On March 23, Wake Forest made the move to remote teaching and learning — “Our first priority has been to safeguard the health of the Wake Forest community and our neighbors, even as we sustain our vital educational mission,” wrote President Hatch in a message to faculty, staff and students. To keep the community informed and engaged, the Communications and External Relations team has provided regular email updates, created the #WakeFromHome hashtag and website to help Wake Foresters connect to one another and developed a coronavirus website as a central place for the latest communications and answers to frequently asked questions.

Virtual Wake ‘N Shake amid pandemic

APRIL 3, 2020 For this year’s Wake ‘N Shake, usually held on campus, students, faculty and staff shared their dance videos via Instagram and Facebook during the 12-hour dance-a-thon. They raised $383,550 for the Brian Piccolo Cancer Research Fund.

Facing an uncertain job market under coronavirus

APRIL 10, 2020 Wake Forest has built an award-winning Office of Personal and Career Development that supports students in developing the tools they will need for career success no matter what the economic landscape. Vice President for Innovation and Career Development Andy Chan said companies may not be hiring for the exact job students are looking for, but that’s okay. “There will be time to find that beautiful job down the road.”
Senior year cut short

MARCH 18, 2020 Wake Forest student Natalie Alms wrote a guest post about her senior year interrupted by the coronavirus pandemic. "I'm still working on the emotional math of everything. I'm privileged to have been at college in the first place," said Alms. "I'm a lucky one... Wake Forest's motto is Pro Humanitate, 'for humanity.' My university shut its doors to save lives. That decision aligns with its very core, however painful it may be for us seniors. What a final lesson – one of sacrifice for the greater good – that my class, along with everyone else, is learning now."

Coronavirus, the deadly illness alarming the world

JAN. 29, 2020 Pat Lord, teaching professor in biology, said this particular outbreak probably came from a virus that originated in bats and another animal, and then transformed to be able to infect humans. "Bats seem to be a reservoir for quite a few viruses, like the rabies, Ebola or the Marburg virus."

Stay informed about coronavirus, but don’t overdo it

MARCH 24, 2020 "Watching too much television news on the pandemic is not healthy," said counseling professor Sam Gladding. "To stay informed is good. To overdose is depressing. Individuals with pre-existing mental disorders will most likely do best to establish a routine where they are active and connected with others in a digital way or at a safe distance."

Coronavirus: Are African countries ready?

FEB. 15, 2020 Lina Benabdallah studies China-Africa relations at Wake Forest. "Diplomatic relations between China and African partners have seen a boom in relations with many exchanges including economic exchanges, cultural exchanges, diplomatic relations and more recently also security and military relations." This opens a possible pathway for the coronavirus to come to Africa.

Even ‘valid’ student evaluations are ‘unfair’

FEB. 27, 2020 Politics and international affairs professor Justin Esarey and Wake Forest senior Natalie Valdes published a study showing "unbiased, reliable and valid student evaluations can still be unfair."
Hundreds commemorate sit-ins that helped end segregation

FEB. 23, 2020 On Feb. 23, 1960, a group of students from WSSU were joined by students from Wake Forest to protest segregated lunch counters in Winston-Salem. More than 200 people came out for a joint WFU/WSSU commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the historic sit-ins, which led to a desegregation agreement among local merchants in the city later that spring.

COVID-19 can’t stop creativity

APRIL 4, 2020 Christina Soriano, the associate provost for the arts at Wake Forest, championed the value and essential nature of the arts. “The pandemic has shuttered arts and cultural organizations from Broadway to the Stevens Center, forcing arts and cultural organizations everywhere to lay off their staff. Yet miraculously, artists have responded with an outpouring of generosity.”

Churches rethink how we worship

APRIL 7, 2020 The invitation in this moment is to reach up and out to each other in new ways — to connect and tether our spiritual body even when there is distance between our physical bodies. The Rev. Dr. Melva Sampson, an associate professor at the School of Divinity, has for years been hosting digital services called “Pink Robe Chronicles” through Facebook Live, which focus on holistic healing and revolutionary self-care.

Communication is key for remote learning

MARCH 12, 2020 Betsy Barre, executive director of Wake Forest’s Center for the Advancement of Teaching, discussed the transition to remote learning during the coronavirus pandemic on NPR’s “Here and Now.” “Certainly we’re all doing all that we can to make this happen,” said Barre. She explains communication is key for a successful transition and suggests thinking of one to three changes to help deliver lessons without getting wrapped up in the technological aspects.

World of Warcraft predicted our coronavirus panic

MARCH 17, 2020 In 2013, Wake Forest economist Frederick Chen designed a 45-day online game that simulated the outbreak of disease. Players received points for staying healthy, and lost them if they got sick, and at the end of the study they were given a cash reward linked to the number of points they’d won.
Justice is blind. What if she also has the coronavirus?  
**MARCH 12, 2020** Due to coronavirus spread, law enforcement officials say the public should be prepared for interruptions to the right to a speedy trial. Ron Wright, a former federal prosecutor who is now a law professor at Wake Forest, said the longer that certain classes of people do not take part in jury duty, the greater the chance defendants will be able to successfully argue they did not receive a fair trial.

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Quarantine for all  
**MARCH 10, 2020** Christine Coughlin, professor of legal writing at the Wake Forest School of Law and core faculty member in the Wake Forest Center for Bioethics, Health & Society, co-authored an article about barriers that prevent individuals from complying with life-saving quarantine orders.

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Ikea dresser product recalled  
**MARCH 10, 2020** Professor of Law Michael Green, who has represented companies facing product liability suits, said regardless of Ikea’s reason for continuing to sell the noncompliant Kullen dresser, the company’s troubling history on dresser safety opens it to scrutiny.

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React and adapt may be best advice  
**MARCH 28, 2020** Although retail was evolving from brick-and-mortar to online sales rather quickly anyway, the coronavirus may have “just kicked that evolution into a much higher gear overnight,” said Roger Beahm, executive director of the Center for Retail Innovation at Wake Forest School of Business. “Like every other behavioral change, once consumers make a switch, many will not switch back.”
Green burial: More states legalize dissolving bodies in water

MARCH 12, 2020 As the green burial movement has questioned the energy and resources required of these methods, another option has emerged: dissolving a body in water, or alkaline hydrolysis. “A lot of funeral and cemetery law honestly is a gray area,” said Tanya Marsh, a law professor specializing in funeral law.

Millennial money: Mastering the awkward financial talk

JAN. 21, 2020 Nathaniel Ivers, an associate professor in the department of counseling at Wake Forest, encourages millennials to own their mistakes if they face awkward conversations about money. He explains that this approach will play better than blaming other people or circumstances.

Finding hope: Rev. Jonathan Walton

APRIL 3, 2020 Spiritual leaders around the Piedmont Triad are offering up hopeful messages during this coronavirus pandemic. Rev. Jonathan Walton, dean of the School of Divinity, shared an uplifting video with the community. “I wish I could tell you that things will be back to normal real soon on this campus, but I cannot. But I can tell you this. If we stand for one another, if we do not allow physical distancing to disrupt our social and spiritual proximity, then I believe that you and I can ultimately sing with confidence, ‘that I got a feeling everything is going to be all right.’”

Unsecured credit cards for bad credit

FEB. 25, 2020 Stephan Shipe, assistant teaching professor in the School of Business, answered common questions about unsecured credit cards. He explained that applying for an unsecured credit card only makes sense in a few specific cases. “If your dismal credit score is due to your lack of being timely on payments and general difficulty paying and maintaining credit, then adding a credit card with a high-interest rate is likely to make the problem worse.”
Commemorating 50th anniversary of integrating residence halls

JAN. 30, 2020

Wake Forest commemorated the 50th anniversary of integrating its women’s residence halls. Beth Norbrey Hopkins and Deborah Graves McFarlane, the first two African-American women to come to Wake Forest as residential student, spoke about their experiences.

WFU honors two trustees

MARCH 6, 2020

The Medallion of Merit, Wake Forest’s highest honor, was recently awarded to two University trustees — Dr. Larry Hopkins and Lou Bissette — at the University’s Founders’ Day celebration. Dr. Hopkins has served on Wake Forest’s Board of Trustees since 1986. Bissette has been a five-term member of the Board of Trustees and served as its vice-chair.

An important apology

FEB. 27, 2020

In an editorial about the Founders’ Day Convocation address, the Winston-Salem Journal wrote: “We appreciate President Nathan Hatch’s recent apology on behalf on Wake Forest University for its historic role in perpetuating slavery. We hope it will be beneficial to the University’s students, faculty, staff and alumni, and help to bring about a sense of healing and unity.”

Keeping Wake Foresters connected

Wake Forest is keeping the University community connected with the establishment of the hashtag #WakeFromHome. Videos featuring campus scenes, carillon music, and encouraging words from faculty and staff have resonated with Wake Foresters and Zoom backgrounds featuring Wake Forest photography have been popular. #WakeFromHome content since March 15 has generated 9.5 million impressions, with the videos receiving 233,737 views.

WATCH THE VIDEOS:
AROUND CAMPUS

LEEDing the way for sustainable college campus design

MARCH 9, 2020 Twenty months after its completion, Wake Forest’s Wellbeing Center has been awarded the U.S. Green Building Council’s Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) GOLD certification for new construction. Designed by RDG Planning & Design, the Wellbeing Center is the fifth WFU campus building to achieve LEED Gold Certification.

Local universities continue tradition of celebrating MLK Day together

JAN. 20, 2020 Ibram X. Kendi, a professor of history and international relations at American University, delivered the keynote address for the 20th annual celebration by Wake Forest and Winston-Salem State University to honor King’s legacy. The universities also co-hosted the 11th annual MLK Day of Service Read-In.

Birds 101, a photostory by Riley Herriman (‘22)

MARCH 10, 2020 Biology professor Dave Anderson has been taking a beginning birding class to Florida for Spring Break since 1996. Student photographer Riley Herriman (‘22) captured the experience. “The class (BIO 255, Bird Taxonomy) is an immersion experience in bird identification and natural history, and we sneak in a lot of information about the environmental setting in which the birds live, both the original habitat and the drastically altered south Florida habitat that they now find themselves in,” said Anderson. See the full story at photostories.wfu.edu/birdclass.

NBA basketball player Kyle Korver spoke in Wait Chapel

“If you have privilege, use it for good. It’s not going to be perfect, but that’s ok,” NBA all-star Kyle Korver said during a visit to Wake Forest on Jan. 29. After documenting his experience with white privilege in a personal essay on The Players’ Tribune, Korver garnered national recognition and initiated a larger conversation around systematic racism and what it takes to become a true ally to others. Korver spoke in Wait Chapel in a discussion moderated by Dean of the School of Divinity Jonathan L. Walton.
Managing change in the midst of uncertainty

APRIL 1, 2020 “What we are all dealing with, right now, is a massive amount of change. The world has changed, in ways we don’t fully understand yet,” said Allison McWilliams, assistant vice president of mentoring and alumni personal and career development. McWilliams shared tips for weathering this time of global crisis and uncertainty with intentionality and patience.

In gender discrimination, social class matters

FEB. 27, 2020 Sociology professor Catherine Harnois published an article about the influence of social class on gender discrimination. For women without significant resources, “successfully challenging sexism can be much more difficult.”

What’s next for Peru’s Operation Mercury

MARCH 19, 2020 Illegal gold mining around the town of La Pampa in the Peruvian Amazon has tainted local water supplies, razed forests adjacent to a world-class wildlife preserve and fostered illegal child labor and human trafficking. The region has become “what is essentially the poster child for environmental destruction,” said Luis Fernandez, executive director of Wake Forest’s Center for Amazonian Scientific Innovation.

Religion in Vogue

FEB. 18, 2020 Lynn Neal, a professor of religion, joined host Frank Stasio on the program “The State of Things.” Neal studied issues of Vogue magazine from the early 20th century to today to understand how religious iconography has shaped fashion throughout the ages.

Beer and STEM subjects collide

MARCH 31, 2020 “People have this thought process that a scientist looks a certain way, or only certain things qualify as science, but we participate in science every day,” said Alana James, associate director of community engagement for Wake Downtown. James leads Wake Downtown’s multifaceted science-meets-community efforts, an initiative called “The Science of Winston-Salem” that’s designed to make STEM topics less intimidating.
Seniors honored for speeches
MARCH 6, 2020 Three seniors were selected as winners of the University’s Senior Orations competition. Celia Zhou won for her speech “Living and Loving the Question.” Dylan King won for his speech “Camaraderie in the Lounge,” and Grace Franzese won for “Building Community.” The winning talks are available on Wake Forest’s senior orations website.

GMOs - threat or no?
MARCH 3, 2020 Biology professor Gloria Muday said crops like tomatoes can be genetically modified to withstand high temperatures and pests. Despite fears due to food labeling, studies show GMO’s are safe. “Those have detected no negative health impacts of GMO’s on humans or animals,” she said. Muday created a program where college students teach local high school students about the science behind GMOs.

Junior named Goldwater Scholar
Hannah Scanlon, a junior applied mathematics major from Raleigh, N.C., has been named a 2020 Barry S. Goldwater Scholar. Her research in the field of mathematical biology focuses on the ways in which mathematical modeling can be used to answer questions in biology, public health and medicine. Scanlon, who is also a Stamps Scholarship recipient, explores the spread of infectious diseases with Wake Forest mathematics professor John Gemmer.

What NC youth are looking for in a candidate
MARCH 2, 2020 FOX Business’ Connell McShane sat down with Wake Forest University College Democrats’ president Samantha Horowitz and College Republicans’ president Lisa Highet to discuss candidates in the 2020 presidential election.

Wake Forest launches virtual tutoring program to help students out of school
MARCH 20, 2020 Wake Forest launched a virtual tutoring program to help younger students who are doing all their work at home while out of school due to the coronavirus. “We want to make sure that those most vulnerable in our community and the children who are already receiving free tutoring in the community still have that resource and that it is accessible so that they’re not losing learning,” said Camry Wilborn, assistant director for community partnerships in the Office of Civic & Community Engagement.
**Humans are hardwired to dismiss facts**  
**JAN. 31, 2020** “In theory, resolving factual disputes should be relatively easy: Just present evidence of a strong expert consensus,” said Wake Forest philosophy professor Adrian Bardon in an article written for The Conversation. However, “it turns out that one’s political, religious or ethnic identity quite effectively predicts one’s willingness to accept expertise on any given politicized issue.”

**Magazine editor inducted into Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame**  
**FEB. 10, 2020** Maria Henson was one of 10 honorees inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame on March 31. Henson is the associate vice president at Wake Forest and a former newspaper editor and editorial writer whose work at the Lexington Herald-Leader and Sacramento Bee resulted in Pulitzer Prizes.

**Weight training beats cardio**  
**JAN. 27, 2020** Is cardio or weight training your best option for losing weight? According to a study by Wake Forest, restricting calories combined with resistance training meant people were able to keep their muscle and still lose significant amounts of fat, when compared to adults who combined weight loss with walking or who simply tried to just lose weight by dieting.

**Scientists created a ‘cloud curtain’ in Peru’s tropical forests**  
**JAN. 27, 2020** “When we look at individual tree species, we can see them starting to shift themselves upslope,” said biologist Miles Silman. In the past, cloud forests have been able to keep up with warming temperatures. “But the climate change we have now is an order of magnitude — about 30 times faster than things have changed in the past.”

**Gun owners face dilemma in 2020 field**  
**FEB. 28, 2020** David Yamane, a sociology professor who studies American gun culture, said polarization over the issue began in the 1970s in the wake of the Gun Control Act of 1968, which was enacted amid national outcry over the assassinations of Robert F. Kennedy and Martin Luther King Jr. Subsequent efforts by the NRA to seize on gun rights as a partisan issue only heightened the divide.
The coronavirus has made work friends more important

MARCH 22, 2020 In the midst of the coronavirus pandemic, work friends are more important than ever. Research from Wake Forest found people’s cortisol levels, a measure of their stress levels, were positively affected when they were supported by a partner who listened to and acknowledged their feelings. Communication professor Jennifer Priem's research focuses on connecting supportive interactions with cortisol recovery following stressful experiences.

Wake Reads provides virtual storytime for children

APRIL 17, 2020 When Taylor Thornton ('22) was a little girl growing up in Pennsylvania, she loved having storytime with her mom. Among her favorite books was "The Blue Ribbon Day" by Katie Couric. A video of Thornton reading "The Blue Ribbon Day" has been posted on the YouTube channel of Wake Forest’s Office of Civic & Community Engagement (OCCE.) It’s all part of Wake Reads, which is designed to provide “storytime” for children while giving parents a break as they juggle working from home and caring for their children. “We established Wake Reads as a way to support younger children during this time of social distancing,” said OCCE Executive Director Marianne Magjuka.

Why is it so tempting to rewatch your own Instagram story

FEB. 26, 2020 According to Allison Forti, an assistant professor of counseling, the tendency to watch our own fleeting content can be partially explained by a psychological concept called the "looking glass self," which posits that people’s sense of self is rooted partially in how they feel they’re perceived by others. “They might repeatedly view that Instagram story to reinforce a positive aspect of their identity in which they have value, worth and other people accept them.”

Top public and private colleges in the South

FEB. 26, 2020 Wake Forest ranked on the Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education list of top colleges in the South.

Exhibit highlighting how diseases spread

MARCH 6, 2020 A new exhibit, “Outbreak: Epidemics in a Connected World,” explores connections between us and the world and how outbreaks can spread from something as simple as a handshake. The exhibit was created by students in Pat Lord’s virology class. “Any skin-to-skin contact has the potential to transmit bacteria, viruses – everything from the common cold to the flu, to coronavirus said Museum of Anthropology academic director Andrew Gurstell.

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Field hockey player making and donating masks in her hometown

APRIL 2, 2020 Field hockey head coach Jennifer Averill challenged her athletes to complete daily positive messages from home. One player, Abbie Ashcraft, decided to help give back to her hometown in Michigan by creating and donating masks for healthcare workers. “We have been doing everything we can as a team to stay connected including weekly Webex meetings, both as a full team and as separate lines, along with other things,” Ashcraft said.

Tim Duncan named to Hall of Fame

APRIL 4, 2020 Tim Duncan (‘97) has been elected as a member of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Class of 2020, the Hall announced April 4. Duncan was the first Demon Deacon to be selected. Eight others were elected to the Hall of Fame this year including Kobe Bryant and Kevin Garnett. One of the greatest players in NBA history, Duncan was a 15-time all star during his 19-year career with the San Antonio Spurs. “I played the game, I enjoyed the game, I loved what I did,” he said. “To be here now with the guys that I’m going to be put into the Hall of Fame with, it’s an amazing class.”

Focus on the Forest

Chemistry professor David Wren records his lecture in an empty classroom as he prepares for remote course instruction. Visit campus photographer Ken Bennett’s Instagram @wakeforestphoto for more photos.

Popular on Instagram