Announcements

Business Competition to be RESCHEDULED. We will work on determining a more convenient timeframe and will provide new dates when available.

Books at Biltmore Park – All bookstore orders that have not been delivered by courier to Biltmore Park as of last Thursday will be delivered this FRIDAY afternoon. Biltmore Park is open every day this week from 8am-5pm. If you have a book currently here, you should have received an email last Friday.

MBA Leadership Speaker Series – Tuesdays at 6pm, Biltmore Park room 346.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Speaker's Topic</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 21</td>
<td>Gerald Austin – NFL Officiating Consultant</td>
<td>Leadership style: Does style depend upon the situation or is consistency more effective?</td>
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<td>Jan 28</td>
<td>Jack Cecil – CEO, Biltmore Farms</td>
<td>The Importance of Vision</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 4</td>
<td>Kitty Price, Marketing Director – Highland Brewery</td>
<td>The Importance of Ethics and Values</td>
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<td>Feb 11</td>
<td>David Gantt – Chairman, Buncombe County Commissioners</td>
<td>Empowering people – how much, how far &amp; what about management controls?</td>
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<td>Feb 18</td>
<td>Anne Ponder – Chancellor, UNCA (yet to be confirmed)</td>
<td>What makes a leader effective?</td>
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<td>Mar 4</td>
<td>Bill Murdock – Eblen Charities</td>
<td>How do leaders motivate people?</td>
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<td>Mar 18</td>
<td>George Briggs, Executive Director of the N.C. Arboretum</td>
<td>How do leaders build effective teams</td>
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<td>Mar 25</td>
<td>Terry O'Keefe, Author, Newspaper Columnist</td>
<td>How do leaders mentor and coach?</td>
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<td>Apr 1</td>
<td>Suzanne DeFerie, CEO - Asheville Savings Bank</td>
<td>How should performance be measured?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 8</td>
<td>Major General Richard Devereaux, US Air Force</td>
<td>What does the future hold for leaders?</td>
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GBSA Activities

T-shirts are here and ready for pickup! You may pick them up at Biltmore Park during the hours listed below. If you need to make special arrangements to pay and receive your shirt, email Meredith at gbsa.wcu@gmail.com. --Didn't order a t-shirt but wish you had?? Good news! We have a extra shirts in varying sizes (S-M-L) and the cost is $15 each. Supplies are limited, so act fast to get yours! --

If you have ideas for GBSA events this spring, or would like to get involved, please email Nicole at gbsa.wcu@gmail.com

Calendar of Events

Graduate Assistant Meeting – Thurs, Jan 9 at 3pm (BP 345)
New Student Orientation – Thurs, Jan 9 at 6pm (BP 346)
MBA Advisory Board Meeting – Fri, Jan 10 at noon (BP 344)
Spring payment due – by Mon, Jan 13
First day of classes – Mon, Jan 13
Drop for nonpayment – Fri, Jan 17
Opportunities

**Paid Internship(s) with MMS (Asheville)** – Positions available in 1) finance/accounting - bookkeeping system changeovers, implementing financial reporting, metrics, and other financial/accounting efforts; 2) Lean manufacturing/BPR - help study, improve, streamline and document/standardize processes. Doesn't have to be an ISO 9001 black belt, but some process improvement experience is a must. Could also help to improve overall productivity on the production floor, and in data & customer services; 3) project management – support the CEO in tracking and reporting on growth initiatives. Hard driving, detail-oriented job. Full employment is likely following internships for the right person. Email kumcintyre@wcu.edu if you are interested. Please be specific regarding which position you are interested in, and provide a list of experiences (including from the classroom) that show your knowledge in these areas.

**The 22nd Annual Graduate Research Symposium – Thurs, March 27 at Western Carolina University (Cullowhee Campus).** Graduate students are encouraged to present their research at concurrent sessions between 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM at the University Center in Cullowhee. All submitted abstracts and papers will be evaluated by faculty reviewers to highlight the high-quality research and creative activities of our graduate students.

Basic information and submission deadlines:
- All presenters must submit their application materials via the web link below no later than **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20**
  - (1) an electronic application form is found at the following link
  - (2) an abstract (250 to 300 words) clearly describing the research project, question, or argument.
- We also encourage students to submit a completed research paper for the Graduate Research Paper Competition, also by the **THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20** deadline at the same web link above.
- Prizes will be awarded for the paper competition at the reception.
- A Three-Minute Thesis Presentation Competition will be held and registration and presentation details will be provided by January 10, 2014.
- Please plan to join us at the Awards Reception at 5:00 p.m. on March 27th, at the University Center. Student awards in various categories including research, thesis, teaching, academic discipline, and the Chancellor’s Fellowships will be presented. Refreshments and hors d’oeuvres will be served.

Additional details and contact information are available at the following link. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact, Brian Kloeppe, Associate Dean of the Graduate School at 828-227-7398 or 800-369-9854 or bkloeppe@wcu.edu.

**2014 Summer Graduate Research Assistantships**
The Graduate School has announced that funds are available to support summer graduate research assistantships at $3000 each for summer 2014.

- **PURPOSE:** Support continuing resident credit graduate program student research during the summer to assist in timely completion of the graduate degree.
- **AMOUNT:** Stipend of $3000.00
- **WORK REQUIREMENTS:**
  - 30 hours per week with a start date of **MAY 12, 2014**/end date of **JUNE 30, 2014**. The last pay date will be JUNE 30, 2014.
  - Students cannot work beyond the assistantship contract end date of JUNE 30, 2014.
- **ELIGIBILITY:**
  - Continuing resident credit program graduate students not enrolled for the 2014 summer term but enrolled for the 2014 spring and 2014 fall terms.
  - Continuing resident credit program graduate students enrolled for the 2014 summer term.

*Keep an eye on your student email for the application and rubric – due February 1, 2013.*

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