Meet the 2020-2021 Fellows

The Wake Forest Fellows Program was created to provide recent graduates a chance to work in higher administration in a year-long position as full-time staff members of the University. Established by the President’s Office in 2008, the program provides challenging work opportunities in a variety of offices across campus.

Each Fellow has opportunities to interact with key administrators and faculty; to learn about various administrative areas of the university; and to participate in a series of leadership lunches and enrichment activities with leaders in the Wake Forest and larger Winston-Salem community.

Campus Life,
Office of Wellbeing

Ashley Berry
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203-917-9234
Major: Communication
Minor: Schools, Education, and Society
New Milford, Connecticut

Undergraduate involvement:
Resident Advisor, APO, Campus Kitchen

Career interests, next steps: Hoping to enter a graduate program in student affairs after my Fellowship.

Assists the Vice President on a broad range of special projects during this one-year fellowship position. Also assists the Director of Campus Wellbeing with projects related to the wellbeing initiative.

Roles, responsibilities & projects:

- Assists the Director of Campus Wellbeing with the design, implementation, and assessment of an innovative, campus-wide initiative to advance wellbeing for Wake Forest students, faculty and staff.
- Serves as the Division of Campus Life’s liaison to various university constituents: students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members.
- Researches, analyzes, and/or studies information affecting various projects and events as assigned by the Vice President’s Office.
- Manage the social media outlets, marketing and communications plans for the Office of Wellbeing.

Advice for future Fellows applicants:
“Use your experience in undergrad to inform your work as a Fellow. As a recent graduate your WFU experience is very valuable, so don’t be afraid to speak up.”

School of Business

Monet Beatty
beattymr@wfu.edu
Major: Biology
Minors: Environmental Studies & Dance
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Undergraduate involvement:
Office of Sustainability Environmental Education Intern, President’s Aide, Presidential Scholar, World Wide Wake Pre-Orientation Leadership Team, First Year in Focus, Wake Forest Dance Company

Career interests, next steps: Sustainability Officer, Environmental Consultant

The School of Business Fellow attends key Project and Leadership meetings to create and implement internal and external communication strategies in support of School activities and goals, in addition to supporting the School’s overall social media activities.

Roles, responsibilities & projects:

- Researches and drafts internal and external communications action plans, letters and correspondence, speeches and remarks, presentations, social media and other written materials as needed; demonstrates excellent written and verbal communication skills.
- Collaborates with the School of Business Marketing & Communications team to support the development of the School’s social media profiles and presence.
- Supports day-to-day social media activities as needed; displays knowledge and understanding of social media platforms and their respective participants.
- Special projects as needed

Advice for future Fellows applicants: “Be willing to learn new skills, and find value in all of your experiences!”
Interested in applying? Visit fellows.president.wfu.edu to read more detailed descriptions of each position and its responsibilities and to find valuable application guidelines and tips from the Office of Personal & Career Development. This website also includes lengthier biographies of each of the current Fellows and information on previous Fellows cohorts.

Office of the Dean of the College

Ellie Bruggen
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O: (336) 758-2020
Major: Politics & International Affairs
Minor: Biology, Environmental Studies, Latin American and Latino Studies
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Undergraduate involvement:
Outdoor Pursuits, Office of Sustainability, Sustainability Theme House, President’s Aide

Career interests, next steps:
Community work in social and environmental justice, graduate degree in political science or sustainability

The Fellow will assist the office through a broad range of special projects which emphasize collaboration, leadership, and research. The Fellows efforts will highlight student-faculty engagement, undergraduate scholarly and creative activities, and the Teacher-Scholar ideal. Fellows gain insight into the day-to-day operations of Wake Forest College, while providing the perspective of a recent graduate.

Roles, responsibilities & projects:
• Serve as co-chair of the Dean’s Student Advisory Panel
• Plan Dean’s List Gala and Major Exploration Week
• Complete best practices research and create reports comparing WFU to peer institutions

Advice for future Fellows applicants:
“Meet for tea or coffee with any of the Fellows whose offices you are interested in! We are happy to share our experiences with you. Be able to talk about Wake Forest’s greatest attributes and greatest challenges. Also, smile!”

Office of the President

Mark Handler
handmd16@wfu.edu
O: 404-333-2959
Major: English
Minor: Interdisciplinary Writing
Atlanta, Georgia

Undergraduate involvement:
Alpha Phi Omega international service fraternity, Sigma Pi social fraternity, Club Soccer, Wake ‘N Shake Champion Relations, Omicron Delta Kappa

Career interests, next steps:
Graduate school (law school), working for the MLS

Serves as a representative in the Office of the President working on a broad spectrum of specific initiatives and coordinating special projects requiring action with all offices of the university. Assists in communication and interaction with various external constituencies.

Roles, responsibilities & projects:
Supporting the work of the Boston-Thurmond Community Network, “a WFU-incubated nonprofit”, helping facilitate the President’s Aides program, interviewing Wake Forest applicants with the Admissions Office, composing various research projects on leading in times of crisis

Advice for future Fellows applicants:
“Always try to demonstrate the many ways you care about Wake Forest, and don’t hesitate to pounce when you get the chance to brag about yourself. The Fellows’ offices admire ambition, confidence, and connection. Show your passions, and don’t be afraid to aspire to be.”
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Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center

Lydia Faber
lfaber@wakehealth.edu
Cell: 312-835-7028
Majors: Biology
Minors: Chemistry and Art History
Elmhurst, Illinois

Undergraduate involvement:
Wake Forest Baptist NICU volunteer, Deacon Doula,
Dr. A. Jones Organic Chemistry Lab, Dr. E.
Johnson’s Spider Team

Career interests, next steps: I hope to both attend medical school and become a health educator to promote body literacy.

Healthcare administration provides a unique opportunity for a recent graduate to learn about the complex and varied activities of an academic medical center. The Fellow provides a needed and welcomed perspective, and a set of critical and timely skills.

Roles, responsibilities & projects:
• Working with the CEO of the Medical Center as well as the Director of Faculty Affairs.
• My main project this year will be working on Diversity and Inclusion implementation through the Maya Angelou Center for Health Equity.
• Shadow physicians in the OR and their respective clinics as well as other medical professionals in various departments.

Advice for future Fellows applicants:
“In the highly competitive field of medicine, the most successful individuals I have met are generous, kind, and humble. I would advise any fellow, and any individual going into medicine, to limit your judgments of others and make the person in front of you feel heard and important. Appreciate all of our differences and be willing to learn from those!”

Office of the Provost

Walter Jackson
jackwt16@wfu.edu
O: 336-758-4059
Major: Politics & International Affairs
Laurinburg, North Carolina

Undergraduate involvement:
Student Government, Alpha Kappa Psi, Friendship Beyond Borders, Baptist Student Union, Wake Admissions, Call to Conversation

Career interests, next steps: Consulting, lobbying, government affairs

Working under general supervision, assists the Provost, Vice Provost, Associate Provosts and Assistant Provosts with a broad range of special projects during this one-year fellowship position.

Roles, responsibilities & projects:
• Slavery, Race, and Memory Project
• University’s Operational Budget in Response to COVID
• Commencement Planning

Advice for future Fellows applicants:
“Focus on identifying your strengths and weaknesses and then work towards improving both. Also, be open and adaptable to change and uncertainty about your potential career path.”
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Office of Personal & Career Development

Katherine Laws
lawskm16@wfu.edu
O: 336.758.7040
Major: English | Minor: Journalism
Concord, North Carolina

Undergraduate involvement:
Wake Forest Magazine, Tour Guides, Reformed University Fellowship, Traditions Council President’s Aide, Our State Magazine

Career interests, next steps:
Higher Education, Marketing, Magazine Writing

Rotational development program with modules in marketing campaigns and community engagement via content creation, employer relations and treks, career coaching, office operations and human resources, and more. The Fellow also provides a bridge between the OPCD, which aims to guide students to a life of purpose, and the student body.

Roles, responsibilities & projects:
- Plan and market events by creating digital media content, which may include graphic design, writing, or video creation.
- Attend career fairs, treks, and other career exploration opportunities
- Write and edit for the website and social.
- Provide the perspective of a recent graduate for various OPCD projects.

Advice for future Fellows applicants:
“Take advantage of the many resources the OPCD offers—whether it’s for your cover letter or for your interview! And, remember that you will make Wake Forest better by loving it well-- certainly not blindly, but with a heart of service.”

Office of Information Systems

Isabella Ryan
ryanim16@wfu.edu
O: 336.758.3664
Majors: Economics and Anthropology
Nashville, Tennessee

Undergraduate involvement:
Student Government executive board and chair of the Campus Life Committee, Resident Advisor, BUILD and BRANCHES facilitator, member of the Alcohol Coalition, and ZSR Ambassador.

Career interests, next steps:
Law school or public policy work! A bill I wrote to limit the solitary confinement of minors has been introduced in the Tennessee State Legislature for 5 years so I might also take a few months to dedicate myself to getting it passed.

The Information Systems Fellow is engaged primarily in projects supporting innovation in academic technology as a member of the department’s leadership team which includes the CIO and directors.

Roles, responsibilities & projects:
- October Cyber Security Awareness Month Campaign
- T-CART Grants Program geared towards faculty who are interested in exploring new and existing ways to use technology to enhance pedagogy.
- Staff assorted governance committees
- Flexibility in determining your own projects; if it excites you, you can pursue it

Advice for future Fellows applicants:
“Reach out to us; I would love to talk to anyone interested in serving as the IS Fellow! Be curious and explore what interests you!”
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Wake Downtown

Yassmin Shaltout
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O: (336) 702-1934
Major: Anthropology
Minors: Biology and Chemistry
Alexandria, Egypt & Winston-Salem, NC

Undergraduate involvement:
Women in STEM, Dash Corps, Wake Alternative Break, Resident Advisor, Refugee Art Therapy Research, Civic Scholars, Richter Scholar, Muslim Students Association, President’s Aide

Career interests, next steps: Allopathic or Osteopathic Medical School/Public Health Policy/Health Equity/Global Health Anthropology

Serves as an aide to the biomedical sciences and engineering programs of Wake Downtown - working on a broad spectrum of specific initiatives and coordinating special projects requiring interaction between Wake Downtown and other university offices, departments and the Winston-Salem community.

Roles, responsibilities & projects:
Manage all media associated with Wake Downtown (Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, Wordpress website) | Grant Research and Writing | Downtown Ambassadors Advisor - oversee the structure and functions of the undergraduate Wake Downtown Ambassadors which includes aiding them in event planning and making sure their tour information is up to date and correct | Community Outreach (documentation and planning) | Serve as a member of the The Science Of Winston-Salem marketing and communications working group

Advice for future Fellows applicants:
Fellows are dedicated to learning & growing while also committing their energy to the improvement of the Wake Forest experience as well as the University’s overall community presence. Show your dedication to these aspects - lean into humility while showcasing your curiosity, creativity, and passion!

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