

WAKE FOREST IN THE NEWS

Selected Media Highlights

JULY – OCTOBER 2021

news.wfu.edu

WINSTON-SALEM
JOURNAL



An on-campus commencement for the Class of 2020

SEPT. 18, 2021 More than 700 graduates from the Class of 2020 returned to Wake Forest University to walk across the stage in front of Wait Chapel for a long-awaited, in-person commencement ceremony honoring them. The graduates tossed their caps in the air at the conclusion of the program, while guests cheered. Dozens of faculty lined up to talk with the graduates and congratulate them with handshakes and hugs.

WINSTON-SALEM
JOURNAL



New president embraces challenges and opportunities

AUGUST 28, 2021 President Susan R. Wentz spoke with the Winston-Salem Journal about the challenges and opportunities of serving as the new president. The Q&A appeared on the front page of the Sunday paper. “I am tremendously impressed with the breadth and depth of the partnerships between Wake Forest and the community. A university is only as strong as the community around it.”

& WORLD REPORT
U.S. News



WFU 28th in Best Colleges rankings

SEPT. 13, 2021 U.S. News and World Report’s 2022 Best Colleges guide ranked Wake Forest University 28th overall among 391 national universities. For 26 years, Wake Forest has been ranked in the top 30 in the national universities category. The University ranked 29th for best undergraduate teaching and 24th on the “Best Value” list.



The media loves “missing White women.”

OCT. 14, 2021 “Gabby Petito’s disappearance and murder set off at least some discussion of its counterpart: a lack of media coverage of missing Black girls and women...The invisibility of Black girls and women reveals how they have been expelled from citizenship – and, therefore go unprotected, or are punished, or unseen,” writes Julia S. Jordan-Zachery, a professor and chair of the Women’s, Gender and Sexuality Studies Department at Wake Forest and author of “Shadow Bodies: Black Women, Ideology, Representation and Politics.”



Older singles have found a new way to partner up: Living apart

JULY 16, 2021 Wake Forest counseling professor Allison Forti noted that some women may feel cultural and social expectations to serve as caregivers. “I think it’s important for women to know it is OK to not want to serve as a caregiver and to still hold value as women in society,” she said. Full-time caregiving “takes a significant physical and emotional toll on someone.”



WFU receives \$5 million for debate program

AUGUST 9, 2021 The five-year gift from Megan Medica in honor of her late husband, John Medica, is the largest Wake Forest has received to support a program in the undergraduate college. “It is simply life-changing for our current debaters and for generations to come,” said Jarrod Atchison, who directs the Wake Forest Debate program. “I’m not aware of any other gift of this magnitude in the college debate community.”



IdeasCityWS

OCT. 2, 2021 Musical performances, interactive exhibits and panel discussions were featured in the IdeasCityWS Marketplace of Ideas Festival in downtown Winston-Salem as Wake Forest, New Museum and dozens of local community partners celebrated the culmination of a year of creative collaborations. “We wanted to highlight folks who are already doing work in the art, design, tech space that solves community needs, to really amplify the work they do,” said Donovan Livingston, assistant dean of the Office of University Collaborations.



How much does a COVID-19 test cost?

OCT. 11, 2021 While the national conversation on solutions to the COVID-19 crisis has shifted to mass vaccination, testing is still key to combating the spread of the virus. If you’re getting a Covid test in the doctor’s office, expect a co-pay. Economics professor Christina Marsh Dalton said the test is probably going to be free, but using the doctors’ and nurses’ time is not covered under the ‘must-be-free component.’



'Arthur' will end and people are heartbroken

JULY 28, 2021 Marina Krcmar, a children's media expert and professor of communication at Wake Forest, said "Arthur" appeals to kids of all ages because it's not overly saccharine. "Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood?" That's for 4-year-olds. A 10-year-old is not going to want to watch. But 'Arthur' covers topics that older children can really relate to, and it does it in a way that really speaks to them."



Prioritizing career development

SEPT. 30, 2021 Some schools are making significant investments, said Andy Chan, VP for innovation and career development. But those are the exceptions. "For the majority, there hasn't been that much dramatic change across the industry," Chan said of the last decade or so. Many institutions "are still in a place where they are either similarly resourced or less resourced than before." Chan also participated in a podcast for Inside Higher Ed on collecting and sharing data about how well higher ed is preparing students for workplace success.

MarketWatch



What works better, rewards or penalties?

AUGUST 27, 2021 Economics professor Frederick Chen, who has studied loss aversion as it relates to the flu vaccine, said lots of variables must be taken into consideration. There's no question that offering \$1 million or even \$1,000 might convince some individuals to get vaccinated against COVID-19, he said. At the same time, such rewards are probably not practical from a financial standpoint.

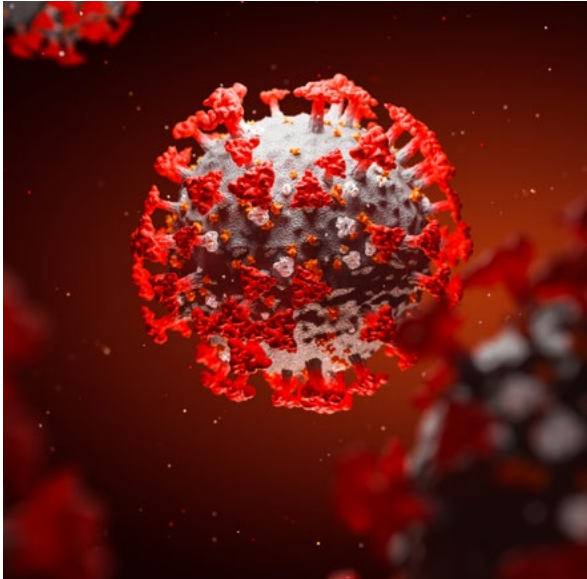
The New York Times



Is your crush on OkCupid telling you the truth?

AUGUST 8, 2021 How much dishonesty do you expect when interacting with people online? Probably a lot. There is good news that deception on online dating sites is not as widespread as we might expect. Yet there is a darker side to this story. Christian Miller, a philosophy professor and director of the Honesty Project, shares why in this New York Times op-ed.

BBC SOUNDS THE NOLAN SHOW



Reporting breakthrough Covid-19 cases

JULY 24, 2021 Statistics professor Lucy D'Agostino McGowan has been studying breakthrough cases and how they are reported. "Rather than reporting the percent of people who have gotten Covid-19 or been hospitalized among vaccinated people, the reporting tends to focus on the flip – the percent of vaccinated people among those who have gotten Covid-19 or been hospitalized. One is useful for thinking about vaccine effectiveness and the other isn't."

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SCHOOLS

CHARLOTTE
BUSINESS JOURNAL



Bank boards lag on equal representation

SEPT. 17, 2021 Women comprise about 20% of board positions among the S&P 500’s financial companies, according to a 2020 report from the American Bankers Association and Bank on Women Inc. Representation of people of color has seen slower progress. “Companies with diversity out-innovate and out-perform, and particularly when it’s at higher levels,” said business professor Julie Wayne. “What this is about is bringing in different skills, different ways of thinking and different values.”

Forbes



Doomscrolling won’t make the world better

AUGUST 26, 2021 It is easy to resort to “doomscrolling,” where one has a tendency to surf or scroll through bad news on social media. “Negativity is contagious and unsatisfying. After reading devastating news about Afghanistan, Haiti and the upsurge in Covid-19 infections, we tend to want to read more, which can lead to the phenomenon of doomscrolling,” said Nathaniel Ivers, department chairman and a professor in the online Master’s in Counseling Program.

JOURNAL OF
ACCOUNTANCY®



Use online resources to develop soft skills

SEPT. 30, 2021 While accounting is a profession based on numbers, CPAs need to hone soft skills alongside technical proficiencies. “Accounting is such a people business,” said Rebecca Johnson Chase, senior associate director, market readiness and employment at Wake Forest. “People think about the technical and analytical skills, which are so important, but what really sets accounting professionals apart are their soft skills, interpersonal skills, and people skills.”

BROOKINGS



Privacy, equity and access in COVID passports

JULY 26, 2021 While digital health certificates may facilitate a safer reopening and faster economic recovery, technological solutions to vaccine verification also raise valid concerns about the privacy of personal health data. Mark Hall, director of the Health Law and Policy Program at Wake Forest’s law school, joins this podcast discussion.

FORTUNE



How COVID has transformed the death care industry for ‘last responders’

AUGUST 7, 2021 More than 3.35 million people died last year in the United States—far more than the death trade was easily able to handle. Over 70% of the excess deaths were attributable to COVID-19. “Cultural attitudes toward death and final disposition are slowly but surely shifting,” said Tanya Marsh, a professor of law at Wake Forest who studies the funeral and cemetery trades, “a trend exemplified by the increased adoption of cremation.”

AP Associated Press



NC takes steps on carbon cap, multi-state pollution effort

JULY 13, 2021 A state regulatory panel agreed to develop rules for North Carolina to meet proposed overall reductions of carbon dioxide emissions from power plants, and to join a multi-state effort to accomplish it. “I would like ... to have the state make as much progress in carbon reductions that it practically can, as fast as possible,” said Stan Meiburg, Environmental Management Commission chairman and director of Wake Forest’s Master of Arts in Sustainability Program.

WXII12



Community organizations send letter to rapper DaBaby

AUGUST 8, 2021 After rapper DaBaby made homophobic comments during a recent appearance, eleven organizations signed a letter inviting the performer to learn more about the facts around HIV. “Even though he made offensive comments, he actually could be an advocate for people and correct the record in knowing that HIV is not a death sentence,” said signee Allison Mathews, executive director of Wake Forest’s Faith Coordinating Center.

WXII12



Calming people down: Why stores have empty shelves

AUGUST 23, 2021 As you’re out running errands, you may have noticed some empty shelves and some essentials are hard to track down. Business professor Haresh Gurnani said although you cannot control the lack of raw materials or distribution troubles, there is something you can do. “Calming people down in terms of making sure no one unnecessarily stocks up. The way grocery stores have been doing that is limiting the number of purchases a customer can have during a single trip.”

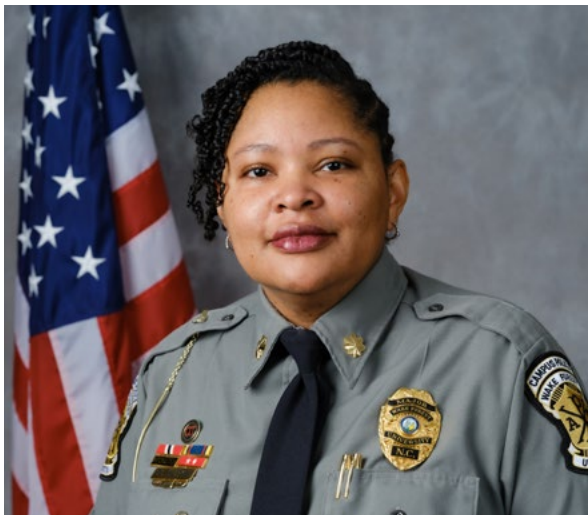


Wake Forest students return to campus

AUGUST 18, 2021 Wake Forest welcomed more than 1,400 first-year students to campus on move-in day. The Class of 2025 includes students from 42 of the 50 U.S. states, plus Puerto Rico. Twenty-three countries are represented in this year’s class. This year’s incoming class has the highest percentage of domestic students of color (24%) as any class since 2011. Of the members of the Class of 2025, 9% are first-generation.

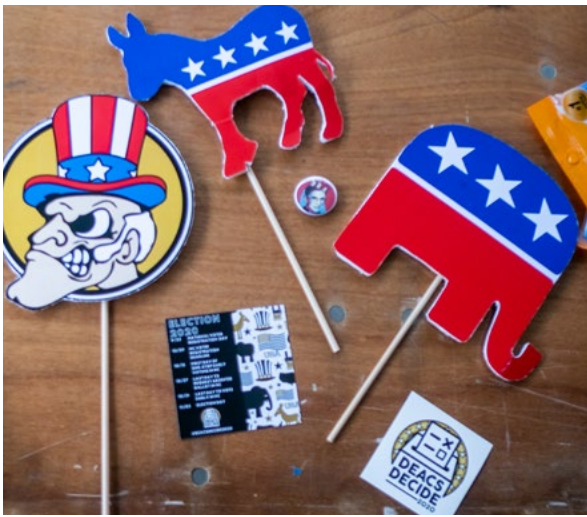
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WFU NEWS



The new diversity conversations

AUGUST 5, 2021 Major Derri Stormer, who oversees the support services, strategic initiatives and community engagement division in the University police department, is featured in this Q&A on the importance of diversity and inclusion in law enforcement. “Representation matters,” said Stormer. “We have to actively work at building relationships with diverse groups.” Stormer received the 2021 Martin Luther King Jr. “Building the Dream” award and was awarded the 40 Under 40 Leadership Award from the International Chiefs of Police Association in 2018.



Students participate in National Voter Registration Day

SEPT. 28, 2021 After last year’s Presidential election, voter registration efforts slowed a bit on college campuses nationwide. But today during National Voter Registration Day, Wake Forest students will hit the ground running to get re-energized around voting. “I believe everyone should have access to have their voice heard, and I think the best way to do that, besides being an advocate, is to vote,” said Drew Skilton, a junior communications major.



Honoring 9/11 on the 20th anniversary

SEPT. 11, 2021 As the country remembered the 20th anniversary of Sept. 11, 2001, ROTC cadets from Wake Forest and Winston-Salem State universities joined with community volunteers and first responders in a “Climb to Remember” to honor victims of the attack. Participants walked 2,997 steps to honor the 2,997 people whose lives were lost 20 years ago in the attack — repeatedly walking up and down the bleachers until all the steps had been taken. Wake Forest has hosted this event for the past eight years.

Diverse
ISSUES IN HIGHER EDUCATION



African American Studies Program launches

SEPT. 2, 2021 Wake Forest launched its new African American Studies program with Corey D.B. Walker serving as its inaugural director. “The discipline has been in the Academy for over half a century, and its importance is underscored by the ways in which we’re still wrestling with fundamental issues about how we live together and what it means to be human,” Walker said. More than 23 professors across several departments and programs will be contributing to the program.

SPECTRUM
NEWS



Summer program promotes literacy to children

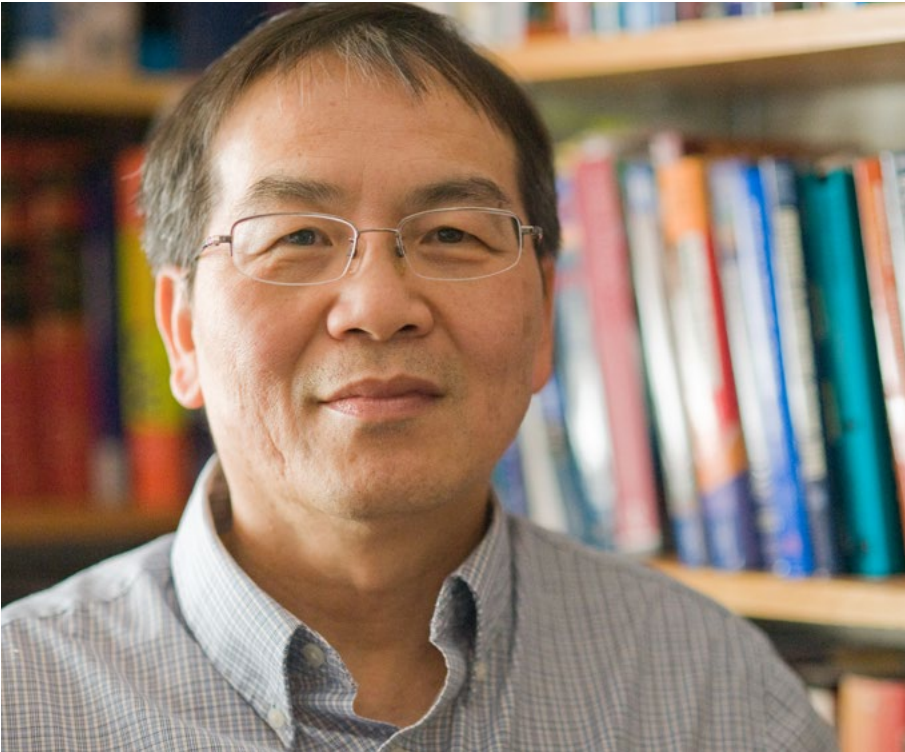
AUGUST 8, 2021 Wake Forest University’s Freedom School works to enhance children’s motivation to read. It provides a multicultural reading curriculum and also supports them through leadership development, social action and health. What makes the program so impactful for children is how much fun they have while learning. “We’re also motivating and uplifting them so they will embrace their potential,” said Camry Wilborn, assistant director of community partnerships in the Office of Civic & Community Engagement.

WXII12



WFU hits the bricks

SEPT. 30, 2021 During Hit the Bricks, 1,693 participants logged nearly 23,000 laps – or just over 5,600 miles – around Hearn Plaza to raise money for the Brian Piccolo Cancer Research Fund. They competed on 146 teams and raised more than \$200,000, with donations still coming in. Lead organizer Brad Shugoll said, “It was an amazing day bringing our campus community together. We had record-breaking participation and fundraising, and everyone united in this shared fight against cancer.”



As relations with China cool, Central and Eastern Europe looks to Taiwan

AUGUST 5, 2021 Taiwan, the small island nation only recognised as independent by 15 states worldwide, could not offer a realistic business and trade alternative to the world's second largest economy. "The harsh reality of power politics might make it difficult for Taiwan to be a viable alternative to their trade relations with China," said politics and international affairs professor Wei-chin Lee.

The Philadelphia Inquirer



Don't let disagreements lead to disdain

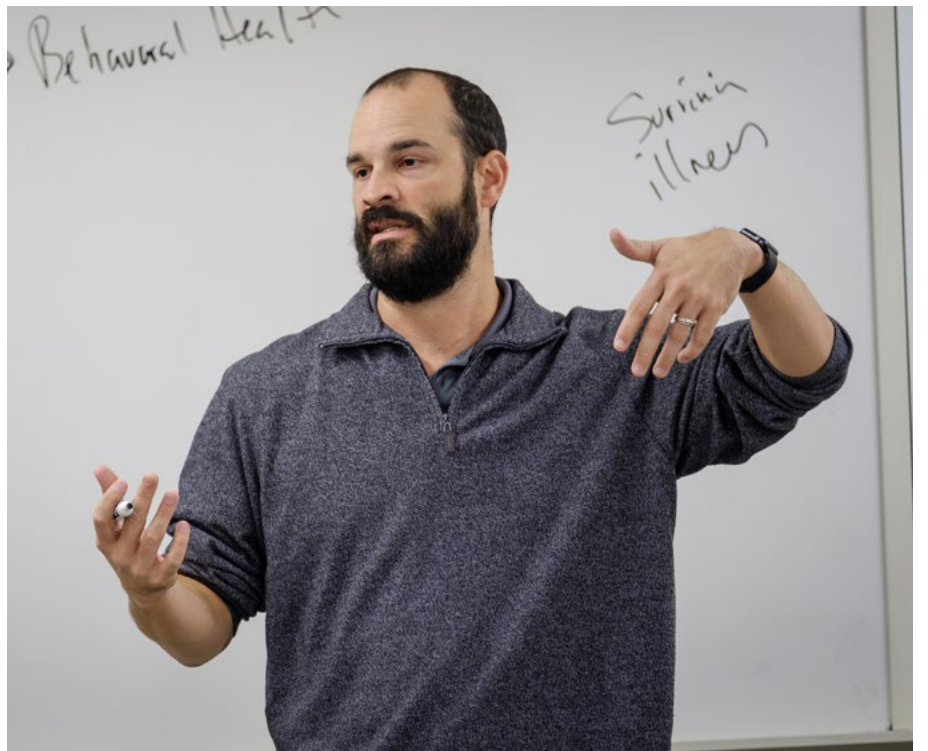
SEPT. 13, 2021 In a recent study, people were more likely to consider different viewpoints in situations where they saw the person they were arguing with as moral and therefore trustworthy. "Do assume the best of intentions when disagreements arise. If you take a step back and remind yourself that they're not a bad person, you can disagree without being disagreeable," writes Eranda Jayawickreme, a psychology professor and senior research fellow at the Program for Leadership and Character at Wake Forest.



Making America godly again, one T-shirt at a time

SEPT. 1, 2021 Religion professor Lynn Neal said clothing provides a sense of identity for a religious community and communicates something about a person's beliefs to the outside world. For evangelical Christians, Neal said, clothing — especially T-shirts — can be a way of sharing their faith. "In our polarized world, the identity piece is as big or bigger than the evangelism piece. If you can buy a nerdy T-shirt or a Make America Godly T-shirt, that tells you there are other people like me," she said.

InsideHook



Did this summer actually ... suck?

SEPT. 3, 2021 "Many people were so tired of being restricted due to the pandemic that they had great hope and positive anticipation that the summer would be different, that it would be a return to normal," said psychology professor Christian Waugh, whose work focuses on stress regulation and positive emotions. "We know from research that when anticipating an emotional event (positive or negative) in the future, people tend to overestimate how impactful that event will be — this is called the affective forecasting bias."



Senior to study college students, Winston-Salem

OCT. 2, 2021 Anna Lummus, a Wake Forest University senior, is working with Greater Winston-Salem as an intern for a special project on talent retention. Lummus will complete research on college students' perceptions of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County as a place to locate and use the findings to make recommendations for a college student retention plan. Lummus is a history and communication double major and a political science minor at Wake Forest.



Face-to-face with Malcolm Gladwell

SEPT. 15, 2021 Hundreds of students enjoyed an hour with journalist and author Malcolm Gladwell. The student event — a unique opportunity for questions and answers with Gladwell — was held prior to the first in-person Face to Face Speaker Forum since the launch of the signature series in March 2020. Students from the University's Program for Leadership and Character helped lead the event with scholars from the program taking the stage to lead the moderated session.



Students pay it forward with virtual tutoring

SEPT. 23, 2021 The University's program, for children in the Winston-Salem area in grades K-12, requires students to spend an hour a week with the kids with whom they're paired. "This program is not only fulfilling, but really flexible for college students. You're still able to do what you need to do academically while being really engaging and supporting the students' needs," said junior Savannah Littlejohn.



Back Button

SEPT. 14, 2021 Wake Forest senior Thomas Conrad wants gamers to be able to tangibly feel what they felt playing video games in their childhood. His business, Vetro Gaming, enhances the late '80s and '90s Gameboys with modern technology with the intention of preserving the original console. He said the pandemic served as a catalyst for the retro gaming community because people were dusting off their old Gameboys to experience it anew. Since launching in the summer of 2020, the company has been revenue positive.



ByteSize Learning helps kids learn to code

SEPT. 13, 2021 A new startup, ByteSize Learning, offers computer skill-building classes for school-age children from 8 to 18. Wake Forest senior Andrew Rust founded ByteSize Learning with his friend Ayden Hochstein, a senior at N.C. State. The project-based courses take students beyond the basics of using a computer to take a test or attend a Zoom class and instead bring them into their own creative space.



Your B.S. detector is rusty. Time to sharpen it.

JULY 10, 2021 John Petrocelli, a social psychologist and professor of psychology at Wake Forest, researches the causes and consequences of B.S. to help us improve our ability to detect and dispose of it. Petrocelli shares insights about who spreads B.S., when we're susceptible to it, and how we can confront it in his book, "The Life-Changing Science of Detecting Bullshit."



Why did an Afghan government the US built up for decades collapse in days?

AUGUST 16, 2021 "When U.S. forces started leaving this spring, the last stable leg to the Afghan government collapsed and all parties, from government officials in Kabul to soldiers in the field and local leaders, essentially went their own way," said politics professor Will Walldorf, author of "To Shape Our World For Good: Master Narratives and Forceful Regime Change in United States Foreign Policy."



France bids adieu to military mission in West Africa

JULY 7, 2021 After nearly a decade battling terrorists in West Africa, France is now winding down its largest overseas military mission. China, while still less present than in other parts of the continent, has been making inroads. Even in Mali, where the conflict between militants and security forces is particularly violent, China is involved in commercial projects and infrastructure development, said Lina Benabdallah, an expert on China-Africa relations.



The myth that democracies bungled the pandemic

OCT. 4, 2021 Politics professor Justin Esarey writes: The argument that authoritarian governments outperform democracies in a crisis has found new life during the coronavirus pandemic. The data tell a different story. Democracies face criticism of their vaccination campaigns precisely because they are democracies: They have cultures of open discussion and free media. But when it comes to developing and administering the lifesaving vaccines that can stop the virus, democratic governance is working.



A surprising benefit of strength training

OCT. 1, 2021 Strength training is a great option for people who prefer instant gratification or have a hard time sticking to an exercise routine when they don't see results right away. "If you put someone on a walking program, it will take time before they perceive their body is changing," said health and exercise science professor Jeffrey A. Katula. "But with strength training, you can feel a difference in your muscles even after one session."



Hands-on STEM experience for high schoolers

OCT. 7, 2021 With a grant from the Burroughs Wellcome Fund, Wake Forest will be able to provide hands-on opportunities for high school students in Forsyth County to explore STEM studies and related careers. Support for the Wake Forest LEAP (Lab Experiences: Academics and Professions) program will be used to launch a paid, lab-based, summer internship program for high school students. Students accepted to the program will have a paid summer experience that directly links to a desired career.

THE CONVERSATION



Political orientation predicts science denial

SEPT. 16, 2021 Vaccine refusal is a major reason COVID-19 infections continue to surge in the U.S. Safe and effective vaccines have been available for months, but as of mid-September 2021, only 65% of eligible American adults are fully vaccinated. Philosophy professor Adrian Bardon writes: Is there any hope of depolarizing the issue of COVID-19 vaccination, or trust in science itself? Not until leaders in conservative politics, media and religion exert a concerted effort to change the narrative.



More Triad college students attending counseling

OCT. 11, 2021 A year of uncertainty changed everything, especially the college experience. "For college students who maybe haven't had enough practice figuring out what are the things I do to take care of myself, it's made it particularly hard for them," said James Raper, the assistant VP for Health and Well-Being at Wake Forest.

ATHLETICS



Six named to 2020 WF Sports Hall of Fame

SEPT. 17, 2021 NBA All-Star Chris Paul, NCAA Champion Michael Bingham, quarterback Riley Skinner and placekicker Sam Swank, former women’s golf coach Dianne Dailey, and swimming and diving team member Drew Taylor have been inducted into the Sports Hall of Fame. “These legendary Demon Deacons embody the Pro Humanitate spirit of Wake Forest,” said director of athletics John Currie. The new inductees bring the total number of members in the Sports Hall of Fame to 175 and mark the 47th induction class.



College football midseason takeaways: Surprises

OCT. 9, 2021 What the Demon Deacons have done to date is historic: the first 6-0 start in school history since 1944; their first 4-0 ACC start; the only undefeated team left in the ACC; the first ACC team to clinch bowl eligibility. The last time Wake football was 6-0, Bing Crosby was the big star, the average cost of a house was \$3,450, “Meet Me in St. Louis” was a hit, gas cost 15 cents a gallon and Eisenhower was Time’s Man of the Year.

Focus on the Forest

Wake Forest students pass on Manchester Plaza as they head to their classes on a beautiful fall day. Visit campus photographer Ken Bennett’s Instagram @wakeforestphoto for more photos.



Popular on Instagram



2,477 likes
wfuniversity The #HarvestMoon over @zsrlibrary. 🌕 Welcome, fall.



5,634 likes
wfuniversity Gameday in DEACTOWN! 🏈
#GoDeacs #DeacsWin



5,404 likes
wfuniversity Our hearts are with Mount Tabor High School and the entire Winston-Salem community. #SpartanStrong



3,454 likes
wfuniversity 🏃 22,789 laps around Hearn Plaza
🏃 1,693 runners
🏃 146 teams
🏃 \$200,787.85 raised for the #BrianPiccolo Cancer Research Fund
🏃 1 perfect day at Wake Forest
#ProHumanitate #GoDeacs



WAKE FOREST
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