

WAKE FOREST IN THE NEWS



Wake Forest University selects Vanderbilt provost as its next president

JAN. 29, 2021 Wake Forest University has chosen Susan Wenthe, the provost at Vanderbilt University, as its next president and the first female to serve in the post. Wenthe becomes the University’s 14th president on July 1. Nationwide coverage of the [announcement](#) was overwhelmingly positive. The Winston-Salem Journal ran a front-page feature. The Raleigh News & Observer, the Charlotte Observer, the Associated Press, regional broadcast and print outlets, Nashville-area media outlets, national higher education media outlets and student media at Vanderbilt and Wake Forest all published favorable stories.



Wake Forest University’s Hatch wins Long Leaf Pine award

MARCH 29, 2021 N.C. Gov. Roy Cooper has awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine to Wake Forest University President Nathan Hatch. The award is the highest honor that the state governor’s office can give for achievement and service. “When you think about what your career — what it has meant to the University, to the Winston-Salem area, to the state as a whole — you have a lot to be proud of,” said Cooper.



Wake Forest launches African American Studies Program

FEB. 21, 2021 With scholar Corey D.B. Walker at the helm, Wake Forest will offer both a major and minor in African American Studies. Propelled by faculty and led by a prestigious scholar on race, the African American Studies program received an enormous boost with an anonymous \$1 million gift. “African American Studies as a discipline goes to the very heart of how we understand what it means to be human in the world,” said Walker.



Three WFU students named 2021 Goldwater Scholars

APRIL 2, 2021 Joseph McCalmon, Ashley Peake and Samuel Schwartz have been named 2021 Barry S. Goldwater Scholars. The three are among 410 college students from across the U.S. to receive the award for the 2021-22 academic year. “To see three of our students honored as Goldwater Scholars in one year is very exciting — that’s a rare achievement,” said Jackie Sheridan, director of the Wake Forest Scholars Program.

Intense strength training does not ease knee pain, study finds

FEB. 19, 2021 Nearly 40% of Americans over age 65 have knee osteoarthritis, and tens of millions of patients have been instructed to do strength training exercises to improve symptoms. But health and exercise science professor Stephen Messier decided to put the prescription to the test in a rigorous 18-month clinical trial, and it seems clear there is no particular advantage to strength training with heavy weights instead of a moderate-intensity routine with more repetitions and lighter weights.



The pandemic taught us empathy, but will it last?

MARCH 4, 2021 Because the pandemic has been a collective ordeal, we’re all aware of the various effects it has had on people everywhere. For many of us this has translated into developing more compassion for others and ourselves. How to keep 2020 compassion alive for good? Practice mindfulness meditation to cultivate more empathy. “In training your attention to watch the emotions of others, to see their joy and their suffering, noticing it becomes more automatic,” said Lara Kammrath, associate professor of psychology.

Some politically incorrect thoughts about remote teaching

FEB. 4, 2021 Executive Director of the Center for Advancement in Teaching Betsy Barre offers six hypotheses for why students are reporting that their “academic workloads have increased” and yet “many faculty members say they’ve scaled back expectations.” Maybe, as professors alter their assignment expectations, they are unintentionally assigning more work. Or maybe students are being forced to work harder than in the Before Time.

Audio is filling more of our time. For some families, that’s a problem.

MARCH 15, 2021 Professor and clinical mental health counselor Robert Casares finds the podcast format can make difficult topics more accessible, and it can normalize subjects like mental health by turning them into conversations. However, “It’s a double-edged sword. What makes it so intimate and an escape or an educational opportunity when you’re alone is also something that can provide an escape for people when you’re around them.”



Too much media attention could hurt the Democrats' infrastructure bill

MARCH 31, 2021 Politics professor John Lovett said, "As you get more and more of new perspectives, it gets that much harder for leaders to get everybody together." He has found in his research, for instance, that increased media coverage has made debates on immigration more contentious over time and debates on health care regularly more heated than those on agriculture.



Atrium reveals where Charlotte's first four-year medical school will call home

MARCH 25, 2021 The Queen City's Midtown area will soon welcome its first-ever four-year medical school as part of Wake Forest's expansion. The new medical school will "further strengthen the academic bonds Wake Forest has with Charlotte and help advance learning, economic growth and opportunity," said President Hatch.



Synthetic animal parts pose a conservation conundrum

FEB. 19, 2021 "It's almost a knee jerk reaction, if you talk to most conservationists — they don't like synthetics, end of story," said Frederick Chen, an economist at Wake Forest who focuses on the economics of conservation and has modeled introducing synthetic products to the market. "There is still a lot of detail and unknowns that need to be discussed and hammered out."



Are people who curse a lot actually more honest?

FEB. 18, 2021 Philosophy professor Christian Miller asks us to think about the really honest people in our lives, maybe a spouse or co-worker or best friend. Do they tend to swear a lot? Or flip it around. Are the people who we view as the most dishonest — the most likely to lie, cheat or steal — also the ones who tend to have a fairly clean mouth? Is honesty linked with profanity or not? It would be nice if we had some empirical data to help us. Now, for the first time, we do, he writes.



Biologist tracks albatrosses, contributes to global study

MARCH 3, 2021 Biologist Dave Anderson is among a global team of researchers contributing to a new study showing that albatrosses and closely related seabirds spend 39% of their time on the high seas where no single country has jurisdiction. For the world's most threatened group of birds these findings highlight the need for international cooperation to ensure the seabirds' survival.

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

Bloomberg
NEWS



Gilead Sciences VP Brooks on HIV Epidemic in U.S. South

MARCH 17, 2021 Jonathan Lee Walton, dean of the divinity school, joined Douglas M. Brooks, vice president, Advancing Black Equity and Community Engagement at Gilead Sciences, to discuss the HIV epidemic in the U.S. South in this spotlight at the Bloomberg Equity Summit. Gilead Sciences and Wake Forest’s School of Divinity are partnering to address the HIV epidemic through faith-based programming and community outreach.

POETS & QUANTS



10 Undergraduate Business Schools to watch In 2021

FEB. 2, 2021 Business and enterprise management major Lauren Epps (‘19) suffered the loss of two family members as a senior. Seeking solace, she reached out to her advisor, professor Sharon Payne. The response that Epps received was immediate, unexpected and authentic. This piece also includes five Q&A’s with Assoc. Dean of Undergraduate Business Programs Kenny Herbst and Mercy Eyadiel, executive director of employer relations.

NY
DAILY NEWS



The insurrectionists’ calendar demands action on weaponry

MARCH 3, 2021 One of the more unexpected things Americans have learned as a result of Donald Trump’s presidency is that the political calendar holds important dates many of us didn’t know much about. Jan. 6, for instance. “We cannot simply choose to believe that America’s racist and painful history is behind us, just because there’s a new president in the White House,” writes law professor Kami Chavis.

WebMD



Ethical questions surround COVID vaccine passports

APRIL 2, 2021 As discussions about “vaccine passports” accelerate with more people worldwide completing their COVID-19 shots, ethical quandaries are coming into focus. Mark A. Hall, JD, of the schools of law and medicine at Wake Forest helps lay out some of the top ethical considerations. Hall points out that vaccine supplies are currently limited so granting privileges to people who have been fortunate to get them “is morally questionable.”



In first trial in George Floyd’s death, lawyers face jury-selection challenge

MARCH 7, 2021 “The question is, whatever you’ve heard about this case, and whatever you’ve thought about it—can you put that aside and base your decision only on the evidence that you hear as a juror?” said law professor Ron Wright. “And saying the magic words, ‘Yes, I can do that,’ won’t be enough. They’re going to talk to the jurors, and they’re going to try to get what they believe is a real answer to that question.”



Strategies to help your family understand gender-neutral pronouns

FEB. 11, 2021 “Older relatives may hold unconscious biases regarding gender identity based on their own lifelong conditioning,” said Allison Forti, an associate teaching professor and associate director of the Department of Counseling Online Programs at Wake Forest. “It takes education, conscious awareness, and reflection to understand gender identity in a new way.”



Biden names Melissa Rogers to lead Faith-based Partnerships Office

FEB. 14, 2021 Melissa Rogers, a visiting professor at Wake Forest School of Divinity, has been tapped to lead the newly reconstituted White House Office of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships. Rogers is a nationally known expert on religion in American public life and the author of Faith in American Public Life.



Nearly 90% of military hazing complaints come from the Marine Corps, data shows

FEB. 7, 2021 Data shows that nearly nine out of 10 hazing reports in the military still came from within the Corps. Law professor Gregory S. Parks, an expert on all kinds of hazing, said changing a cultural perspective on an issue such as hazing can be a lengthy process. “Organizational culture is crucial.”



Will Joe Biden tackle single-use plastics?

FEB. 1, 2021 “Now we have a president who is concerned about environmental issues and wants to be engaged in the global community,” said law professor Sarah J. Morath, author of the forthcoming book, Our Plastic Problem: Costs and Solutions. “There is a potential to enact legislation and be involved in efforts at the international level to address environmental issues.”



Wake Forest creates new center to study the African American experience

FEB. 19, 2021 Wake Forest has established a new center to give critical, intellectual voice to the experience of African Americans through research-driven initiatives, programming and community facing work. Divinity school professor Derek Hicks will serve as director of the Center for Research, Engagement and Collaboration in African American Life (RECAAL), which plans to offer the campus and Winston-Salem residents symposiums, faculty seminars and a lecture series.



Bahamian student at prestigious WFU honored with MLK award

APRIL 9, 2021 Bahamian student Rue Cooper was recently announced as a winner of the 2021 Martin Luther King Jr “Building the Dream” award. These awards are traditionally presented to a professor or administrator and a student from Wake Forest who exemplify King’s qualities and promote diversity within the community. Cooper, along with Maj. Derri Stormer, a member of the University’s campus police and Deb Marke, who works in the Office of Civic and Community Engagement, are Wake Forest’s 2021 winners.



Art for impact: Students purchase works for WFU to reflect the times

MARCH 12, 2021 The 2021 art-buying “trip” became an art-buying “experience.” The pandemic, while restricting travel, has inspired some positive outcomes. Double the number of students were able to participate this year, and the geographic boundary expanded. Instead of boarding a plane for the Big Apple, 13 students virtually visited 16 galleries in six cities: New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Atlanta, Denver and Detroit.



Founders’ Day Convocation focuses on inclusion

FEB. 26, 2021 The Wake Forest community commemorated 181 years since the University’s founding at Founders’ Day Convocation in Wait Chapel on Feb. 19. The celebration recognizes student leaders and honors faculty for teaching, research and service Donna A. Boswell, Wake Forest University’s former and first female chair of the Board of Trustees, received the Medallion of Merit during the annual Founders’ Day Convocation. The event, pre-recorded to observe University and state COVID-19 protocols, was streamed on Feb. 25.

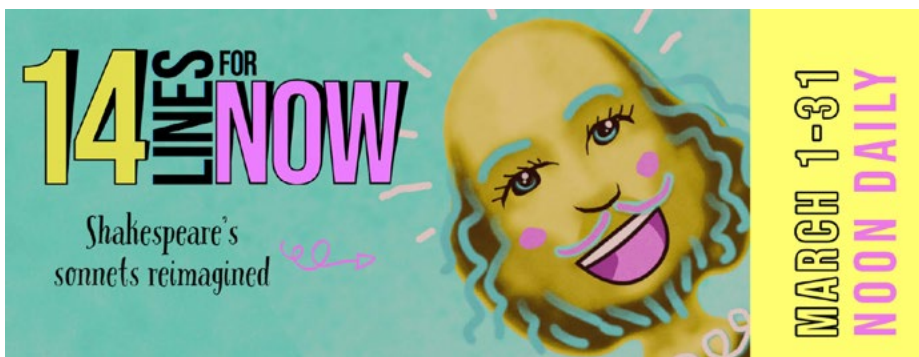


WFU students to show off dance moves for cancer research

MARCH 18, 2021 Sponsored by the Office of Civic & Community Engagement, Wake ‘N Shake started in 2006 with 300 dancers raising over \$30,000 for the Brian Piccolo Cancer Research Fund. Last year, more than 1,000 students, faculty and staff raised more than \$380,000. The event was virtual because of COVID-19, but was still successful.

AROUND CAMPUS

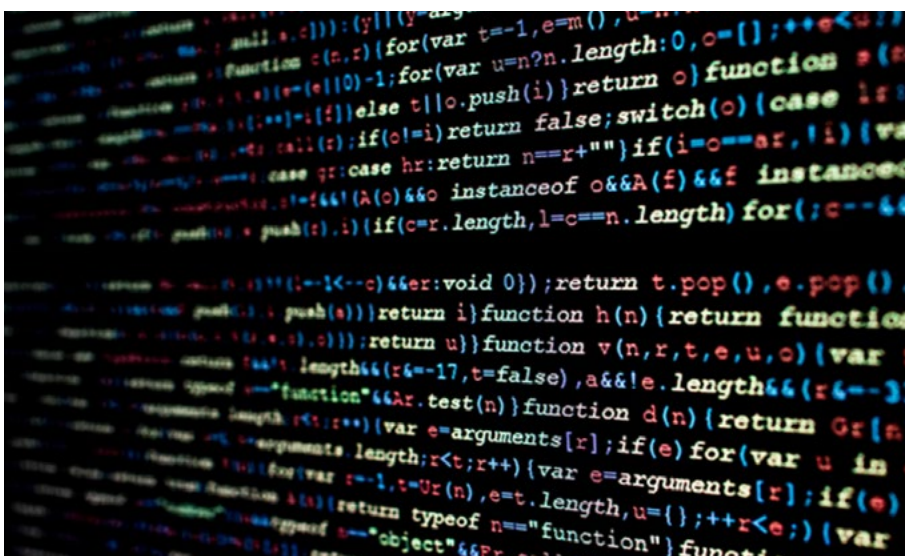
WFU NEWS



Fourteen Lines for Now

MARCH 4, 2021 Wake Forest Theatre offered “Fourteen Lines for Now,” a virtual experience directed by professor Brook Davis. Every day during the month of March, a member of our community performed one of Shakespeare’s sonnets. The videos were shared on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. All of the performances are also archived on the theatre website along with a production program and cast biographies.

WFU NEWS



WFU Hackathon explores blockchain’s potential in tracking art objects

FEBRUARY 17, 2021 Software development hackathons are marathons of coding to rapidly plan and test potential solutions to a specific problem. Students focusing on the blockchain track of the Hackathon chose from among three hypothetical challenges based on cultural objects in collections housed in Wake Forest’s Museum of Anthropology. During the two-day virtual event, interdisciplinary teams explored ways that blockchain technology might aid in the historical tracking and restitution of cultural property.

The News & Observer



‘The Bachelor’ star Matt James pays tribute to NC employee

FEB 9, 2021 Sharon Jones died after decades of working at Wake Forest. Tributes poured in after the death of beloved cafeteria worker Sharon Jones lost her battle with cancer. “@WakeForest lost a special woman today but heaven gained an angel - thank you for feeding our bodies & souls Ms. Sharon,” tweeted Matt James, the “Bachelor” on this season of the ABC TV series.

WFU NEWS



WFU wins ACC debate tournament

APRIL 10, 2021 Wake Forest senior, Ruby Klein, and junior, Brianna Aaron, won the 2021 virtual Atlantic Coast Conference debate championship over the weekend. The pair defeated the 2019 reigning champions from Notre Dame. Wake Forest was undefeated in the preliminary debates with wins over Duke, Georgia Tech, Pittsburgh and Miami. Klein and Aaron then defeated Notre Dame on a 5-0 decision in the championship debate.



Hatch bids adieu, but remains bullish on college sports, Greek life and higher ed

MARCH 8, 2021 “I still am very bullish on American higher education,” said President Hatch. “I think it has an entrepreneurial spirit. But schools have to be adaptable, flexible and be willing to change — and maybe that’s the biggest struggle. Higher education tends to be very traditional. One has to have some anchor in the past, but you have to rethink the way things are done.”

Peterborough Players’ Playgroup takes a look at theatrical design

FEB. 23, 2021 Costume, light, sound, and set design are a massive part of theatrical storytelling. Kevin Frazier has been a resident designer at the Players since 2011, having designed nearly 50 plays. In addition to work around the country at theatres like Merrimack Repertory Theatre and the Cleveland Playhouse, he is also an assistant professor at Wake Forest University.



The United Nations turns up the heat on Rajapaksa

MARCH 30, 2021 As Sri Lanka’s human rights record worsens, the world body tries to hold the country accountable for past crimes. “It is more than apparent that, left to its own devices, Sri Lanka’s government will undertake no efforts to address the cruel legacies of the civil war,” writes politics and international affairs professor Neil DeVotta.

Research tells a complicated story about Chinese investment in Africa

FEB. 19, 2021 China policy is a top priority for the Biden administration. A growing community of scholars studying China-Africa ties & U.S. reactions to them, including politics & international affairs professor Lina Benabdallah, are producing research pointing out the inaccuracies of some of the current narratives. Now they are working to reach public audiences with their findings.

Mo Brooks open to debate, not ‘left-wing news media’ forums

MARCH 31, 2021 Allan Loudon, a Wake Forest political communications professor and a national debate coach who has worked with politicians such as Elizabeth Dole, said the Lincoln-Douglas format is “too freewheeling” and “scares the hell out of the candidate and their managers.”

STUDENT NEWS



Smithsonian Magazine



Being a domestic goddess in 17th-century Europe meant making medicines

MARCH 1, 2021 Last fall, history professor Stephanie Koscak and her students at Wake Forest University began a public history project transcribing and analyzing early modern (16th to early 19th century) recipe books. They quickly learned that the boundaries between professionalized medicine and more vernacular forms of health care were much more porous at the time than they are today.



Burdette sisters bring together love of music and place

MARCH 23, 2021 Presidential Scholar Fiona Burdette — a senior double-majoring in math and German with a minor in art history — is one of three sisters who make up North Carolina’s ‘Dan River Girls.’ The group has been playing bluegrass, Celtic and pop music locally for nearly eight years. She is a Fulbright Scholarship semi-finalist for next year in Berlin, Germany, and plays cello and mandolin.

THE CHRONICLE

WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL



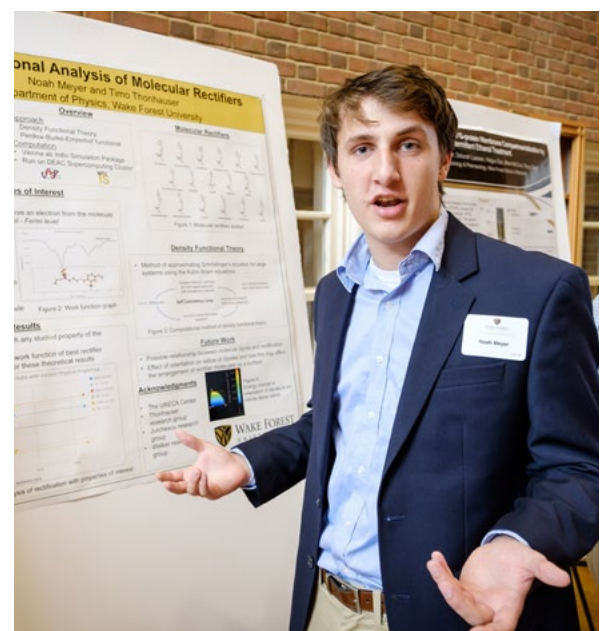
Kids' Cooking Coalition goes virtual

MARCH 4, 2021 Senior English major Kayla Willis has been a Kids' Cooking Coalition volunteer since its inception in 2018 and now serves as the program director. “One of the first things I noticed when I came to Winston was the food insecurity and the food deserts, so I was immediately attracted to Campus Kitchen. I love working with kids and everybody likes to eat, so it was just a win-win situation,” Willis said.



Mark Socoloski is a musician who puts his best foot forward

JAN. 31, 2021 Mark Socoloski is a singer/songwriter and musician, who plays multiple instruments. He is a native of Baltimore, Md., and a junior at Wake Forest, where he majors in communication with a double minor in entrepreneurship and sociology. He also teaches voice, guitar and ukulele. He hopes to release a full-length album in summer 2021. “It’s a really cool blend of country, pop and rock,” he said.



Senior Noah Meyer awarded NSF grant for graduate studies

APRIL 9, 2021 Senior Noah Meyer, who studies physics and applied mathematics, has been awarded a Graduate Research Fellowship from the National Science Foundation. Meyer plans to pursue a PhD in physics in the field of condensed matter theory. National Science Foundation graduate research grants support outstanding graduate students in STEM by providing three years of financial support to those pursuing research-based master’s and doctoral degrees at accredited US institutions.



Professor says she was dismayed, but not surprised about deadly shootings in Atlanta

MARCH 19, 2021 When Lisa Kiang heard that eight people, six of them women of Asian descent, had been killed in Atlanta, she wasn't totally surprised. For months, Kiang, a professor of psychology at Wake Forest University who studies Asian-American ethnic identity, has watched as reports of attacks on Asian-Americans have increased significantly across the United States.



Recent college grads face lack of opportunities during COVID-19

FEB. 16, 2021 Andy Chan, vice president of innovation and career development at Wake Forest, reminds his students that their first job will not be their only job. "You don't want to be necessarily looking for the perfect job," Chan said. "You're actually looking to work, make money, learn how to develop some professional skills."



N.C. House passes bill that would require approval of governor's emergency powers

MARCH 31, 2021 "So far, the pattern has been clear and consistent of Republicans being able to pass bills requiring a quicker reopening timetable than the governor would prefer, usually with the support of enough Democrats in the House and Senate to override a gubernatorial veto," said politics professor John Dinan.



Reynolda House announces a gift of three major works of art

FEB. 14, 2021 Reynolda's founding director, Barbara Babcock Millhouse, has promised a gift of three works of art to Reynolda House — Georgia O'Keeffe's "Cedar Tree with Lavender Hills" and Romare Bearden's "Alto Composite" and "Moonlight Express." Reynolda House has committed to improving the way its collection reflects the community by diversifying its offerings through works created by women and artists of color.



Public schools and the pandemic: Lessons learned, scars remain

MARCH 15, 2021 Politics professor Sara Dahill-Brown says schools will need to figure out ways to address students' needs in several ways. "I worry that the focus on learning loss will lead to a failure to recognize and address student trauma that comes from losing friends and family members, social isolation, and witnessing parent anxiety over finances."



Piano in the pandemic: Daily virtual piano performances help others

APRIL 5, 2021 Easter Sunday marked one year since Dan Knight started playing the piano on Facebook every day. "It started basically because people were hurting," said Knight who is works at Wake Forest as a dance accompanist. "Everybody was at home and we were in the first waves of the shutdown." When the COVID-19 pandemic started, Knight and his wife wanted to do something to help in some way.

PRESSPLAYPODCASTS



A Black man playing Captain America?

MARCH 16, 2021 Woody Hood, director of film and media studies, adds his superhero expertise to this interview about "WandaVision" — a miniseries that focuses on the trials and triumphs of two secondary characters from the Marvel Cinematic Universe. "It seems like the focus is going to be on the fact that we're moving towards a Black man playing Captain America," he said.



Dreaming about post-vax life without feeling worse about the present

MARCH 18, 2021 Although research shows positive anticipation can reduce stress and boost optimism, it's a slightly different experience to look forward to the end of an ongoing stressful event (like a pandemic), said psychology professor Christian Waugh. "We know anticipation is much more powerful when you have a vivid and concrete thing you're anticipating."

CampusSafety



How Wake Forest University effectively manages its keys

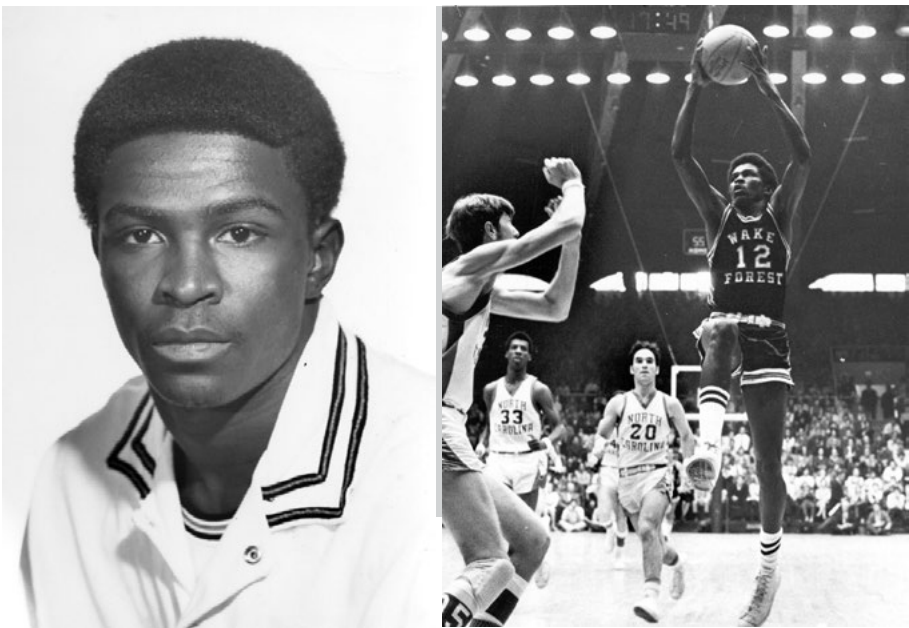
MARCH 26, 2021 If you manage security for a university, you know how challenging it is to keep track of the keys to all of the doors and cabinets on campus. Janitors, security officers, police officers, residence life staff and other campus employees usually must carry a bunch of keys, which is a hassle. In this podcast interview, James Byrd, Wake Forest's director of physical security technology and Deacon OneCard, describes how the University now more effectively manages its 500,000 keys, more than 50,000 keyed doors and 9,000 key users.

ATHLETICS



Near-wins at Augusta National

APRIL 11, 2021 Wake Forest golfers Emilia Migliaccio and Will Zalatoris ('18) took on August National in high-profile tournaments in April. Migliaccio in the Augusta National Women's Amateur and Zalatoris in the Masters. Both had near wins. Migliaccio has accepted an internship at the Golf Channel and will complete a two-year master's program in communication after graduation this spring. Zalatoris ended his round as the first Masters rookie since 1982 to stand alone in second place, a slot most frequently filled across the generations by more experienced players.



Nothing fancy, just Charlie

FEB. 15, 2021 As part of a series in honor of Black History Month, Wake Forest basketball celebrated the 50th anniversary of Charlie Davis being named the ACC's first Black Player of the Year in 1971. Davis finished his career with a program record that still stands today by averaging 24.94 points a game. After some time in the NBA, Davis returned to Wake Forest in 1990 to complete his degree and begin a career in athletics administration. "The gift is that it gives you the opportunity to get an education, and if you don't get the education then you've fallen short of the gift that's been given you," he said. "I needed to get that part finished."

Focus on the Forest

The setting sun lights up a cherry tree outside the library, on the campus of Wake Forest University. Visit campus photographer Ken Bennett's Instagram [@wakeforestphoto](#) for more photos.



Popular on Instagram



3,166 likes
wfuniversity Spring is in full bloom in the Forest and beyond. Get out there and enjoy it this weekend, Deacs! 🌸 #MotherSoDear
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wfuniversity Full bellies, fire pits, can't lose. #ShowHumanitate
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#DaylightSavings #ShowHumanitate
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7,491 likes
wfuniversity Wake Forest and @deacondining are mourning the passing of Ms. Sharon Jones. "Ms. Sharon," as called by the team, worked with the Fresh Food Company (The Pit) team for 23 years. She passed away yesterday after a long battle with cancer.
Ms. Sharon was a huge @demondeacons fan and treated each of the students as one her own. Her big smile, warm hugs and funny stories will always be cherished and remembered. Ms. Sharon will be missed by all who knew her. 🙏💛



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