Announcements

**ALL CLASSES CANCELED AT BILTMORE PARK AND IN CHEROKEE TONIGHT!** Keep an eye on your student email and blackboard for alternative meeting options or assignments, if applicable. Everyone stay safe and warm.

**Graduate Faculty Awards** – Please be aware the award period is open now for a limited time, and can really make a difference for your favorite faculty member. Check your inbox for an email from Laura Cruz, click the link, and vote!

**Graduate Student Association Drop-in Meeting – Rescheduled! Tuesday, February 4, BP Room 346, from 4:30 to 6:00 PM.** The mission of the GSA is to act as a financial, informational, and social liaison for Cullowhee, Biltmore Park, and online graduate students in pursuit of their academic success at Western Carolina University. To date, GSA has not been active at Biltmore Park and we will change that - this brief meeting is the first step. Come learn about travel grant opportunities for graduate students and provide your input on the GSA strategic plan.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Speaker’s Topic – (usually 30 minutes + questions)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan 28</td>
<td>Bill Murdock – Eblen Charities</td>
<td>The Importance of Vision</td>
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<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>Mar 4</td>
<td>Jack Cecil – CEO, Biltmore Farms</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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<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**

**GBSA Semester Kick-Off Social – Rescheduled!** Tuesday, February 4 from 4:45-5:45 at Biltmore Park (specific room TBD). Come meet your GBSA leadership team as well as other fellow students in a variety of cohorts! Pizza from Asheville Pizza and Brewing will be provided (first come, first serve!).

**Calendar of Events**

GBSA Social – Tues, Feb 4, 4:45-5:45

**Coming up!**
Speed Networking at Biltmore Park Thirsty Monk – February 13
Interview Prep – March 5
Shamrock Race – March 15
Opportunities

Still ON! **WNC Lessons in Leadership -- Harry (The FISH! Guy) Paul**, co-author of the phenomenal worldwide bestselling book FISH! who will talk about bringing passion, excitement and FUN into everything you do. At just $20 per person, Lessons in Leadership is a GIFT to the community by bringing world-class leadership training to Western North Carolina at a fraction of what you'd usually have to pay to hear a speaker of this caliber. PLUS, our opening presenter is former Asheville resident **KEITH CHALLENGER**, whose new book Leap Life is a must for anyone who has ever felt like there are just not enough hours in the day to get everything done! For more details or to register, visit www.wncleaders.com.

**Date:** Tuesday, January 28, 2014  
**Venue:** Thomas Wolfe Auditorium, Asheville, NC  
**Time:** Networking from 5:30pm. Event from 6:30pm - 8:45pm  
**Price:** $20 per person (registration required)

**Small Business Week Event at Biltmore Park -- Marketing Workshops**  
WCU Programs at Biltmore Park, 1-4pm.  
- **The Easiest & Cheapest Way to Market Your Company** (Mark Bloom & Linda Ray / Ray Access)  
- **Cause Marketing: Doing Well By Doing Good** (Sheila Neisler / Catalyst - A Marketing Company)  
- **Stand By Your Brand: Consistency in All Marketing** (Kenny Capps - Kudzu Printing / Kudzu Branding; President - Asheville Advertising Federation)

**Registration** Eventbrite [http://vibrantashevillebusiness020414pt1.eventbrite.com](http://vibrantashevillebusiness020414pt1.eventbrite.com)

- **Plus Special Events Throughout The Day**  
  **11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. - Coffee / Lunch @ Mosaic**  
  **10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. - Valentine’s Specials @ Biltmore Park Retailers** *(Park Partners Will Be Offering Special Discounts To Participants Come By Regus Registration To Pick Up Your Park Partners Card)*  
  **5:30 - 8:00 p.m. - Networking Party at Hilton Asheville Biltmore Park 43 Town Square Blvd**

**Registration** Eventbrite [http://vibrantashevillebusiness020414pt2.eventbrite.com](http://vibrantashevillebusiness020414pt2.eventbrite.com)

**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** and **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.*

Connect Online!  
**Facebook:** Western Carolina University MBA Program [https://www.facebook.com/wcu.mba](https://www.facebook.com/wcu.mba)  
**Twitter:** @wcuMBA [http://twitter.com/#!/wcuMBA](http://twitter.com/#!/wcuMBA)  
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