Dear Fellow Catamounts – we hope this email finds you all going well, staying warm, and ready for the holiday season!

It is that time again and here is your chance to engage with the 2014-2015 WCU interdisciplinary theme: *North Carolina: Our State, Our Time*

**Tar Heel Tour: Our State, Our Time**

![North Carolina map with cities marked]

**Who:** Those folks living in and loving North Carolina! Not sure what North Carolina was and is about? Check these links out for some ideas: [North Carolina State Government](#), [North Carolina –Our State](#), [North Carolina Travel & Tourism](#), [North Carolina: Our State, Our Time](#)

**What:** *Tar Heel Tour: Our State, Our Time*

“In [our] mind [we] are going to Carolina…” – James Taylor

Simply put, this is the opportunity for students, faculty, staff, and community members to take a tour across North Carolina that showcases seven different aspects of the state’s past, present, and future.

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<tr>
<th>Region (west to east)</th>
<th>Appalachian Mountains</th>
<th>Piedmont Plateau</th>
<th>Atlantic Coastal Plains</th>
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<td>Focus Area (then, now, or future)</td>
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<td>Creative Arts (CA)</td>
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<td>Education (EDU)</td>
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<td>Innovation &amp; Technology (I&amp;T)</td>
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<td>Recreation &amp; Tourism (R&amp;T)</td>
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<td>Social Change (SC)</td>
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The UC Grand Room will be set up to showcase important social, political, technological, environmental scientific, and of course musical and artistic feats of humanity that have been achieved or endured or are in the process of development within the State of North Carolina!

**When:** Thursday, February 12, 2015 (5-7 pm)

**Where:** UC Grand Room

**Why:** To witness and investigate what the State of North Carolina (past, present, and future) offers for learning, contemplation, exploration, and scholarship within your respective disciplines!

**How:** There are two ways to get involved with *Tar Heel Tour: Our State, Our Time*

*(if interested, please respond to the links below by Friday, December 19, 2014)*

Identify an issue/event/achievement and showcase it in connection to your respective discipline (see example suggestions below). If this sounds like something you would like to get involved in – click here: **BE THE TOUR**

Simply put, what we are asking is for you to think of an achievement, event, or issue, related to your discipline, that might be “showcasable” in a hands-on/interactive way, and to find a way to demonstrate that topic to participants!

**Appalachian Mountain Region**
For example, faculty, staff, students, and community members could arrive in the western part of our state and learn of:
- one of the first national forests established in the eastern US – Pisgah National Forest (ENV),
- the Biltmore Estate and its nearly 1 million visitors per year (R&T), and
- hear passages from and watch the movie trailer for the region-centric period novel, *Serena* by Ron Rash (CA).

**Piedmont Region**
Moving west to east, travelers could then venture into the Piedmont Region of our state. Here travelers might be inspired by:
- the industries underpinned by the state’s “Research Triangle,” which has led to the 5th strongest metropolitan area in the US
(Raleigh) where technology is booming (I&T),
• the oldest public university in the nation, as measured by the start of instruction – University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill (EDU) that has led to the 16 institution system that WCU is a part of, and
• then learn about the life of North Carolinian Billy Graham who has advanced civil right and social change (SC).

**Coastal Plains Region**
Finally, our travelers could arrive in NC’s coastal plains region and here they would learn of:
• coastal management methodology and the process for protecting NC’s coastal heritage (ENV),
• hear music from country music legend, Charlie Daniels (CA), and
• emulate a slam dunk from the free-throw line like Michael Jordan (R&T).

Not planning on submitting an idea or stop for the Tar Heel Tour, please consider inviting your students to participate, connecting the experience to your class, showing up on the evening of the event, and soaking it all in! If this sounds more like you – click here: [TAKE THE TOUR](#)

Again, thank you very much – if you have any questions, please contact Dr. Lane Perry at [laneperry@wcu.edu](mailto:laneperry@wcu.edu).

Cheers and here’s to The Old North State,

Tar Heel Tour Organizing Committee