

# WAKE FOREST IN THE NEWS



## Finding joy in the unexpected: Wake Forest sends off its class of 2021 with a unique all-day commencement

**MAY 16, 2021** In a normal year, Wake Forest would hold its commencement outdoors on a Monday morning, but 2021 was anything but normal because of the COVID-19 pandemic. That unprecedented year was reflected in an all-day indoor-outdoor commencement Sunday. “Today is a very special day for Wake Forest University and the class of 2021,” President Nathan Hatch told graduates. “It is worth a 21-gun salute, a fireworks extravaganza and, most importantly and now that it is permitted, the warmest embrace of family and friends.”

*Pete Buttigieg’s commencement speech was shared on CNBC and Kendall Hinton’s talk was covered in the Denver Post.*



## Wake Forest to establish Maya Angelou Artist-in-Residence Award

**APRIL 14, 2021** To recognize the poet, actress, author, singer, teacher and civil rights activist who has inspired people worldwide and taught generations of Wake Forest students, the University will establish the Maya Angelou Artist-in-Residence Award. The new award will honor world-renowned artists who reflect Maya Angelou’s passions for creating, performing and teaching.



## A second life for North Carolina’s shuttered factories

**JUNE 15, 2021** This story highlights “the shining success” of Winston-Salem’s Innovation Quarter. When R.J. Reynolds moved its manufacturing operations out of town in 1986, officials from the city, Wake Forest University and Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center began making long-term plans and investments in the site. The first building was redeveloped in 2012. Thousands of workers and students now cross its 330 acres daily, and its administrators maintain a busy schedule of yoga classes, food trucks and lunchtime concerts in the park.



## Chile's constitution writers are very new to politics

**MAY 20, 2021** Peter Siavelis, director of the Latin American and Latino Studies Program, writes: "When widespread protests sparked a movement to rewrite Chile's constitution, it was hard to deny that the country wanted some fresh faces. After elections on May 15 and 16, it's clear Chileans will be getting just that. The overall newness of the delegates lends the constitutional process legitimacy in the eyes of those seeking a more inclusive Chile."

## HYPERALLERGIC



"Tapestry of My Soul" by Rashaun Rucker  
Reproduced with permission of the artist.

## Students select works by Salman Toor and Zanele Muholi for school's art collection

**MAY 13, 2021** In the early 1960s, Wake Forest embarked upon an experiment — a Student Union art collection purchased by students for the University. This year, students announced nine new acquisitions, including works by Zanele Muholi, Betty Tompkins, and Willie Cole. The COVID-19 pandemic prevented the students from traveling to New York City to look at the works in person, so they instead paid virtual visits to 16 galleries spread across New York City, Los Angeles, Chicago, Atlanta, Denver and Detroit.

## TRIAD BUSINESS JOURNAL



## Scientists' research leads to flexible, low-cost technology

**APRIL 27, 2021** Flexible and low-cost electronics are now closer to becoming commonplace. Research from Oana Jurchescu, professor of physics at Wake Forest, and her graduate student Hamna Iqbal have led to a method to better pinpoint and eliminate sources of instability in the material and devices used to create flexible electronics. "Through the nature of their structure, these materials interact with the air, with the humidity from the air and with oxygen from the air, and they degrade very fast," Jurchescu said.

## Eat This, Not That!



## Here's why science says you should book a vacation now

**MAY 24, 2021** According to a poll conducted in 2019, the typical American utters some variation of the phrase "I need a vacation" roughly three times per week. "Having things to look forward to is a major coping strategy," said psychology professor Christian Waugh. "It helps us recover and adapt to stressors. When you have positive anticipatory things in your mind, there's just less room for negative thoughts. There's an overall better profile of positive to negative."

## AARP



## What you need to know about climate change

**JUNE 1, 2021** Climate change is already affecting your health, home, safety and finances. With rising temperatures and more violent weather come a host of issues. "If insurance companies fear that the worst-case scenarios on climate change might get even worse, they will have to prepare for that, requiring higher premiums," said Robert Erhardt, an environmental and climate statistics expert. That means higher bills.



## University's first class of 43 engineers graduate

**MAY 6, 2021** Gabrielle Prichard will begin work as a cloud solution engineer with Oracle. Lucy Vaughn will start her career as a research and development engineer with AstraZeneca. John Hobson will become a U.S. Army engineer when he is commissioned as a second lieutenant. "This is a really proud moment for not only our students, but also the faculty, the staff and everyone at the University who has helped us reach this milestone," said Olga Pierrakos, founding chair and professor of the engineering department.

## Elite universities welcome more diverse freshman classes

**APRIL 17, 2021** Wake Forest is mentioned in this story about how the aftermath of the George Floyd protests and a decreased reliance on standardized tests have led to more diverse admissions. Whether college admissions have changed for the long haul remains unclear. But early data suggests that many elite universities have admitted a higher proportion of traditionally underrepresented students this year than ever before.

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theguardian



## International enrollments could rebound

**APRIL 27, 2021** Not every college has overseas campuses that can host stranded students. Wake Forest University worked with a study-abroad provider to set up two remote sites in Beijing and Shanghai this year for about 100 students. The college was also able to host activities such as Lovefeast, one of the University's oldest traditions. "We wanted to infuse as much of the Wake Forest experience as we could," said Kline Harrison, vice provost for global affairs.

## The jobs outlook for the class of 2021

**MAY 21, 2021** Mercy Eyadiel, associate vice president of career development and corporate engagement, said job offers to Wake Forest's class of 2021 are up a third from a year ago when COVID-19 interrupted school and job recruitment. "I think we're trying to catch up to 2019 ... when we were graduating students into one of our strongest economies ever. We're making a comeback, and students are coming back into a much stronger jobs market."

## Learning to live a good life after profound loss

**MAY 11, 2021** After the deaths of her son and husband, Rhian Mannings emerged slowly from grief to start a charity and find love again. What does her experience tell us about how suffering can change us? Eranda Jayawickreme, associate professor of psychology and director of the Growth Initiative Lab at Wake Forest is featured in this article on post-traumatic stress and the possibility that people can grow following the experience of adversity.



The pandemic upended the relationship between consumer and gas prices

JUNE 2, 2021 “Most people now are just glad to be driving,” said Mark Johnson, an associate dean of MBA programs at Wake Forest, who wrote a paper in 2012 on the relationship between consumer confidence and gas prices. “They’re looking the other way when it costs around \$40 to fill up.”



A healthy environment as a human right

APRIL 21, 2021 In this Q&A, environmental law expert John Knox talks about why a healthy environment is as important to human life as freedom of expression, health, work, education and other rights generally accepted under international human rights law.



Legal dispute over old cemetery raises questions about who owns the past

MAY 25, 2021 Tanya Marsh, an expert in property and cemetery law, said using and restoring old cemeteries for natural burials makes sense. Centuries ago, bodies weren’t embalmed, graves were dug by hand. Those and other past practices are now hallmarks of today’s natural burials. “I think that there’s a lot of really good reasons to take old, historic cemeteries that have some excess capacity and utilize these for burials.”



N.C. prosecutor says shooting of Brown was ‘justified’

MAY 18, 2021 Body camera footage released for the first time by the prosecutor, Andrew Womble, is unlikely to quell the intense debate about whether the deputies should be held criminally responsible for the death of Brown, a Black man. Ronald Wright, a professor of criminal law and criminal procedure at Wake Forest said Womble’s decision most likely ended the possibility of any state-level criminal prosecution of the officers.



Experts weigh in on shutdown of Colonial Pipeline

MAY 10, 2021 As the Colonial Pipeline Company begins the process of bringing it’s systems back online, Professor of Operations, Supply Chain Management Hareesh Gurnani said it will take some time. “It’s not as simple as switching this pipeline back on in one go. You have to be mindful of what are the implications and whether the threat is still persisting or not.”

# GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS



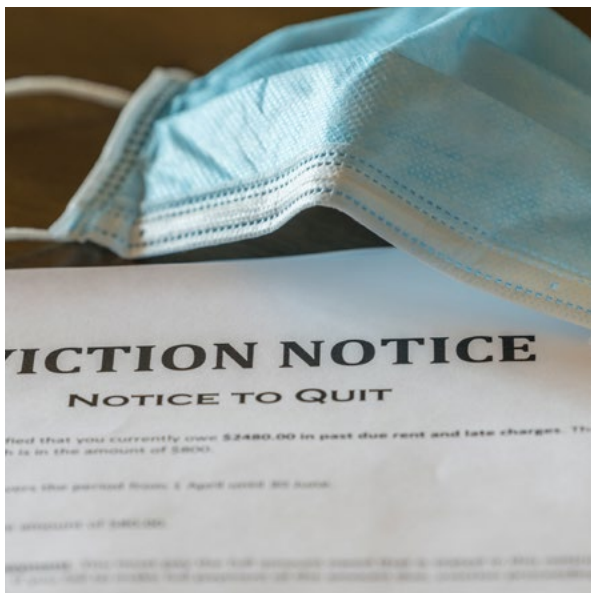
## They say it can't be done: Examining the need for regulatory reform

**JUNE 6, 2021** Eat Just has developed a revolutionary way to grow chicken from the cells of a “donor” chicken. It is readily available in Singapore, but not in the U.S. because the product is caught in regulatory mire. In this opinion piece, Christina Elson, executive director of Wake Forest’s Center for the Study of Capitalism, writes on the need for industrial powers to overhaul their approach to drafting and implementing regulations so that innovation can flourish.



## 2022 Best Online Master’s in School Counseling Education Programs

**MAY 27, 2021** Wake Forest was named to this list of best programs. The online master of arts in counseling with a concentration in school counseling program centers on clinical skills and theoretical knowledge — training candidates to serve the needs of children and families. The program requires an internship and gives candidates the chance to develop their counseling practice in a K-12 school under expert supervision.



## Locked out: Florida leaders’ long record of snubbing pro- renter bills

**MAY 28, 2021** Emily Benfer, a visiting law professor at Wake Forest and chair of the American Bar Association’s COVID-19 Task Force Committee on Eviction, said. “We have a fundamental liberty in the United States of due process, which is the right to be heard. You’ve completely just erased that aspect of the Constitution for a subset of the population.”



## Vaccinated? Then you can get two free doughnuts at Krispy Kreme

**JUNE 3, 2021** “This is one of those times when a company’s public relations campaign itself can truly be a ‘win-win,’” said Roger Beahm, executive director of the Center for Retail Innovation. “Krispy Kreme’s ability to help that cause is noteworthy, not only for its ability to elevate brand awareness, but to directly contribute to the social goal at hand.”



**PROF. KAMI CHAVIS**  
DIRECTOR, WAKE FOREST SCHOOL OF LAW CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM

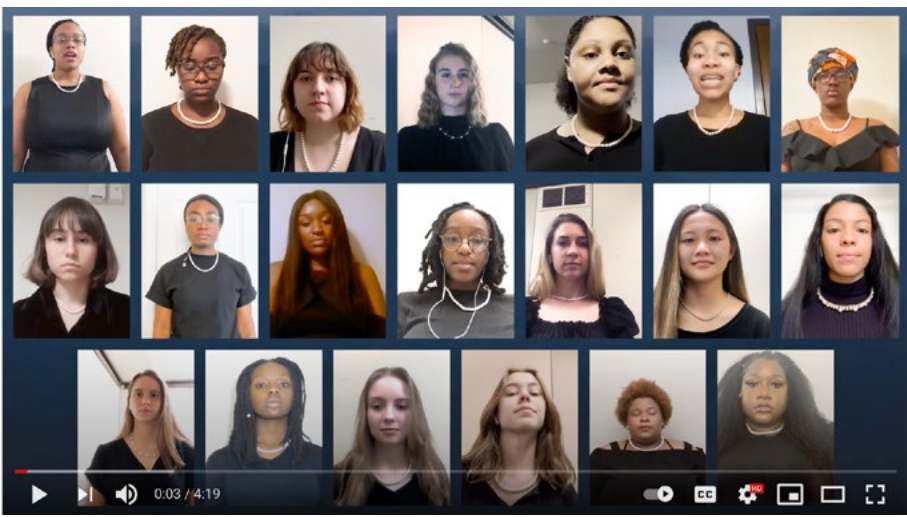
## Legal experts on Derek Chauvin trial verdict

**APRIL 20, 2021** Spectrum news talked with law professor Kami Chavis and professor Carissa Hessick of UNC School of Law after the verdict was announced. “In this case, there was an overwhelming amount of evidence related to Derek Chauvin’s guilt. The reason that we were surprised is that we rarely see the convictions even where we should see the convictions,” said Chavis, who also directs Wake Forest’s Criminal Justice Program.



WFU students hope decorative desks will inspire learning

**APRIL 14, 2021** “We received word from schools across the district that they had a need for supporting at-home learning,” said Brad Shugoll, associate director, leadership and service in the Office of Civic and Community Engagement. “We’re delighted to provide desks for children in Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools.” About 40 desks were provided this year.



WFDD celebrates 75th anniversary

**MAY 25, 2021** 88.5 WFDD, the NPR affiliate station licensed to Wake Forest, is marking its 75th anniversary throughout 2021. The public radio station, which serves 32 counties in the Piedmont and High Country, as well as southern Virginia, traces its roots to an inaugural 1946 broadcast by two students from their rooming house on the old Wake Forest College campus in Wake Forest, NC.

\$1M in gifts will support vision of integrated arts at Wake Forest

**MAY 12, 2021** The Interdisciplinary Arts Center (IAC) at Wake Forest has received \$1 million from anonymous donors to support the University’s commitment to integrating the arts across all corners of campus, in the classroom and in the community — both Wake Forest and Winston-Salem. IAC’s partnership helped fund a virtual joint performance of “Say Her Name” featuring both Winston-Salem State University and Wake Forest voices.

## AROUND CAMPUS

### Commencement 2021



## WFU NEWS



### WFU awarded 'Seal of Excellence' for meeting study abroad goals

**JUNE 1, 2021** With a study abroad participation rate of 81% by 2020, the University exceeded its initial goal of 75%. “The IIE Seal of Excellence reflects years of collective effort to make study abroad more accessible to all of our students. In this way, the recognition is a tribute to all the Wake Forest students, faculty, and staff who have made it possible to meet our goal,” said David Taylor, assistant dean of Global Study Away Programs.

### First African American female editor of Bon Appétit Magazine speaks at Wake Forest

**APRIL 26, 2021** Wake Forest University’s Center for Research, Engagement and Collaboration in African American Life, or RECAAL, held its inaugural event on Tuesday, April 27. Dawn Davis, editor-in-chief of Bon Appétit Magazine, kicked off RECAAL’s Black Entrepreneurs, Innovators & Business Leaders Series in a public conversation that was free and open to the public.



## Find a to-do list strategy that works for you

**APRIL 21, 2021** Psychology professor E.J. Masicampo’s research on to-do lists is featured in this article looking at whether a to-do list can leave you feeling in control and not overwhelmed. People perform better on tasks if they’re first allowed to map out how to finish a warm-up activity. “Simply writing the tasks down will make you more effective. It is helpful for your mind,” he said.



## Do girls negotiate differently than boys?

**MAY 21, 2021** Research suggests that women tend to negotiate differently than men, and this becomes more pronounced when the other party to the negotiation is made up of men. For instance, women tend to request less money in negotiations and also carry them out less frequently in the first place, writes philosophy professor Christian Miller, author of “The Character Gap: How Good are We?”



## School leaders say they can’t make anyone happy

**APRIL 29, 2021** Even those parents who don’t hold opinions about masking are likely to be confused by shifting requirements, said politics professor Sara Dahill-Brown. “The way schools are governed, and power over them is shared, means it’s already difficult to identify who’s responsible for what, or where a particular policy comes from. Conflicting narratives and guidelines and changing rules take a problem that was already present and puts it on steroids,” she said.



## The only classics department at a historically black college is closing

**APRIL 29, 2021** Eric Hairston, a classicist and professor of humanities at Wake Forest, calls the decision “appalling”. He blames the un-Roman notion that African-American students need more vocational subjects, an “industrial education” instead of a liberal one.

# STUDENT NEWS

## Old Gold&Black



### A graduation tabloid

**MAY 7, 2021** From physics to finance, the University’s student-run newspaper featured profiles honoring more than 40 graduates from various academic majors. “My favorite part of studying Spanish has probably been the geographic diversity,” said Savarni Sanka, Wake Forest’s 14th Rhodes Scholar and student trustee and one of the featured scholars. “The major just gives you such a variety of options to choose from. And really, you can learn about so many different aspects of the Spanish language and the people who speak it.”

## Tea Biz



### Why ancient tea appeals to young people

**MAY 28, 2021** William Liu is a 20-year-old sophomore at Wake Forest so inspired by tea that he and his classmates established the World Tea Association on campus and online. The group offers tea discovery and tasting sessions weekly and hosts occasional tea panels with presentations by tea professionals, tea scholars and tea explorers.

## WFU NEWS



### Five Wake Forest students and alumni awarded Fulbright Scholarships

**MAY 20, 2021** Five Wake Forest students and alumni have been awarded Fulbright Scholarships to teach English and conduct research during the 2021-2022 academic year. The Fulbright US Student Program is the U.S. government’s flagship international educational exchange program, offering research study and teaching opportunities in over 160 countries.



### Preferred names to be displayed on diplomas

**MAY 28, 2021** Many North Carolina-based schools house an LGBTQ Resource Center or faculty-lead LGBTQ group. NC State, Wake Forest and North Carolina State are some of the colleges that have made way for their transgender, nonbinary, gay, lesbian and bisexual students. In 2011, AJ Mazaris was selected to establish a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Queer (LGBTQ) Center on the Reynolda Campus. Mazaris is now assistant vice president for equitable policy.



# 'Hot Vax Summer' is coming. Can it possibly live up to the hype?

**MAY 18, 2021** Developing hyped-up expectations for future events can help people manage their stress. “We kind of get that surge of happiness and positive anticipation when things are possible,” said Christian Waugh, an associate professor of psychology at Wake Forest who studies positive emotions in times of stress. “You know, ‘I’m vaccinated, my friends are vaccinated — this is actually likely to happen.’”



# How effective is China at “elite capture” in Africa?

**JUNE 3, 2021** In her 2020 book “Shaping the Future of Power,” Wake Forest China-Africa scholar Lina Benabdallah showed how China has been extremely effective in so-called “elite capture” among Africa’s governing class. As an academic theory, it’s intriguing but often hard to visualize. A Twitter post by Namibian ambassador to China Elia George Kaiyamo provides a vivid example of what it looks like in real life.



# Winston-Salem economy shows signs of recovery

**JUNE 11, 2021** The most recent Bureau of Labor Statistics report, which looked at data from April 2021, shows that the unemployment rate in the Winston-Salem area was 4.3%. Economics professor Robert Whaples said that’s significant. “If you look at the unemployment rate over the last decade, the average has been about 6%. It’s not just that we’re below the national and state averages, we’re below our long-term average as well.”



# 2021’s best & worst places to start a career

**MAY 17, 2021** To help job seekers, Vice President for Career Development Andy Chan joined a panel of experts sharing insights on key questions. “Remember that the first job is not necessarily the dream job. It is just the first job. Use it to build clarity around your strengths, interests, and values then use that knowledge to make smarter decisions when it comes time to look for job number two.”



## The lyre has plucked its way through the ages

**MAY 27, 2021** It's not an instrument you're likely to see make an appearance during a modern musical performance, but the lyre played a major role in ancient Greek culture. "In the ancient world of lyre-players, no one had an electronic tuner, or even a tuning fork," said physics professor Jed Macosko, in an email interview. "So, how did they keep their lyres sounding good? They had to use math!"



## Freedom becomes a long-haul COVID victim

**MAY 3, 2021** Emergency measures to deal with the crisis are likely to linger long after COVID-19 is gone. "There may not be a pandemic exception to the bill of rights, but judges are generally willing to give state officials a great deal of deference in these situations," said politics professor John Dinan, an expert on federalism.



## Why journaling is good for you

**MAY 4, 2021** Counseling professor Mark Scholl teaches a class where students undergo a 14-week personal improvement project with journaling. "My students use journaling to track their progress and to reflect on strategies that they have found particularly effective for supporting their change efforts. Journaling promotes continual self-reflection which is a boon to incorporating change into students' emerging adult identities."



## Grade inflation tied to women in insecure teaching roles

**JUNE 9, 2021** Using data from a large, public research university, a new study by economics professor Amanda Griffith and a co-researcher from San Francisco State University is the first to look for links between incentives to award high grades, and faculty gender and contract status. The team found that students assigned to female instructors with more contract uncertainty (temporary and tenure-track) receive significantly higher grades than if the instructor was tenured.

The New York Times



‘No smile, no trash talk’

MAY 14, 2021 A bank shot carried Tim Duncan from St. Croix to Wake Forest, five championships with the Spurs and now the Hall of Fame. The Times asked a group of Duncan’s teachers, teammates and coaches to speak about his journey. Deborah Best, chair of the psychology department and Duncan’s academic adviser, remembers seeing a student in the computer lab after watching a Sunday night game. “I leaned in and it was Tim. I said, ‘You were just on TV.’” He said, “Yeah, I’ve got a research methods lab report due tomorrow.”



Truist Field going to 100% capacity in the fall

MAY 25, 2021 Wake Forest Athletics, in consultation with local and University officials, is currently planning for full capacity and tailgating at Truist Field for the 2021 fall football season and 100% fan attendance at all other outdoor venues including Spry and Kentner Stadium. With season ticket sales tracking over 20% ahead of pace from previous seasons, the Wake Forest and Winston-Salem community has shown its excitement.

Focus on the Forest

Retiring Wake Forest University President Nathan Hatch takes his last ride with the Demon Deacon as he rides his motorcycle off of Truist Field — leading the new graduates out of the stadium. Visit campus photographer Ken Bennett’s Instagram @wakeforestphoto for more photos.



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