, please contact [Provost Jill Tiefenthaler](#).

