Message from the Provost...

As another academic year draws to a close, age-old rhythms reassert themselves across our May-lovely campus. Seniors pack up rooms or apartments one last time, nostalgia already settling in, anticipating the culminating rush of Commencement celebrations. Faculty wrap up grading, don their own graduation robes, and look ahead to summer plans: research trips (I talked to Theater/Dance colleagues separately headed to Prague and to Laramie, Wyoming, to gather material for upcoming WFU productions), leading overseas student groups (this week we bid ‘bon voyage’ to two Romance Languages faculty, off to Venice and Havana with their charges), preparing for summer school (several Management MA faculty were hard at work yesterday in a meeting room next to mine, planning the new cohort’s summer assignments), or returning to creative and scholarly projects temporarily on hold during the semester’s bustle.

May also marks the season of University stock-taking, forward planning, and accounts-settling (literally, as the budget year wraps up next month). Think of our staff members and offices as whirlwinds of liveliness amid the relative calm. Among summer-project highlights in the provost’s office:

Teaching Support. Embracing our faculty’s signal dedication to engaging students across the liberal arts continues to be a campus-wide priority. The Teaching and Learning Center, so inventively helmed by Catherine Ross, is working with faculty and staff on multiple fronts: designing curricula and pedagogies that work best with this generation of ‘Millennial’ students, whose learning and communication styles are markedly different from previous WFU cohorts; partnering with our Center for International Studies to address the expanding need for a more global curriculum, both at our study-abroad programs and here on our Reynolda campus; and convening multiple groups to explore how best to utilize technology to aid our signature face-to-face education: blended classrooms, online modules, and other technology-aided supplements to the extraordinary work already happening in our classes. These activities, along with other highlights of teaching at Wake Forest, will continue to be showcased on the refurbished ‘Teaching’ tab that appears at lower left on every main WFU web page.

Research Support. In addition to the myriad sources of support for scholarly and creative activities from each dean and the provost’s office—I’m still learning my way through all the funding programs and pockets—Bruce King (research associate provost), along with OSRP’s Lori Messer, are talking with various faculty about a targeted support program for large, multi-disciplinary grant proposals. As traditional sources of funding are affected by sequesters and a stagnant economy, the cross-disciplinary area is one that has seen expanded interest from donors. Wake Forest, with faculty already working across boundaries and a set of centers and institutes explicitly devoted to breaking down disciplinary silos, is well positioned to attract such funding. Our office looks forward to actively helping identify promising sources and prepare proposals.

Scenario Planning. Ordinarily more the province of governments than universities, scenario planning inverts the regular strategic-plan process. Instead of identifying internal priorities and discussing how to advance those over a 3-5 year period, scenario planning involves an informed review of the sector (higher education, in our case), looking out 10 or 15 or even 20 years hence, and drawing out implications for our current teaching, research, budgetary, and other practices. During this complex time for universities, this type of far-reaching visioning exercise seems particularly desirable. This idea remains in the fledgling stage at WFU; expect a community-wide exploration of the possibility in coming months.

Hoping to engage many of you in these ongoing summertime conversations about support for teaching, research/creative work, and a possible scenario-planning exploration of the horizon for higher education and attendant moves we at Wake Forest might together decide to make.

Rogan
Bruce King, Associate Provost for Research, appointed to the NC Board of Science and Technology

Associate Provost for Research Bruce King will join a distinguished group of university and private-sector researchers on North Carolina’s Board of Science and Technology.

Governor Pat McCrory appointed King, professor of chemistry at Wake Forest since 1995, to the position on March 28.

The board guides the governor and state legislature in investing in public and private science initiatives.

Time described its formation under former governor Terry Sanford in 1961 as “indicative of the state’s pool of more than 2,000 leading scientists and engineers whose services are available to any industry in North Carolina.”

Supporting the creation of high-paying jobs in biomedicine, nanotechnology, and other high-tech fields, the board in 2006 sparked a program to assist in commercializing innovative technologies by North Carolina researchers.

King continues to teach organic chemistry and to lead a long-term, nationally funded research program on the biological chemistry and therapeutic potential of nitric oxide. His work with the Translational Science Center and as head of the Synthetic Core Lab of the Wake Forest University Comprehensive Cancer Center reflect his value to the board’s mission, wrote A. Hope Williams, president of the Association of North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, in a letter to the governor’s office recommending King’s appointment.

King takes the seat of his friend and colleague Mark Welker, William L. Poteat Professor of Chemistry.

King said he is honored by the appointment to the distinguished position. “It is wonderful and important that Wake Forest continues to have a seat at a table that plays an integral role in advising state government and supporting innovative science and technology.”

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS


We are pleased to continue our tradition of deliberate innovation by introducing Wake Forest Advantage, a program designed to help international students by bridging the academic and cultural differences between their home country and US campuses. This partnership between Wake Forest and EdisonLearning provides Chinese students with 90 hours of educational and cultural training to help with study in the United States, using a curriculum developed under the guidance of WFU Education Professor Ann Cunningham. It also provides admissions officers with a Digital Portfolio of certified supplemental application materials.
Research Awards

Wake Forest investigators have received almost $8 million from external sponsors so far this fiscal year. Our faculty have submitted 125 proposals, requesting over $31 million.

John Oksanish, Assistant Professor of Classical Languages, received a National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Summer Stipend to work on a key chapter in his book, tentatively titled *Vitruvian Man: Building the Principate*.

Rebecca Powell, Research and Teaching Fellow in the Center for Energy, Environment, and Sustainability, received her first external award from the National Science Foundation for “Collaborative Research: Thermal controls on ecosystem metabolism and function: Scaling from leaves to canopies to regions.”

Science Research Fund award recipients for the spring are:

Dave Anderson, “Evaluating potential for microevolution of life history traits in a long-lived bird”

Pete Brubaker, “Evaluation of longitudinal changes in bone mineral density in collegiate distance runners: Implications for stress fractures and osteoporosis”

Christa Colyer, “Graphene quantum dots as probes for the analysis of proteins, drugs, and explosives by polymer-modified capillary transient isotachophoresis”

Erik Johnson, “Screening for GPCR oligomerization in a genetically tractable model”

Abdou Lachgar, “Enhancing the performance of heterogeneous photocatalyst for water splitting”

Adrianna Sanchez, “Potential effects of climate change on plants of the high-altitude paramo, Northern Andes, Colombia”

Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Research Fund award recipients for the spring are:

Ellen Miller, “Paleontological exploration and excavation at Buluk, Kenya”

Shannon Mihalko, “Taking Health Realization into Valued Eating and Exercise (THRIVE): A feasibility study of an intervention to prevent weight gain for breast cancer survivors during chemotherapy”

To view these and other news stories from the School of Divinity, visit divinity.wfu.edu/news.
Supporting Academic Work

Provost’s Fund for Faculty Travel
Supplementary funding up to $1,000 for faculty participation at an academic conference or research-related travel approved by the department chair or dean. For more information: http://provost.wfu.edu/faculty-resources/.

Faculty-Student Lunch Program
Faculty may lunch for free with undergraduate students on the meal plan in the Fresh Food Company and Magnolia Room. Give the cashier a completed Lunch Program Coupon, which can be downloaded from the Provost’s Office website. For more information: http://provost.wfu.edu/faculty-resources/.

Faculty-Student Engagement Fund
Undergraduate faculty who host students outside of the classroom can be reimbursed up to $125 per class or $8 per student, whichever is less. For more information: http://provost.wfu.edu/faculty-resources/.

Bioethics, Heath, and Society Funding
The Center for Bioethics, Health, & Society accepts, on a rolling basis, applications for small grants (up to $1,000) to support Bioethics smaller activities and single events. Please contact Ana Iltis, iltisas@wfu.edu, or Nancy King, nmping@wakehealth.edu.

Congratulations to the Aspiring Leaders Program participants who completed their nine-month commitment to enhance their leadership skills. The program was geared toward tenured faculty members and staff with at least five years of experience. The curriculum was created for the articulated needs of its participants and included one-on-one coaching and personal leadership discussions with cabinet members.

Aspiring Leaders Program Participants

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rebecca Alexander</th>
<th>Matthew Clifford</th>
<th>Stephen Hirst</th>
<th>Alta Mauro</th>
<th>Ryan Shirey</th>
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<tr>
<td>Nathan Anderson</td>
<td>Bethany Fay</td>
<td>Alyssa Howards</td>
<td>Kelly Meachum</td>
<td>Michael Shuman</td>
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<td>Robert Atchison</td>
<td>Adam Friedman</td>
<td>Matt Imboden</td>
<td>Mary Scanlon</td>
<td>Kimberly Wieters</td>
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<td>Justin Catanoso</td>
<td>Kenny Herbst</td>
<td>Scott Klein</td>
<td>Ryan Scholl</td>
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A call for applications for the next ALP will be issued in spring 2014.
TechXploration 2013 a Great Success!

On a snowy April 4, 2013, over 160 people came to Benson 401 to see how their colleagues are using technology. The second annual faculty and staff TechXploration showcased 26 presenters and 18 on-campus departments. Faculty, staff, and students in all fields explored how technologies are leveraged to improve teaching, learning, research, engagement, and creative activity at Wake Forest and to engage in conversations that generate ideas. Faculty and staff learned from each other how technology can enhance language classes and communication with students outside the classroom; how narrative bits from social media change marketing methods; and how to most effectively use video essays and digital storytelling. Special guest and former Provost Dave Brown made a surprise visit.

Faculty and staff enjoyed the opportunity to engage with their colleagues and took away many ideas to enhance their own work. We thank everyone who attended or presented at this year’s TechXploration.

Keep your eyes open for our third annual event next spring!

Learn cool information technology!

As the spring semester ends, we welcome faculty and academic staff to enjoy any or all of the following technology classes. They are informative and engaging. You can learn more about them at the Professional Development Center website.

Classes offered in May and June include:

- Teaching Class Remotely using WebEx Training Center
- Exploring MS Word 2010
- Video Conferencing 101: An Introduction to WebEx
- MS Excel Intermediate
- Easy Webpage Design with Google Sites
- Exploring MS PowerPoint 2010
- MS Excel Functions
- MS Excel Tables and Charts
- Graphic Design Basic with CorelDraw
- MS Excel Macros
- Photo Editing Basics with Corel PaintShop
- An Introduction to Google Drive
- Just Google It

While parking is available at the University Corporate Center, attendees traveling from campus should consider the Gray Line Shuttle with drop-off and pick-up at the front doors, just a few steps from the classroom.

How Reynolda House Museum of American Art Can Support Your Courses

As you begin planning fall courses, please consider scheduling a class visit to the Fall 2013 exhibition at Reynolda House, Things Wondrous & Humble: American Still Life, August 10-December 8. Explore both traditional and unexpected approaches to the genre in works from the Reynolda collection and other renowned collections from across the state. The exhibition will explore themes of materialism, symbolism, identity-creation, taste-making, the experience of visual and sensual pleasure, and the ways that objects reflect personality, history, consumerism, sustainability, and culture.

Faculty are invited to talk with museum staff about how Reynolda’s collections, history, architecture, and archives might support courses. Contact Elizabeth Chew, Director of the Educational and Curatorial Division, at x5457 or chewev@wfu.edu, to explore ideas and to arrange a visit.

Coming in Spring 2014 from the Brooklyn Museum:

American Moderns 1910-1960:
From O’Keeffe to Rockwell

Image credits:
Severin Roesen
Flowers in a Glass Pitcher with Bird's Nest and Fruit, circa 1867
Oil on canvas, 50 3/8" x 36 1/8"
Gift of Barbara B. Millhouse 1992.2.1

William Harnett
Job Lot Cheap, 1878
Oil on canvas, 18" x 36"
Original purchase fund from the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation, Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, ARCA Foundation, and Anne Cannon Forsyth 1966.2.10
Humanities Institute **Calls for Proposals** for summer 2013 and AY 2013-2014, with forms, are posted at http://humanitiesinstitute.wfu.edu/proposal. Please note the May deadlines for several programs.

**School Leaders Initiative**

The Institute for Public Engagement’s K-12 School Leadership Initiative ends its fourth year in May 2013. It helps to enhance the leadership capacity of principals in the Winston Salem/Forsyth County public school system. A group of 24 WSFCS principals participated this year, attending a series of afternoon seminars led by Wake Forest faculty and alumni/ae. The principals read research articles exploring new leadership approaches in various fields and met in small groups to discuss their worth in real-world schools; listened to presentations by leaders in business, medicine, science, and other fields on ways to generate new ideas, build teams to implement them, and put them into play; and participated in Q&A sessions to transfer these ideas to their schools.

Former superintendent George Fleetwood (BA68), Professor of Education Joe Milner, and former WSFCS principal Ron Montaqui-la played important roles in developing and effectively implementing this fresh model of leadership. Principals were deeply engaged in the sessions and gave them high marks.

**Public Engagement Fellows**

This spring, the Institute for Public Engagement launched a new Public Engagement Fellows program to support students interested in pursuing careers in public service, public policy, or public administration. The 14 fellows in the inaugural class attended spring seminars on topics, such as citizenship, public policy, and equal justice. They receive individual mentoring to develop and implement an Individual Engagement Plan on ePortfolio that integrates their academic learning with relevant, real-world experiences. Click on links to their ePortfolio sites on the [Public Engagement Fellows Program webpage](#).

The Public Engagement Fellows Fund annually supports two innovative fellow-designed projects for up to $3,000 each. Freshman Hannah Sheffield used funds to create a sustainable community garden and healthy-eating initiative in her hometown of Biscoe, NC. Junior Le’Ron Byrd developed a research project to assess the Second Harvest Food Bank’s efforts to meet the needs of low-income families and to raise awareness on campus and beyond of hunger and food insecurity in Forsyth County. Fall opportunities to engage with communities include a trip to Washington, DC, to meet with representatives and nonprofit organizations.

Release dates of the Provost’s Newsletters for AY 2013-2014 will be announced in coming weeks. Please contact Samantha Perrotta at perrotsm@wfu.edu with comments or questions.