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Editor: Kelly McIntyre, kumcintyre@wcu.edu

Announcements

**DEADLINE Midnight TONIGHT! 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!

**Summer Classes (Finally!)** – We have made the decision to offer MBA 693: International Business & Market Research with Dr. Ed Wright (June) and MBA 625: Applied Business Economics with Dr. Steve Miller (July). Students who already have econ may be able to use the 693 course as a substitute for another MBA course. Economics will be limited to only 20 students and registration is first come, first serve. Stay tuned for more information, including details on specific meeting times.

**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>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 (Rescheduled from Jan 28)</td>
<td>Bill Murdock – Eblen Charities</td>
<td>The Importance of Vision</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**
**Coming up!**
Speed Networking at Biltmore Park Thirsty Monk – February 13
Interview Prep – March 5
Shamrock Race – March 15

**Calendar of Events**

GBSA Speed Networking – February 13, Biltmore Park Thirsty Monk, time TBD

Undergraduate Advising Day (NO CLASSES) – Tuesday, February 25

Registration Opens – Wednesday, February 26
GBSA sponsored Career Services Interview Prep – March 5, details TBD

Opportunities

Rescheduled! 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, February 25, 2014
Venue: Thomas Wolfe Auditorium, Asheville, NC
Time: Networking from 5:30pm. Event from 6:30pm - 8:45pm
Price: Now FREE for WCU students and faculty

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 Kloeppel, Associate Dean of the Graduate School at 828-227-7398 or 800-369-9854 or bkloeppel@wcu.edu.

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