

ISSUE 1.5



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CAT NEWS

From the Executive Director

I have to begin with a confession. Even though we're only three weeks into this semester, I'm just about ready for Spring Break. Omicron, black ice, and the looming prospect of a *third* year of pandemic teaching have not made for a great start. Like many of you, my tank is near empty.

That said, I'm not without hope that this will ultimately be a semester to reconnect and recharge. I'm teaching for the first time since the pandemic began, and my students have been an absolute joy. We've just welcomed a new Director of Research, and she is already moving our work forward in exciting ways. Most importantly, I'm hopeful we will be able to come together in April for our Inclusive Teaching Conference and the full day of learning, reflection, and fellowship it promises.

We hope the spring programs highlighted below will acknowledge your exhaustion, lighten your load, and offer a glimpse of a better tomorrow.

INCLUSIVE TEACHING CONFERENCE UPDATE



In case you missed it in our last issue, we are excited to (re)announce that classes have been canceled for the full day of our Inclusive Teaching Conference on Thursday, April 21st!



We have an absolutely incredible lineup of presenters planned for that day, so if you haven't checked them out yet please visit our [conference webpage](#) for details. You will also find a schedule for the 21st, as well as a keynote from an extra-special guest on Wednesday the 20th.

Finally, we are closely monitoring all ongoing safety recommendations for Covid-19 and will post any updates to the conference in this newsletter and on the conference website. In the meantime, keep your eyes open for a registration link, coming soon!

LEARN MORE

INCLUSIVE TEACHING CONFERENCE *Reading Group*



One of the goals of the Inclusive Teaching Conference is to give the Wake Forest community an opportunity to think deeply and learn extensively

from our nine presenters, all leaders in Inclusive Teaching. To help make the most of this opportunity, we hope you will join us for a reading group where we will discuss representative works of the Conference presenters.



We will meet 4 times this spring on Thursdays from 2-3 PM. Meetings will take place in-person in ZSR 665 and move to Zoom if in-person gatherings are not appropriate. There will be no hybrid option.

Dates and topics ([a detailed schedule can be viewed here](#)):

- 2/3: *Structure and Access for Inclusion*
- 2/24: *Teaching about Race and Slavery*
- 3/17: *Implicit Bias and Stereotype Threat*
- 3/31: *Creating an Inclusive Classroom Climate and Being an Agent of Change*

REGISTER



Burnout has become our go-to term for talking about the pressure and dissatisfaction we experience at work. But because we don't really understand what burnout means, the discourse does little to help workers who are suffering from exhaustion and despair.



Jonathan Malesic was one of those workers, and to escape he quit his job as a tenured professor. In [The End of Burnout](#), he dives into the history and psychology of burnout, traces the origin of the high ideals we

bring to our jobs, and profiles the individuals and communities who are already resisting our cultural commitment to constant work.

Going beyond the how and why of burnout, Malesic combines academic methods and first-person experience to propose new ways for resisting our cultural obsession with work and transforming our vision of human flourishing.

Dates: 2/1, 2/15, 3/1

Time: 1:00-2:00 PM

Location: ZSR 665 (Faculty Commons Classroom inside the Faculty Commons space in ZSR Wilson Wing).

We will provide the book for the first 12 registrants. These discussions are very popular so we ask that you register only if you are available to attend all sessions.

REGISTER



Teaching With Cases? It's GREAT But Buckle Up!

Date: Wednesday, February 2

Time: 3:30-4:45 PM

Location: ZSR 665

Facilitator: Dan Johnson, Biology



REGISTER

Using a Collaborative Project to Teach Persuasive Writing and Speaking



Date: Wednesday, April 6

Time: 3:30-4:45 PM

Location: ZSR 665

Facilitator: Adam Friendman, Education

REGISTER



Writing a Teaching Philosophy Statement



Date: Wednesday, February 23

Time: 3:30-4:45

Location: ZSR 665

Facilitator: Kristi Verbeke

REGISTER

Designing Assignments and Assessments for Equity and Inclusion



Date: Tuesday, March 23

Time: 3:30-4:45

Location: ZSR 665

Facilitators: Anita McCauley & Karen Singer-Freeman

REGISTER



A note from
**DR. KAREN
SINGER-FREEMAN**
Director of Research

Greetings, Wake Colleagues!

As I begin my role as the first Director of Research at the CAT, I want to share more about this position and the ways we can work together in the coming months.

First, I will be supporting faculty who are interested in conducting research on their teaching. As a former psychology faculty member, I found that conducting research on my teaching helped me to teach better, enjoy my teaching more, and become a part of a wonderful community of faculty who engage in scholarship of teaching. If you are interested in talking about research possibilities for your current teaching, please let me know!

Second, I will be supporting faculty who are interested in writing grants to improve teaching or support student success. I love writing grants that improve student success and have found it incredibly gratifying to work with others to transition good ideas into funded projects! So far, I have written successful grants to support improvements in mathematics and statistics teaching, learning communities for transfer students, an honors program, peer mentoring program, and summer research program for underrepresented ethnic minority students. If you are interested in pursuing a funding opportunity, I am happy to help in any way that I can!

Finally, I will be evaluating CAT programs to identify areas for growth. If you have any thoughts about what we could be doing better, please let me know. If you would like to learn more about some of my work or see



some of my recent publications, feel free to check out my [LinkedIn profile](#).

EMAIL KAREN

DEPARTMENTAL TEACHING INITIATIVE FUND



As a reminder, the CAT offers financial support to departments and programs seeking to enhance teaching and learning in their programs of study. Up to \$500 is available per academic year and will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis.



Departmental Teaching Initiative Funds may be used for a variety of teaching and learning development activities, such as purchasing books for group reading and discussion; bringing in a speaker with expertise in a specific teaching and learning topic; and purchasing food for meetings associated with these development activities.

Please visit the [CAT Funding website](#) to learn more about the Departmental Teaching Initiative Fund and the [CAT Departmental Support website](#) to learn more about the ways that the CAT can support your department or program.

APPLY FOR FUNDING



Have you recently tried a new approach in your class? Do you have an area of teaching expertise you want to share? Are you interested in exploring a teaching idea with like-minded faculty? Would you like a free book of your choice?



The CAT invites you to submit a proposal to lead a 75-minute interactive workshop as part of our "From the Forest" PEER (Practices, Expertise, Experiences, and Research) Workshop program.

We welcome and encourage proposals from all types of instructors within all of the departments/schools/colleges across the university. Facilitators will receive one teaching-related book of their choice and be recognized on our website and in our newsletter.

[SUBMIT A PROPOSAL](#)



Thanks for joining us this month! Be sure to check out our [blog](#) if you haven't already. Featuring posts from the CAT team as well as guest contributors, you'll find a variety of evidence-informed practices and industry-trending topics.



Looking for a casual space to connect with colleagues? Join over 240 faculty to ask questions and share tips in our WFU Teaching Support Facebook group!

Click the button below to visit our "connection hub" and see all the ways you can stay in the loop with the CAT.

CONNECT

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