**Hats off to the class of 2019!**

**MAY 30, 2019** As part of a nationally televised commencement feature, NBC showcased the joyous moment when Wake Forest graduates tossed their caps into the air to celebrate their accomplishments.

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**Grads urged to seek truth, find time for reflection**

**MAY 20, 2019** Fred Ryan, the CEO and publisher of The Washington Post, put the "search for truth" at the heart of a Wake Forest education that teaches grads to not settle for the obvious answer or follow the easiest path. "Embrace your role as a seeker and steward of the truth," he advised. He credited a Wake Forest education with being special, in part because it encouraged students to "relentlessly seek and discover."

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**WF Baptist, Atrium Health to create Charlotte medical school**

**APRIL 10, 2019** Wake Forest Baptist Health, Wake Forest University and Atrium Health are exploring a partnership that could lead to a four-year medical school in Charlotte that would bear the Wake Forest School of Medicine name. "By strengthening medical education in Winston-Salem and bringing a medical school to Charlotte, we will open many doors for future health-care leaders and also play a nationally leading role in research," Wake Forest President Nathan O. Hatch said.

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**Selected Media Highlights**

**APRIL – JUNE 2019**

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How successful are the marriages of people with divorced parents

MAY 30, 2019 After a failed marriage, fathers are less likely to be present in their kids’ lives. Census data show that legal custody is granted to women in 83% of cases. Wake Forest professor Linda Nielsen, who studies father-daughter relationships, has found that the reduced presence of a father tends to harm girls’ marriages.

Spiders avoid foods that leave a bad taste

APRIL 19, 2019 According to new research by a team of Wake Forest sensory neuroscientists, including C.J. “Jake” Saunders, spiders react to irritating chemicals in a similar way to mammals, including humans. Mice, when exposed to similar irritants, will immediately start trying to remove the chemical. “And the spiders do the same exact same behavior, just times eight,” said Saunders. The research could help further our understanding of human pain receptors, and aid in the development of drug treatments and molecular medicine.

Did Mueller’s report expose a weakness in our political system?

MAY 1, 2019 “The danger of the special prosecutor is that everyone becomes very focused on whether criminal wrongdoing occurred,” said politics professor Katy Harriger, author of “The Special Prosecutor in American Politics.” That criminal framework can be hard to translate into a political context — especially if the findings are related to the president and ambiguous from a legal perspective. She was also quoted in *The Atlantic* and *Time* magazine.

Radicalization among Sri Lanka’s Muslims was slow and steady

APRIL 24, 2019 If the attacks on Christian churches on Easter Sunday in Sri Lanka were carried out by a purely local Sri Lankan group, the attackers would have sought revenge against the Buddhist community for ultranationalist mob attacks on Muslims over the years and not churches or hotels, said Wake Forest politics and international affairs professor Neil Devotta, who has written extensively about Muslims in Sri Lanka. He was interviewed by several other outlets, including WHYY in Philadelphia.

Avoiding another Iraq in Iran

MAY 20, 2019 William Walldorf, associate professor of politics and international affairs at Wake Forest, co-authored a piece about rising tensions between the United States and Iran. From Korea, Vietnam, and El Salvador during the Cold War, to Afghanistan and Iraq in the 2000s, hawkish advisors have often goaded U.S. presidents into wars to either overturn or prop up foreign governments. “There is still an off-ramp, but the longer this goes on without movement toward a negotiated agreement, the more roadblocks there will be.”
A small bird is pushing the limits of muscle performance

MAY 17, 2019 Biology professor Matthew Fuxjager and his research team explore how Golden Manakins may be more likely to pass on genes with faster muscle movements. "To find a mate, a male manakin has to dance with a number of acrobatic maneuvers. One is the roll-snap. It's produced by clapping the wings together nearly 60 times per second, much faster than most bird muscles," he said. "We wondered if mating dances act like a secret code."

Fuxjager’s research was also featured by The Academic Minute.

Wake Forest receives Silver Anvil Award for C2C

JUNE 9, 2019 The nation’s leading professional organization serving the communications community presented Wake Forest University with a Silver Anvil Award at a ceremony in New York City. Wake Forest won the award in recognition of its Call to Conversation program, which began in 2017 and has become an international movement to spark more meaningful conversations. Participants in the program gather in small groups to share a meal, discuss a single timely topic, and form relationships based on empathy and mutual respect.

Insurance experts rank climate change as top risk for 2019

MAY 3, 2019 It’s no secret that climate change comes at a cost. When actuaries correctly measure and manage climate risks, however, they can help nudge societies towards better choices, according to Wake Forest statistics professor Robert Erhardt. “Actuaries are recognizing not only the magnitude of rising climate-related risks but, more importantly, that they can play a positive role in helping society actively manage those risks.”

No end in sight for the superhero

MAY 3, 2019 Despite the ups and downs in the box office, Wake Forest director of film studies Woody Hood says the superhero will never die – they change and grow as society evolves. Hood traces the roots of the modern-day superhero back to ancient mythology. “It actually goes back to our ancient epic sagas,” said Hood. “It’s sort of our contemporary version of the great myths of ‘Iliad’ and ‘Odyssey.’” Hood has been researching defenders of the universe and their villainous alter egos for decades.

Creative Genius: Susan Harlan, author of Decorating a Room of One’s Own

APRIL 24, 2019 HGTV talked with Wake Forest English professor Susan Harlan about her book, “Decorating a Room of One’s Own”. In the book, she “interviews” literary characters about their decorating choices. From their proudest DIYs to their important influences and plans for the future, Harlan gives us a peek into the house secrets of literature’s rich and famous—and infamous.
GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Walton named dean of WFU divinity school

MAY 9, 2019 Newly named Dean of the School of Divinity, Jonathan L. Walton, said: “Wake Forest University’s motto, Pro Humanitate (For Humanity), captures my commitment to theological education. Research and teaching are not simply ‘academic exercises’ for me. The pursuit of knowledge is a sacred task insofar as we are called to better the lives of others, particularly the most vulnerable. I am excited to serve a divinity school with such a clear intellectual vision, concrete vocational mission, and demonstrated commitment to diversity.”

The New York Times

Australia faces ‘world-first’ climate change human rights case

MAY 12, 2019 In a landmark claim submitted at the United Nations, eight Torres Strait Indigenous Australians argue that Australia, by failing to take adequate steps to reduce carbon emissions, has violated their fundamental human rights, including the right to maintain their culture. If successful, the case “would really break new ground internationally,” said John Knox, professor of international law at Wake Forest and a former special rapporteur on human rights and the environment to the UN.

Marin Independent Journal

Americans are embracing new ways to leave their remains

MAY 6, 2019 Law professor Tanya Marsh writes about evolving thoughts and preferences for funeral arrangements. “I’ve discovered that Americans are becoming more willing to have a conversation about their own mortality and what comes next and embrace new funeral and burial practices. Baby boomers are insisting upon more control over their funeral and disposition so that their choices after death match their values in life.”

Winston-Salem Journal

Dave & Buster’s opens; site aims to draw new customers to Hanes Mall

MAY 12, 2019 Mall operators and store owners are hoping the newly opened Dave & Buster’s will revitalize Hanes Mall, which has lost several chain and anchor tenants to bankruptcy and closing. Dave & Buster’s represents an intriguing mall anchor in that it “is positioned around multiple features, it provides a unique destination option for consumers that might not normally be planning a trip to the mall,” said Roger Beahm, executive director of the Center for Retail Innovation.

Benzinga

WFU makes list of top 25 undergrad marketing schools in the U.S. in 2019

APRIL 25, 2019 Wake Forest made Benzinga’s list of top U.S. undergraduate marketing schools for 2019, according to a new report from DesignRush. Benzinga writes: “Wake Forest University is a highly-selective school with an equally regarded marketing and communications program. Wake Forest places a strong emphasis on digital media – including social platforms, video, and more – which familiarizes students with the ever-changing marketing landscape.”
Climate change could destroy his home in Peru. So he sued an energy company

APRIL 9, 2019 This interactive feature story explored how local communities are taking the world’s largest polluters to court and using the legal strategy that got tobacco companies to pay up. Legal systems have long struggled with the best way to respond when individuals have been harmed by others. Wake Forest law professor Jonathan Cardi is quoted on the history of and the challenges facing the single injury claim.

Examining transgender civil rights

APRIL 16, 2019 Law professor Marie-Amélie George, who specializes in LGBTQ rights, discussed civil rights related to transgender people. George said that in order to have meaningful conversations about gender and transgender civil rights, we need to understand that the concept of gender is greater than what we see when we look at others. “We need to get beyond this fixed idea that everyone fits into the neat boxes.”

Q&A: Jane Aiken, dean of Wake Forest School of Law

MAY 2, 2019 Jane Aiken, new dean of the School of Law discussed her background, her philosophy and her vision in this Q&A. In response to a question on her plans as dean, she responded: “Wake already has this incredible commitment to ethics and values. We need to educate lawyers to be good stewards of our system and advise clients with a sense of focus, values and integrity. Those are things human beings offer that artificial intelligence will never give us.”

Law professor weighs in on hog farm suit

MAY 6, 2019 The Fourth Circuit heard from an environmental group and law professors that a North Carolina pork producer cannot dodge punitive damages that are part of a $3.25 million judgment over hog farm odors just because the company complied with a “weak” regulatory scheme. Wake Forest University School of Law professor Steven M. Virgil represented the law professors and spoke on their behalf, standing with environment group, Waterkeeper Alliance, in their support of the suit.

Ownership of electronic health information must be addressed

MAY 2, 2019 Clarifying legal rights of patient control over electronic health records could be the key to making the best use of the huge amount of electronic medical information that will be created in the next few years, according to a national commentary co-authored by law professor Mark Hall. “This impending legal issue must be addressed very soon if we are to both protect patients’ interests in their medical information and ensure that new information systems are put to their best uses.”
AROUND CAMPUS

Wake forms group to look at campus culture

MAY 14, 2019 President Nathan Hatch announced the formation of the President’s Commission on Race, Equity and Community. It will be comprised of students, faculty, staff and community members and will meet monthly. The university is also taking other steps to improve race, equality and inclusion. “I believe we need to be authentic and honest about our past, including our relationship to slavery and segregation,” Hatch said. “Facing these realities, however sobering, is essential if we are to build a genuinely pluralistic community moving forward.”

Karly Billips’ socks a big hit at Wake ‘N Shake

APRIL 26, 2019 At Wake ‘N Shake, the student-organized dance marathon to raise money for cancer research, many WFU students, staff and faculty participants wore socks inspired by Karly Billips, a cancer survivor and senior at Northwest Guilford High School. Billips’ socks, emblazoned with sunshine, sunflowers and the phrase “Walking on Sunshine,” were created by Resilience Gives, a for-profit social enterprise founded by Jake Teitelbaum, a WFU alumnus and survivor of Refractory Hodgkin’s Lymphoma.

Miller delivers WFU’s Poteat lecture

APRIL 5, 2019 Ellen Miller, a biological anthropologist specializing in paleoanthropology, delivered the University’s Poteat Lecture this spring. The lecture, named in honor of Latin professor Hubert McNeill Poteat, recognizes and celebrates the achievements of Wake Forest faculty. Her talk, “Decoding Messages from the Past,” focused on the fossil record for human and primate evolution and explored how these ancient discoveries are evolutionary clues that help explain who we are today.

WFU names Eric Maguire vice president for enrollment

APRIL 18, 2019 Wake Forest University has appointed Eric Maguire as vice president for enrollment. Maguire is a first-generation college student known for his success in recruiting highly talented undergraduates, prioritizing academic excellence and increasing socioeconomic, racial and ethnic diversity. “Eric Maguire is a national thought leader in higher education enrollment who will bring creativity and strategic vision to this important role,” said President Nathan O. Hatch.
AROUND CAMPUS

Congratulations, graduates!

MAY 20, 2019

Nearly 2,000 graduates and their friends and family members filled Hearn Plaza on Monday, May 20, for Wake Forest’s 2019 Commencement ceremony. Cloud cover and a light breeze in the early morning gave way to warm temperatures and bright sun for the nearly 11,000 attending the celebration.

#WFUGrad by the numbers

MAY 20, 2019

Thousands of well wishes, congratulatory messages and photos were posted to social media on commencement day using the hashtag #WFUGrad. In all, there were 2,076 #WFUGrad tweets which had a potential reach of 7.4 million people and the hashtag trended nationally. Wake Forest’s own social posts across Facebook, Instagram and Twitter combined for over 30,000 engagements and more than 726,000 impressions. This year’s commencement highlights video is the University’s most watched with more than 58,000 views across social networks. The 2019 video, which was created in nine hours, had 16,000 more views than 2018’s version.

OPCD wins award for ‘Diversity matters’

APRIL 8, 2019

The National Association of Colleges and Employers has recognized WFU’s Office of Personal and Career Development with its “Diversity and Inclusion Excellence Award.” OPCD’s Diversity Matters program reverses the trend where students who self-identify as ethnic minorities, first generation, LGBTQ, women, or those with disabilities tend to be less inclined to participate in career development opportunities. The OPCD team partners with employers who have diversity hiring initiatives – educating these students about the skill sets needed and opportunities available within today’s marketplace.

Wellbeing Center celebrates first anniversary

APRIL 23, 2019

The grand opening of the renovated Wake Forest Wellbeing Center was held in 2018. A year later, the building is thriving and so is campus rec. “We wanted to focus on not only being fitness and recreation, but rather focus on the holistic well-being of all individuals and thought there was a need,” said Joe Cassidy, the executive director of campus fitness and recreation. Leadership gifts through the Wake Will Lead campaign made the transformation of Reynolds Gym possible.
How improv dance helps people with memory loss

MAY 21, 2019 People with memory loss fall more often and tend to be more socially isolated. Researchers at Wake Forest and WFU School of Medicine are finding that improvisational dance can help. Christina Soriano, director of dance and associate provost for the arts and interdisciplinary programs, leads improvisational dance classes for aging adults and adults with neurodegenerative disorders. “The dance studio is a brilliant place to practice living. What we’re practicing is change and that is something that, as we age, becomes harder to do.”

WFU honors alumni

MAY 3, 2019 Wake Forest presented its 2019 Distinguished Alumni Awards to Buck Cochran (’82), former U.S. Rep. Donna F. Edwards (’80) and Anil Rai Gupta (MBA ’92, LL.D. ’17). Cochran is executive director of Peacehaven Community Farm. Edwards became the first African-American woman to represent Maryland in Congress, after a special election in June 2008. Gupta is chairman and managing director of Havells India Limited, one of India’s largest electrical equipment companies.

10 med schools that often admit liberal arts majors

MAY 8, 2019 One common misconception about becoming a doctor is the idea that you must major in science to qualify for medical school. However, experts say that as long as aspiring physicians fulfill all of the medical school admissions requirements where they apply, their college major does not matter. Wake Forest is included in this list of 10 institutions in the U.S. News Best Medical Schools rankings where humanities and social sciences majors were best represented among incoming students in fall 2018.

Facebook accessed users’ email contact list

APRIL 18, 2019 Communication professor Ananda Mitra said our data and online trails are valuable: “Every one of us is now currency.” In light of recent news of Facebook accessing users’ email contact lists without permission, Mitra recommended users protect themselves online and change passwords frequently: “You’re living in a much, much larger space, and you’re not even locking your door.”

WFU alum named associate dean

MAY 30, 2019 Wake Forest alumnus Ashley Hairston has been named the university’s associate dean for academic advising and university associate professor. Hairston will lead the Office of Academic Advising within the Office of the Dean of the College. He attended Wake Forest on a Nancy Susan Reynolds scholarship and graduated with a BA in English and politics. He served two terms on the College Board of Visitors from 2001-2008.
WFU names its Fulbright scholars

MAY 16, 2019 Six members of Wake Forest’s class of 2019 and one member of the class of 2018 have been awarded grants from the Fulbright U.S. Student Program. The Fulbright program offers research study and teaching opportunities in more than 140 countries to recent graduates and graduate students. Recipients of Fulbright awards are selected on the basis of academic and professional achievement as well as record of service and demonstrated leadership in their respective fields.

Meet 2019 RBSI Scholar, Josh Nnaji

MAY 13, 2019 Wake Forest junior, Josh Nnaji, has been named a 2019 Ralph Bunche Summer Institute (RBSI) Scholar. Nnaji is one of only fifteen students from across the U.S. who will participate in the intensive five-week program held at Duke University this summer, directed by the American Political Science Association (APSA). Nnaji is majoring in politics and international affairs with a minor in sociology. He is interested in studying race and public policy in America, and he plans to pursue a PhD in public policy after graduation.

College student invents ‘Resilience Bra’ after mom has mastectomy

JUNE 8, 2019 Leah Wyrick, a Wake Forest freshman and native of Salisbury, designed the Resilience Bra after her mother, Nancy Wyrick, was diagnosed with breast cancer in August 2016. The bra helps patients reduce the risk of postsurgical complications. Wyrick is a part of the StartUp Lab in Wake Forest’s Entrepreneurship Center, which has helped her take the Resilience Bra to the next level.

21 and done: RiverRun 2019 wraps

APRIL 18, 2019 One of the RiverRun International Film Festival’s most popular events, the RiverRun Pitch Fest, celebrated its eighth anniversary this year, as college students from across the state pitched their ideas for documentary film projects to a panel of judges. Wake Forest University MFA students Bridget Fitzgerald and Dustin Foote won second place in this event, directing the submission, “Alchemy.”

WFU students named Goldwater scholars

MAY 16, 2019 Three Wake Forest students have been named Goldwater Scholars. Robert Bradford, a junior physics major from Huntsville, Ala.; Noah Meyer a sophomore physics and applied mathematics major from Dayton, Ohio; and Fernando Rigal, a sophomore physics and applied mathematics major from Hialeah, Fla., were named 2019-20 Goldwater Scholars. The students were chosen from a pool of 1,200 natural science, engineering and mathematics students who were nominated by 443 academic institutions.
Cornhole with a scientist: Drones

MAY 21, 2019 Wake Forest’s Max Messinger talked about how drones help detect changes in the environment as he shows off his skills in a “Cornhole with a Scientist” segment for NC Science Now. The short video series uses an entertaining approach to pique viewer interest in the important work scientists are doing in North Carolina. Messinger is director of the University’s Unmanned Systems Lab. His expertise has contributed to research findings from Peru to Pilot Mountain.

Why sea urchins stress out

MAY 30, 2019 It’s not the length of time an urchin is held in a tank that is stressful for the sea creature, it’s being picked up. Handling and tagging an urchin for research can impair its ability to avoid predators. “When an animal is on its back, it’s most vulnerable and has a harder time fleeing or fighting,” explained Wake Forest biology professor Miriam Ashley-Ross, whose lab has researched righting behavior in tarantulas.

After a mass shooting, what does healing look like?

JUNE 7, 2019 With a series of mass shootings in the United States over the past few years, and after decades of armed conflict in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, health professionals say there has been a very important focus on those suffering from the physical and mental darts of post-traumatic stress disorder. “Individuals, those directly as well as indirectly involved, need to mourn, and they especially need to participate in shared, community-based events,” said counseling professor Samuel Gladding.

The 18 questions to ask in an informational interview

MAY 9, 2019 Informational interviews can be beneficial in building contacts, uncovering hidden job markets and learning about the hiring process. Heidi Robinson, WFU director of career education and training, contributed to this list of questions for candidates to ask at the conclusion of an informational interview. An upcoming graduate should get ready to have multiple informational interviews per week if they’re serious about landing a job, she said. Robinson also contributed to a piece on “How to find and land an entry level job after college” with Ladders.

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This animal has the biggest ears on Earth (relative to size)

APRIL 12, 2019 From bugs to elephants, many animals have evolved large ears as adaptations to hot environments or strategies for finding food. Some bats have huge ears that have little to do with echolocation. Most echolocation is at a very high frequency, and large ears amplify more low-frequency sounds, like rustling prey, said Aaron Corcoran, a National Geographic Explorer and research assistant professor at Wake Forest.
Performance Today
APRIL 18, 2019
Wake Forest University music professor Dan Locklair’s Symphony No. 2 "America" was featured on a recent broadcast of American Public Media’s "Performance Today." The show is broadcast on more than 280 public radio stations around the country.

2019 Small Business Owner Survey
APRIL 22, 2019
During National Small Business Week, it’s important to learn about the areas in which small businesses struggle – including with high credit card processing fees. "Shop around and use your leverage," said Daniel Cohen, executive director of the Center for Entrepreneurship at Wake Forest. "You have nothing to lose. Also, experiment with accepting other forms of payment. My advice is to generate multiple ways that customers can pay you. These costs ultimately get passed down to customers anyway."

China and the United States face off in Djibouti as the world powers fight for influence in Africa
MAY 27, 2019
In 2017, China’s People Liberation Army (PLA) opened its first overseas base in Djibouti. Though China’s move has caused concern among U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) officials, some experts question whether that fear is warranted. Wake Forest China-Africa relations expert Lina Benabdallah said the Chinese base has riled the US because of a growing rhetoric of fear. "The lack of trust between Washington and Beijing is really spreading, and it’s taken a global dimension."

The key to being more confident is in what you tell yourself
APRIL 29, 2019
A list of tips on building self-confidence references a Wake Forest study by professor of psychology William Fleeson. " Pretending to act differently than you feel can actually change your emotion," said Dr. Valerie Young, citing the study that asked people to act like extroverts, finding that the more assertive and energetic the students feigned to be, the happier they felt.

Lectures in history: The Cold War in American photography
APRIL 6, 2019
John Curley, professor of art history at Wake Forest University, teaches a class on how the Cold War both influenced and was influenced by photography, that is featured on C-SPAN’s "Lectures in History." Curley talks about the perceived documentary nature of photography and how this idea was manipulated during the Cold War.
Interview with Wake Forest athletics director John Currie

MAY 6, 2019 John Currie has been on a media blitz to demonstrate his excitement to return to Wake Forest and communicate about his mission and optimism for the future of the program. “We’re going to continue to build what we believe can be a model intercollegiate athletics program,” he said. “When people ask ‘who does it the best and who does it the most efficiently and with the highest level of integrity and performance,’ Wake Forest should be the answer.”

With stronger foundation, Wake Forest pushes for another step forward

MAY 14, 2019 Wake Forest football will be aiming for a fourth consecutive bowl trip and a fourth consecutive bowl victory during the 2019 season. Head coach Dave Clawson has positioned the Deacons as a team continually on the rise. This fall’s home schedule features home games against each of Wake Forest’s traditional opponents Duke, North Carolina and NC State for the first time since 1921.