Dear Faculty and Staff Colleagues,

As faculty and staff at an academic institution, we are used to living our lives in “seasons” marked by the passage of semesters, manuscripts written and reviewed, classes taught, schedules built in Banner, advising groups served, students graduating, and so on. As a chemistry professor, I have cherished the opportunity to spend a season in the Dean’s Office, learning the many ways that departments cooperate to achieve our common academic goals through academic planning.

However, the rhythm of our seasons has been brutally disrupted by the coronavirus, which has made planning for summer and fall semesters especially challenging. A lot of unknowns remain, and this doesn’t sit well with any of us, let alone the planners among us.

Under these circumstances, the plan ahead is perhaps best found in the College’s academic mission statement: …The College honors the ideals of liberal learning, which encourages habits of mind that ask “why,” that evaluate evidence, that are open to new ideas, that attempt to understand and appreciate the perspectives of others, that accept complexity and grapple with it, that admit error, and that pursue truth…

So, I am revealing a little-known secret: Academic planning really just boils down to letting our mission guide us, now and in the seasons that lay ahead. Easier said than done, but I’m confident we can do it together.

- Christa Colyer
Associate Dean of Academic Planning
Academic Updates

CBOV LEADERSHIP AWARD
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
Deadline extended to May 15

It's time for nominations for the College Board of Visitors Faculty Leadership Award for the fourth consecutive year.

This award recognizes a faculty member who embraces this philosophy of academic leadership and community-building. It will celebrate a faculty member who has a proven track record of engaging their academic department and/or academic colleagues in achieving a vision that includes but extends well beyond their own department by pursuing opportunities for collaboration and innovation.

This award also recognizes leaders who embody the best qualities of academic leadership—not only managerial skills, but institutional vision and an abiding commitment to academic excellence, diversity and inclusion, classroom innovation, and commitment to students and the Wake Forest community.

The award is limited to permanent faculty (tenure track and teaching professors) working in the Undergraduate College. However, it is not limited to persons in formal leadership positions like department chair and program director.

The award recipient will receive an individual cash award as well as a donation to the recipient's academic department or program. The recipient and their department will be recognized at the Fall 2020 College Board of Visitors meeting.

Letters of nomination should detail with clear examples how the nominee embodies the role of an outstanding academic leader at Wake Forest. A copy of the nominee's CV should be submitted with the nomination letter. Past recipients of the award are ineligible, but all other nominees may be re-submitted in subsequent years.

Nominations are due to Denise Griggs, Assistant to Dean Michele Gillespie, by May 15, 2020.

DAY IN THE LIFE VIDEO

Thank you to the many faculty members who participated in the filming of our new “Day in the Life” video. The video showcases our special pedagogical mission, and in a time when we feel apart, we hope this video brings you some joy and comfort until we can gather together again.

SUMMER IN THE FOREST 2020

Registration for Summer Session 2020 is open. Please remind your students to check out our website and use WIN to register for summer classes. Students do not need a pin to self-register. WIN registration will be available through May 29, so there's no rush for those still formulating plans. Any questions about Summer Session can be directed to summer@wfu.edu.

RESOURCE FOR SUMMER SESSION FACULTY

For our Summer Session faculty, check out the Center for the Advancement of Teaching's post "Preparing Summer Course Materials" by ZSR Library's Molly Keener.
From the College

WAKE IN THE NEWS

Associate Professor of English and poet-in-residence Amy Cantazano is profiled in “The Quantum Poet” in Symmetry Magazine on April 21, 2020.

The New York Times

Professor of Sociology Catherine Harnois was quoted in the New York Times article “The Census Needs to Count Women. The Pandemic Makes That Harder” on April 21, 2020.

RECENT FACULTY RESEARCH AWARDS

Heather Brown-Harding, Assistant Director of Microscopy in Biology, received funding for “Phenotype Screens of Chlamydia Inclusions” by the National Institutes of Health.

David Carroll, Professor of Physics, received funding for “Room Temperature Quantum Memory” by the U.S. Department of Defense and Streamline Automation LLC.

Dale Dagenbach, Professor of Psychology, received funding for “Analytical Tools for Complex Brain Networks: Fusing Novel Statistical Methods and Network Science to Understand Brain Function” by the National Institutes of Health and Wake Forest University Health Sciences.

George Donati, Associate Research Professor of Chemistry, received funding for “Copper is a Host Effector in Protection Against Urinary Tract Infection” by the National Institutes of Health and Texas A&M University.

Natalie Holzwarth, Professor of Physics, received funding for “Computational Study of Solid Electrolytes” by the National Science Foundation.

Emily Huang, Assistant Professor of Mathematics and Statistics, received funding for “Integrating Lifecourse Approaches, Biologic, and Digital Phenotypes in support of Heart and Lung Disease Epidemiologic Research” by the National Institutes of Health and Harvard University.

Ana Iltis, Professor of Philosophy, has received funding for “Identifying and Exploring Solutions to the Ethical Challenges of APOL1 Testing of Donors” by the National Institutes of Health and Washington University.

Gary Miller, Professor of Health and Exercise Science, received funding for “Enhancing Undergraduate Education and Research in Agin to Eliminate Health Disparities (EN-GAGED)” by the National Institutes of Health and Wake Forest University Health Sciences.

Jack Rejeski, Research Professor of Health and Exercise Science, received funding for “Molecular Transducers of Physical Activity Consortium Coordinating Center (CCC)” by the National Institutes of Health and University of Florida.

COLLEGE COVID COMMUNICATIONS ARCHIVE

Don’t want to search in your inbox for an update you received about COVID-related topics from the Office of the Dean of the College? Now you can find all the communications from our office on the College’s COVID-19 Communications website.
CELEBRATE THE CLASS OF 2020

A virtual Commencement is planned on May 18 (the University will be announcing more information soon), but many departments and programs within the College have reached out about how they can celebrate their graduating seniors.

You may consider setting up a special Zoom call with all majors/minors after the prerecorded conferring of degrees. You can add your date/time to the Spring 2020 Virtual Department Celebrations to coordinate a time that doesn't conflict with other departments.

You could also produce a departmental/program video message for the Class of 2020 — like this 2020 Dance Co. Senior Film — or you may submit it to Mary K. Birch in CER by 5 p.m. on April 29. Excerpts could then become a part of the virtual conferring of degrees and be shared on social media.

WELCOMING THE CLASS OF 2024

Wake Forest students have been sending in videos to the Admissions office to welcome the Class of 2024, including this video from Student Government President Miles Middleton and other SG officers.

If you are missing our students, we encourage you to watch some of these videos to see what memories they are sharing with our future Deacs!

SUBMIT SPRING AWARDS FOR FINAL DIGEST

Submit awards, accomplishments, a message, a recording, or video clip to ODOC for inclusion in a special Dean's Office Digest celebrating our students (that will go to all undergraduate students in addition to the regular Digest recipients) and faculty on May 11. Please send items to Bethany Leggett by Tuesday, May 5, at 5 p.m.

MESA ANNOUNCES AWARDS

The Middle East and South Asia Studies Spring newsletter will recognize MESA honors and announce the Arabic & Hindi-Urdu student awards. View the newsletter here.
COLLEGE STAFF APPRECIATION

The Dean’s Office hosted College administrative assistants, coordinators, and staff members for a virtual check-in via Zoom on Wednesday, April 22, which coincided with Administrative Professionals’ Day. It was wonderful to “see” everyone. Thank you for keeping our departments and programs operational!

SPOTLIGHT: FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR TATIANA OSTWALT

Thanks to the Department of German and Russian for posting these pictures of ’18 grad and former OAA administrative assistant Tatiana Ostwalt in Kazakhstan on her Fulbright scholarship earlier this semester.

WAKE THE ARTS

Assistant Professor of Music Elizabeth Clendinning leads Wake Forest’s Gamelan ensemble @gamelangirimurti in a social distancing kecak.

What are you doing to stay creative? Follow @ wakethearts on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter to see how Wake Foresters are inspiring each other through creativity. You can submit your videos and photos here.
Dean's Office Digest | April 27, 2020

From Rick Matthews, Director of Academic and Instructional Technology. For other tips and tutorials, visit the Instructional Technology Group site or contact your instructional technologist. This tech tip comes from Instructional Technologist Suzanne Thompson.

Tip: SIMPLEST WAY TO CREATE A LECTURE VIDEO?

If you have delivered a lecture using PowerPoint, you are only steps away from creating online lecture videos. Learn how at Narrate a PowerPoint, Export as Video, Share in Google Drive or YouTube.
HI SUMMER WRITING GRANT PROPOSALS
Deadline: Thursday, April 30

Each summer the Humanities Institute funds up to four $4,000 competitive Summer Writing Grants for university faculty working in the humanities to complete or make significant progress on a manuscript for a monograph that is either under contract or in which a publisher has indicated written interest. Applications are open to all full-time faculty, with priority for two of the grants given to proposals submitted by tenure-track humanities faculty working on a first monograph. Please feel free to contact Dean Franco, HI Director, or Aimee Mepham, HI Assistant Director, with questions.

The deadline for Summer 2020 grants is April 30, 2020.

Click here for the online Summer Writing Grant Proposal Form, including application instructions.

SHORT-TERM SUMMER WRITING GRANTS
Proposals accepted May 1 to June 15

In the context of the current quarantine and travel restrictions, the Humanities Institute will also offer short-term, $500 summer writing grants to support faculty’s academic explorations of the many dimensions of the pandemic. These grants are in addition to our continuing Summer Writing Grant awards (described on the left) which you can find in our summer call for proposals here.

We invite all faculty to explore how their humanities-based disciplinary and/or methodological expertise can illuminate current events, in short essays of about 1,500 words. Essays should be original and previously unpublished. They should be academic and accessible to an audience of peers across campus. The Humanities Institute will feature completed and appropriate essays on our website, and faculty who anticipate publishing their contributions in other venues or formats are encouraged to do so. Possible topics include but are not limited to: trauma and loss, disease and its histories, narrative medicine, proximity and alienation, the changing university, equity and accountability, and more.

To apply, email Humanities Institute director Dean Franco a brief paragraph-length proposal, along with a few lines indicating how your essay relates to your academic preparation.

We will receive proposals on a rolling basis, any time between May 1st and June 15th.

HUMANITIES INSTITUTE CALL FOR PROPOSALS, SUMMER 2020 AND AY2020-2021

The Humanities Institute Call for Proposals for scholarly and co-curricular projects for the 2020-2021 Academic Year is linked below. Current CFPs and programming information are available year round on the Humanities Institute website: humanitiesinstitute.wfu.edu under “Faculty Resources.”

Priority consideration will be given to proposals received by May 15, 2020, after which proposals will be considered on a rolling basis as funding allows.

Click here for the AY 2020-2021 CFP.
Click here for a list of Proposal Forms.

The deadline to submit proposals for the Summer 2020 semester is May 15, 2020 (this deadline is for all summer programs except for the Summer Writing Grants mentioned above — that deadline is April 30).

Click here for the Summer 2020 CFP.
Click here for a list of Proposal Forms.

Please visit the Humanities Institute website for more information. You are also welcome to contact Dean Franco, HI Director, or Aimee Mepham, HI Assistant Director, with questions.
We invite you to propose a Liberal Arts Studies course for AY2020-2021, Fall 2020, or semesters thereafter. Proposals are welcome from all fields in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, and from all schools in the university.

During fall and spring semesters, the courses meet one evening a week (usually 6 to 8:30 p.m.) for 15 weeks. In Summer I and II, courses meet two evenings a week for a 5-week term. Classes are held at WFU’s historic Brookstown Campus. All courses are interdisciplinary seminars that address topics not normally included in a departmentally-based graduate program. Their purpose is not to form specialists in a particular field, but to nurture integrative thinking that explores issues across fields. They have no prerequisites and are intentional in engaging contemporary issues.

Click here to propose a course. For more information on the program, please visit https://continuingstudies.wfu.edu/liberal-arts-studies/ or contact Dr. Thomas E. Frank, Program Director, or April Strader Bullin, Program Assistant.

Humanities Institute

ONLINE NARRATIVE MEDICINE
LUNCH & LEARN
Friday, May 1, Noon, Zoom

Narrative Medicine: Lunch & Learn is a monthly, informal workshop group to introduce any interested Wake Forest students, staff, and faculty, as well as members of the Winston-Salem community, to the principles of narrative medicine. Workshops focus on close reading and reflective writing. This program is sponsored by the Story, Health, & Healing Initiative, a division of the Wake Forest University Humanities Institute that provides programming in Narrative Medicine.

During this period of quarantine, we have begun hosting the Narrative Medicine Lunch & Learn program online through Zoom. Meetings take place every other week.

Please join our next session at noon on Friday, May 1. If you are interested in joining, please contact Aimee Mepham, HI Assistant Director and initiative co-chair, for the Zoom link, login, and password.

The reading for this session will be “The Final Frontier” by Michael Chabon. Click here to access the reading, and please be prepared to discuss this piece if you plan to join us on May 1st.

As always, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Aimee Mepham.

Humanities Hub

HUMANITIES HUB

Like you, we at the Humanities Institute are missing the contact with friends and colleagues — not only the intellectual collaborations and intense critical conversations, but the banter and laughter and fresh ideas we get from being around one another. In that spirit, we invite you to visit a new feature on our website, Humanities Hub: Coping with Quarantine. If you click the link, you’ll see we’ve posed some questions about how, in your own unique way, you are coping under stressful, tragic, and very weird circumstances.

Answer as many of the questions as you would like and send them to Aimee Mepham, HI Assistant Director, in any format that appeals to you. We’ll select, edit, and post responses weekly on our website so that you can learn about what your colleagues are up to. We’ll also share them on our Facebook page and Twitter feed (don’t forget to like/follow us). The first three responses by Omaar Hena (Associate Professor of English), Dean Franco (HI Director and Professor of English) and Aimee Mepham (HI Assistant Director) were posted on April 21st. Click here to read them.

Liberal Arts Studies

CALL FOR COURSE PROPOSALS

We invite you to propose a Liberal Arts Studies course for AY2020-2021, Fall 2020, or semesters thereafter. Proposals are welcome from all fields in the humanities, social sciences, and natural sciences, and from all schools in the university.

During fall and spring semesters, the courses meet one evening a week (usually 6 to 8:30 p.m.) for 15 weeks. In Summer I and II, courses meet two evenings a week for a 5-week term. Classes are held at WFU’s historic Brookstown Campus. All courses are interdisciplinary seminars that address topics not normally included in a departmentally-based graduate program. Their purpose is not to form specialists in a particular field, but to nurture integrative thinking that explores issues across fields. They have no prerequisites and are intentional in engaging contemporary issues.