

WAKE FOREST IN THE NEWS

Selected Media Highlights

JUNE – AUGUST 2019

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WINSTON-SALEM
JOURNAL



WFU engineering emphasizes inclusivity

JUNE 22, 2019 As its first group of engineering students declared their major this year, Wake Forest University achieved something that few, if any, programs have anywhere – a student body that more accurately represents the U.S. population. “Engineering exists to help people, to make processes more practical and user-friendly. To do that, our engineers have to come from a variety of backgrounds,” said engineering chair Olga Pierrakos.



New PBS and Smithsonian Channel film features WFU anthropologist

JUNE 19, 2019 In the new film “When Whales Walked: Journeys in Deep Time,” Leakey Foundation grantee and Wake Forest anthropology professor Ellen Miller stands on a rocky hillside in northern Kenya carefully uncovering 16-million-year-old fossil elephant teeth. Miller is among several scientists from around the world featured in the two-hour film, created in a first-ever partnership between PBS and Smithsonian Channel.

Forbes



Admission deans share tips for college applications

JULY 30, 2019 Some students will undoubtedly procrastinate until just days or hours before their first application deadline. To avoid being overwhelmed by college applications or submitting shoddy work, plan ahead. “What we see repeated most often is a failure to take one’s time on the application,” said Arron Marlowe-Rogers, associate dean of undergraduate admissions. “The Common Application and all of the supplements for individual colleges are in no way meant to be completed in one sitting.”



Social media, crafters, gamers and the online censorship debate

JULY 12, 2019 Some groups online are choosing to exclude voices they deem to be extreme, which has brought up a heated debate about big tech, censorship and whether banning those with differing opinions actually helps or hurts matters. “It was once shared with me that intolerance of intolerance is intolerance,” said counseling professor Nathaniel Ivers. “We often think of intolerance as an inherently negative thing; however, there are instances in which communities, groups and organizations are justified in establishing zero-tolerance clauses for certain behaviors and ideologies.”



Pompeo slams Tehran after tanker attacks

JUNE 13, 2019 “Iran appears to be really flexing its muscles here, trying to demonstrate that it is not going to simply roll over and capitulate to U.S. pressure by demonstrating its capacity and willingness to threaten a critical resource – oil – to the United States,” said politics professor Will Walldorf. “This is Iran hitting back a bit and, in doing so, gambling on the fact that they think President Trump will not be able to fight or does not want another war in the Middle East.”



The ‘light triad’ that can make you a good person

JUNE 24, 2019 The “dark triad” makes us more creative but it turns out there is an opposite, the “light triad.” Psychology professor William Fleeson said the three traits that make up the “light triad” fit well into existing research on what makes someone a good person. In particular, believing that other people are good seems to be key. “The more one believes that others are good, the less one feels the need to protect against them, the less one feels the need to punish them.”



Helping students with test anxiety

JUNE 24, 2019 A 30-year review of test anxiety showed that test anxiety is correlated with negative educational outcomes and that the effects were strongest in the middle grades. “We, as a culture, often think of tests as something you should be anxious about,” said Wake Forest psychology professor Shannon Brady. “We also believe that anxiety is likely to hurt you.” The goal should be to manage stress, and not simply reduce it, and for both children and adults rethinking stress can be very helpful.



Subtle messages in children's TV can backfire

JULY 1, 2019 Marina Krcmar of Wake Forest and Drew Cingel of UC Davis co-authored a study that found that children's television often contains moral lessons and examples of inclusiveness, but children may struggle to comprehend and transfer those lessons. Krcmar and Cingel recommend that children's programs contain inserts with brief but explicit explanations or discussions of the lessons presented in the show.



It's not just fires. Your phone is also destroying the Amazon

AUG. 31, 2019 To boycott all of the products damaging the Amazon, you'd have to toss out your phone, laptop, wedding band and anything else with gold in it. "There's no way to get the gold out without destroying the forest. The more acres you cut down, the more gold you get. It's directly proportional," said Miles Silman, cofounder of Wake Forest University's Center for Amazonian Scientific Innovation (CINICIA). Fueling that demand is not just the world's appetite for gold bars and jewelry — the largest categories for which gold is used — but also high tech.



5 things to watch for in the Democratic debates

JUNE 25, 2019 The lower-polling, lesser-known candidates must seize the opportunity to introduce their platforms to a national audience. "It'll be, 'Here's who I am, I'm introducing myself,' because most people don't know some of these candidates and most people aren't tuned in this early," said communication professor and presidential debate expert Allan Loudon. "Their personality, their point of view seeps through," he said. "So, these debates have value in terms of information, even if it's not about what the person said."



What are the US's intentions in Africa?

AUG. 1, 2019 The appointment of American ambassadors to African capitals has moved ahead at a glacial pace over the past two years, with some high-profile posts remaining unfilled since President Trump ordered that politically appointed ambassadors around the world step aside following his inauguration in 2017. Analysts say, in contrast, China has sent senior foreign officials to African countries. "In South Africa, China has a highly-ranked diplomat — that shows it really matters to Beijing," said Lina Benabdallah, an expert in China-Africa relations at Wake Forest.



"There is a problem with the Peruvian party system"

JUNE 28, 2019 Politics and international affairs expert Peter Siavelis was invited to consult on reforms to the Peruvian constitution and gave a presentation to members of congress. Siavelis told Peru's "Radio Nacional" that "almost everyone" agrees that there is a problem with the Peruvian party system. He said he perceived that the people in the country agree that reforms are necessary, and internal democracy is central to strengthen the parties in general in Peru.

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

The New York Times



Flint water prosecutors drop criminal charges, with plans to keep investigating

JUNE 13, 2019 Ronald F. Wright, a criminal law professor at Wake Forest, said it was not uncommon for newly elected prosecutors to drop cases brought by their predecessors. But it was far more unusual for them to suggest that they might file new charges. “You inherit the file, you start looking through it, and the deeper you get in the file, the more you realize there are possible weak spots in your case. I view this as a natural process of a new chief prosecutor becoming familiar with the details of the case.”



A troubled police force and hope for change

JULY 15, 2019 Recently appointed Baltimore Police Commissioner Michael Harrison surprised a number of people and held out hope that the department could possibly change. “No longer can an officer tell a different story,” said Kami Chavis, associate provost for academic initiatives and director of the Criminal Justice Program at Wake Forest. “The officer committed an egregious act and then lied. It almost tells us a little bit about the morality of some of the officers.”

Los Angeles Times



Where did Forever 21 go wrong?

JULY 14, 2019 Nearly a decade ago, before Instagram influencers existed, Forever 21 helped teen girls dress like their favorite celebrities, for cheap. Forever 21 reportedly is now in financial trouble and developing restructuring plans. “They’ve lost sight of what brought them there,” said Wake Forest business professor and retail expert Roger Beahm. “They’ve tried to make up for it by expanding the appeal, and I think you end up diluting what you stand for.”



The perils of AI recruitment

AUG. 14, 2019 Lauren Rhue, assistant professor of information systems and analytics at Wake Forest School of Business, tried two different AI facial recognition systems, Face++, developed by a Chinese tech company, and a system created by Microsoft. The study found that Face++ marked black faces twice as “angry” as white faces, while Microsoft’s system scored black faces as being three times more contemptuous. “If professionals of color are systematically viewed as having more negative emotions, then they could be eliminated from the interview pool prematurely,” the report concludes.

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

NBC NEWS



Order to slash number of science advisory boards blasted as ‘nonsensical’

JUNE 15, 2019 President Trump signed an executive order to cut the number of government advisory committees by a third across all federal agencies to ensure good stewardship of taxpayers’ money. Stan Meiburg, director of graduate programs in sustainability and former EPA deputy administrator said, “When you think of ways that money could be spent that works effectively for taxpayers, these committees carry small margins and produce tremendous returns.”

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL



Facebook unveils cryptocurrency Libra in bid to reshape finance

JUNE 19, 2019 Facebook unveiled plans to launch a cryptocurrency in a move that could diversify its business from advertising while expanding into financial services. It’s too early to say whether Facebook’s plan poses a real threat. “What makes this better than what exists?” asked law professor Raina Haque. “It’s almost like the term ‘crypto’ is so sexy it puts the blinders on anyone asking all the questions that should be asked.”



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Legislators offer lifeline to rural hospitals drowning in debt

JUNE 27, 2019 The N.C. General Assembly introduced the Rural Health Care Stabilization Act bill, which would establish a state-funded loan program for struggling rural hospitals. However, some experts believe that Medicaid expansion could lead to better outcomes. “Lending money to financially strained hospitals can help stem a pressing cash flow problem, but ultimately does not improve their balance sheet since they still need to find a way to generate enough income to pay back the loan,” said Mark Hall, director of Wake Forest’s Health Law and Policy Program.



WFU business school achieves ranking

JUNE 28, 2019 The Economist ranked the Wake Forest University School of Business master of science in management program third in the United States and 22nd in the world in its 2019 global ranking of masters in management programs. The school also placed first in the U.S. and 12th globally for Career Opportunities, a category which factors in the diversity and balance of industries that hire Wake Forest MSM talent, employment success among graduates and alumni satisfaction with career services.

The Washington Post



A gendered trap: When mothers allege child abuse

JULY 29, 2019 A new study reported that in custody litigation, when mothers reported abuse, the mothers lost custody 28% of the time. “Even when the abuse is credited, women are losing,” said Jane Aiken, dean of the School of Law. “This is about not trusting women. I think it’s very powerful. Women are expected to behave as mothers. But then when they come in and say, ‘I’m trying to protect my child,’ then they’re not believed, You’re just in a trap, and it’s a gendered trap.”



WFU announces commission on diversity and equity, explores legacy of slavery

AUG. 2, 2019 Nathan O. Hatch announced the establishment of the President’s Commission on Race, Equity and Community, one part of a larger institutional effort to illuminate the University’s history, address the present and reaffirm commitments for the future. The Committee on Slavery, Race and Memory will guide the research, preservation and communication of an accurate depiction of the University’s relationship to slavery and its implications across Wake Forest’s history.

WFU names new assistant vice president, health and wellbeing

JULY 26, 2019 James D. Raper has been appointed Assistant Vice President, Health & Wellbeing for the Division of Campus Life. In this new role, he will oversee departments related to Health & Wellbeing within the division of Campus Life, including Campus Recreation, Office of the Chaplain, Learning Assistance Center & Disability Services, Safe Office, Student Health Service, University Counseling Center and the Office of Wellbeing.



Promotions in Office of Diversity and Inclusion

JULY 26, 2019 The Wake Forest Office of Diversity and Inclusion announced promotions for staff members Shannon Ashford and Jonathan McElderry. Ashford was promoted to associate director of diversity education. McElderry was promoted to executive director of the Intercultural Center.



Wake Forest plans for growth

JUNE 30, 2019 Wake Forest will continue to focus on internal Reynolda campus growth in the short term. However, the University — in particular, its Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center arm — will also continue to “be alert to off-campus opportunities that present themselves and make sense,” said executive vice president Hof Milam. “The majority of our growth will be adjacent to campus or in Wake Forest Downtown.”

Wake Forest welcomes class of 2023

AUG. 21, 2019 Just under 1,400 first-year students moved into residence halls Aug. 21. Among them are a nationally ranked Congressional debater from Chicago and students from countries as varied as Brazil, France, Taiwan and Ireland. The class of 2023 was admitted from an applicant pool of nearly 13,000. Seventy-five percent of the class were in the top 10% of their high school classes.



Wake Downtown grant will take STEM lessons into K-12 classrooms

JUNE 11, 2019 With a grant from the Jessie Ball duPont Fund, Wake Forest will start a program this fall to provide free STEM educational activities to K-12 students in local Title 1 schools. The program, based at Wake Downtown, will train undergraduate students to conduct STEM-based lessons in schools. The aim is to introduce more K-12 students in Winston-Salem to the possibilities of STEM studies.



Office of Civic & Community Engagement reflects expanded Pro Humanitate commitment

AUG. 6, 2019 There's no mistaking the purpose of the Office of Civic & Community Engagement (OCCE) as Wake Forest's central hub for community-based activities, including service, teaching and research. The recently reconfigured office combines the spirit of the Pro Humanitate motto with a new name, website and physical footprint. The rollout is the culmination of a yearlong community engagement mapping project to better understand how Wake Forest is engaged beyond campus. Faculty and staff identified 86 distinct programs, initiatives or projects supporting community-based service, engagement, research or teaching.



WFU student-athletes 'suit up' for career success

AUG. 25, 2019 With fewer than 2% of NCAA student-athletes going pro, Student-Athlete Development helps students in all Division I sports learn how to plan for a successful career once their sport is over. Suited Up, developed in partnership with the University's Office of Personal and Career Development, covers career self-assessment, resume writing and networking in short sessions that meet student-athletes' demanding schedules. After completing the pilot program, all 27 student-athletes who participated applied and were accepted to intern at 24 local organizations offering flexible-schedule workplace experiences.



Understanding college admissions

JULY 26, 2019 Associate Dean of Admissions Dawn Calhoun talked about the differences between early decision, early action and regular decision college applications on WGHP. “Early decision means a student has fallen in love with a school and fallen hard. They know if they’re admitted that they will enroll. It’s a binding agreement. Applying early decision alleviates stress. Typically the acceptance rate will be higher because colleges want students who are interested to be on our respective campuses,” she said.



Shooting attacks renew debate over domestic terrorism in U.S.

AUG. 6, 2019 Domestic terrorism “has become increasingly more of a threat with the resurgence of white supremacists groups, as well as some acts from left-wing extremists, though these account for much fewer incidents,” said Randall Rogan, a terrorism expert and professor of communications at Wake Forest. To tackle domestic terrorism more effectively, experts say the U.S. needs to expand on the work being done by law enforcement agencies to combat right-wing terrorism. There should be “increased cooperation and collaboration among all law enforcement and Department of Homeland Security and other agencies.”



What does it mean to be ‘good’?

AUG. 14, 2019 Christian Miller, a philosophy professor and author of “The Character Gap,” (Oxford University Press, 2018) participated in a conversation on Australian National Radio for ABC’s “The Minefield” on the meaning of the word “goodness” and what it means to describe someone as a good person. How does the intention behind an action determine whether the person is viewed as good or not? Miller’s research focuses on contemporary ethics and philosophy of religion.



Carbon to burn: UK net-zero emissions pledge undermined by biomass energy

JUNE 19, 2019 Journalism professor Justin Catanoso published this article about a carbon accounting loophole in the UK’s push to meet a net-zero emissions pledge. “While the UK has pledged to burn coal for the last time by 2025, it is accelerating plans to replace that source by burning wood pellets, or biomass, in four of its six largest power plants,” said Catanoso. “While that shift would help...it would still pump vast amounts of carbon into the atmosphere, speeding and intensifying global warming.”

STUDENT NEWS

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WFU Campus Kitchen receives award from USDA

JULY 26, 2019 The U.S Department of Agriculture presented a silver Turnip the Beet Award for 2018 to The Campus Kitchen at Wake Forest. The award recognizes outstanding summer meal program sponsors nationwide who work hard to offer high-quality meals to children during the summer. Wake Forest was one of 66 recipients. A USDA grant funds Campus Kitchen's summer meal program, which extends free meals to children who receive free and reduced-price school lunch during the academic year.

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WFU holds Freedom School

JULY 19, 2019 Wake Forest's education department's Freedom School, a program for elementary and middle-school students aimed at strengthening children's reading skills and closing achievement gaps, ran through July 31. Wake Forest students and recent graduates, as well as students from UNC and Salem College, served as classroom teachers. The program, part of a national initiative developed by the Children's National Defense Fund, served 100 students in grades 3 through 8. "It's important to have young people involved in reading all summer," said education professor Danielle Parker Moore.

WUNC 91.5
NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC RADIO



WFDD investigative collaboration

JULY 2, 2019 As of 2016, Greensboro and Winston-Salem had the highest rates of evictions in all of North Carolina. A yearlong collaborative reporting project dove into the topic: exploring how evictions create a ripple effect in people's lives. Wake Forest journalism students joined reporters from WFDD and the Carolina Data Desk at UNC's School of Media and Journalism to produce "On the Margins," a yearlong collaborative reporting project which dives into the topic of eviction in the Triad.

NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC



These fish eggs aren't hatching. The culprit? Light pollution

JULY 9, 2019 "Bright orange clownfish, of 'Finding Nemo' fame, face a slew of problems in the wild, from overharvesting for home aquaria, to bleaching of their coral and anemone homes by climate change-induced warming waters. And now there's a third prong on this deadly trident: light pollution," wrote Wake Forest doctoral candidate Jenny Howard. Clownfish can't raise any young when exposed to artificial light.

Forbes



WFU makes list of '25 Top Colleges and Universities in the South 2019'

AUG. 15, 2019 Wake Forest is number 10 on Forbes list of "25 Top Colleges and Universities in the South 2019." Schools are ranked by academics and outcomes. The University also made Forbes' list in research institutions, private colleges and top colleges 2019.



Biochar: A better start to rain forest restoration

AUGUST 30, 2019 An indigenous farming technique that’s been around for thousands of years provides the basis for restoring rainforests stripped clear of trees by gold mining and other threats. A carbon-based soil amendment called biochar is a cheap and effective way to support tree seedling survival during reforestation efforts in the Amazon rainforest, according to new research from Wake Forest. Biochar combined with fertilizer significantly improved height and diameter growth of tree seedlings while also increasing the number of leaves the seedlings developed. *When this story made it to #4 on reddit.com on Sept. 1, more than 43,000 clicked on the link at news.wfu.edu.*



The history of special prosecutors in American politics

JUNE 11, 2019 Katy Harriger, professor of politics and international affairs, discussed the first special prosecutor appointed during the Grant administration up through Robert Mueller’s investigation today. She noted that Congress and special investigators have different institutional interests. “The special prosecutors say ‘we let our indictments speak, and if we don’t indict we’re not speaking,’ and Robert Mueller has been the perfect example of that principle.”



Formula for providing emotional support

JUNE 10, 2019 Jennifer Priem, associate professor of communication, published a template for how to create effective support messages when people are in need. “When a loved one comes to you for support, the number one best thing you can do is to clearly validate their feelings. Validation is an acknowledgment and recognition of another person’s thoughts, feelings and perspectives. It is the simplest way to convey the most important messages of emotional support – I see you, I understand, I care about you and I’m here for you.”



Why do over 1,000 colleges no longer require standardized test scores?

JULY 31, 2019 “We’ve never had academically stronger students with as much racial, ethnic and economic diversity from across America than since 2009, when we went test-optional....Our students are better because we look at the whole person, not a test score,” writes sociologist Joseph Soares. He is the author of “The Power of Privilege” and “SAT Wars: The Case for Test-Optional College Admissions.”



Gun offenders more likely to commit crime again

JULY 7, 2019 A recent study showed than 68% of federal gun offenders were re-arrested within eight years of being released from prison, compared to 46% of non-firearm offenders. “Just amping up the punishments without remedying the underlying causes for these behaviors is not going to do anything other than fill up the jails,” said sociologist David Yamane. “If you’re involved in criminal activity, one of the major motivating factors of having a gun is to defend yourself against other people engaged in similar activity.”



Stalled medicaid expansion and state budget veto hold legislators in Raleigh

AUG. 5, 2019 “The prospects of the Senate passing Medicaid expansion, in any form, as part of the budget are dim to non-existent, and there are virtually no meaningful compromises that would satisfy the Senate and the governor,” said John Dinan, a political science professor at Wake Forest. If Cooper can gain meaningful concessions from GOP legislative leaders to advance his other priorities, “then the governor’s best option is to take Medicaid expansion off the table at this point and negotiate a deal” on those issues.



The dish store that is my home away from home

JULY 11, 2019 English professor Susan Harlan wrote an essay that considers our personal spaces and the small but meaningful ways we make them our own. “I collect dishes because they figure so much into our daily lives that they’re almost invisible,” said Harlan. “Yet many people remember the dinnerware they grew up with. Or their grandmother’s china. Or the dishes at a favorite restaurant. I love how dishes can hold memories and even invoke former versions of ourselves.”



WFU professor researches ways to protect the Amazon

AUG. 10, 2019 For 20 years, Miles Silman has watched as the last great rain forests on the planet slowly shrink. Silman, a professor of conservation biology, helps run the University’s Center for Amazonian Scientific Innovation. The most recent challenge that Silman and his colleagues face is the discovery of gold in the Peruvian Andes. “The human misery that follows a mining boom - a gold rush is - is almost greater than the forest destruction,” he said.



Sacred Geometry: Stepping into a labyrinth brings peace to the chaos

JUNE 12, 2019 Walking a labyrinth is an ancient meditation practice that is thousands of years old, according to Tim Auman, the University chaplain at Wake Forest. “It was a way of making a pilgrimage without having to leave your geographic region,” Auman said. “It is a metaphor of what you’re doing on a spiritual journey, journeying inward to discover ourselves then retracing your steps and going back into the world to serve others. It’s a form of sacred geometry.”



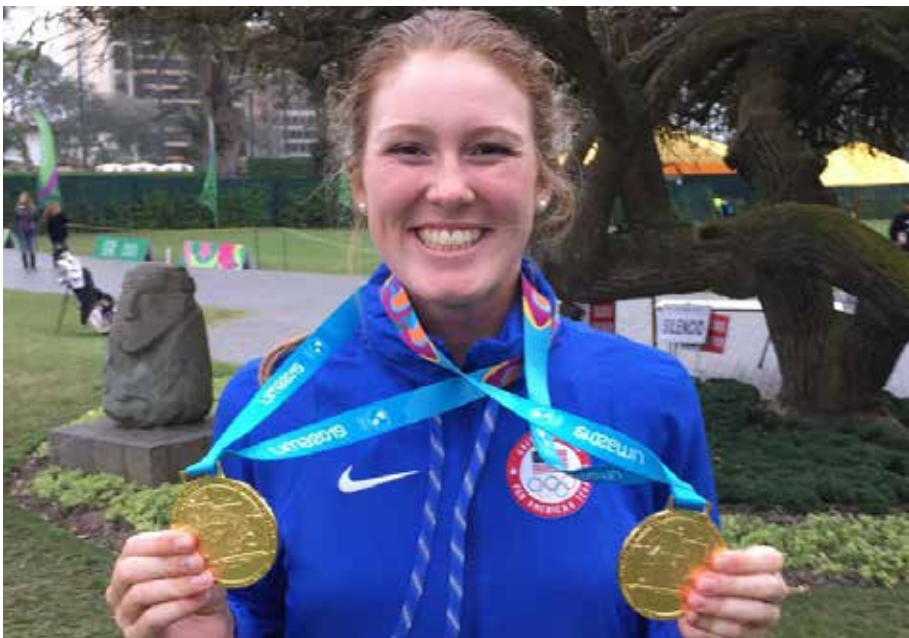
Workplace mentoring is going through a quiet revolution

AUG. 30, 2019 Mentoring should be a two-way street that benefits both individuals; they should learn from each other, says Allison McWilliams, a mentoring expert at Wake Forest University. “Mentoring relationships are, first and foremost, relationships. You want to be sure to put the elements in place that will allow those relationships to form and grow.” Key among these elements are making time commitments and setting goals for professional and personal development. With the growth of technology and global workforces, she adds, this might mean both parties will have to work extra hard to build trust and rapport.



WFU announces new position in athletics department

JULY 31, 2019 Wake Forest has hired Murphy Grant to a new position in its athletics department. Grant has been named senior associate athletics director/athletics health care administrator. He will lead Wake Forest’s sports performance team, which consists of 32 professionals overseeing sports medicine, athletic training, strength and conditioning, sports psychology and sports nutrition. “The health and safety of the student-athlete is always the highest priority for me and the administration at Wake Forest,” Grant said.



WFU’s Migliaccio wins gold at Pan American Games

AUG. 12, 2019 Rising junior Emilia Migliaccio won a pair of gold medals at the 2019 Pan American Games in the golf competition. She posted a four-shot victory to win gold in the women’s individual competition while helping the United States win the men’s and women’s combined team gold medal. Migliaccio shot under par in all four rounds at the Lima Golf Club to finish the event at 8-under. She was one of just three women to finish the event under par.

Coming soon at wfu.edu

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Events

SEP 4 “My Skin as a Legacy”

5:30 pm

Porter Byrum Welcome Center

Noted lecturer Corey D. B. Walker critically examines complexities of religion and philosophy, history, culture.

SEP 6 Author Rajia Hassib

4:00 pm

25R Library Special Collections & Archives hosts author Rajia Hassib, whose first novel, In the Language of

SEP 6 Men’s Soccer vs. Dartmouth

7:00 pm

Spry Stadium

It’s a black and gold battle with The Big Green. Come out and support your team!

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Popular on Instagram

2,087 likes

wfuniversity #NewDeacWeek kicked off this morning with “The Making of a Demon Deacon” ceremony where Provost Kersh and student leaders welcomed our newest Deacs. #WFU23 #NDW2019 // @wakeforestphoto

1,960 likes

wfuniversity Big fun at the #WFU23 #DeaconOlympics! 🏆 // @wakeforestphoto #NewDeacWeek

8,085 views

wfuniversity #WFU23 Move-in Day - Our newest Deacs have a place to hang their top hats. Welcome to the Forest. 🏠🌳

1,701 likes

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