Two Interim Leaders Accept Permanent Jobs, Reorganization Approved

Provost Kyle Carter has appointed Scott Higgins dean of The Graduate School and Research and Anna McFadden director of Cullowhee Faculty Center effective Dec. 1. They have served on an interim basis in those leadership roles for more than a year.

“Both appointments begin the process of stabilizing leadership in key areas,” Carter said. “For these positions, it was important that we have individuals who understand the institution, its culture and desired path. Each has shown they fit the bill.”

The appointments come as the University of North Carolina Board of Governors approves Western’s plan for reorganization. Through creating a Fine and Performing Arts College, a Health and Human Sciences College and the Kimmel School of Construction Management, the reorganization creates new dean positions, too. The UNC board also approved renaming research and graduate studies The Graduate School and Research, which Carter said will play a larger role in WCU’s future.

As interim dean, Higgins has helped restructure the graduate school and research office to reduce red tape and more efficiently serve students and faculty, Carter said. In addition, the provost said Higgins has effectively advocated for graduate education and research.

Higgins said he strongly believes a university needs a graduate school and a strong research component to complete its mission.

“We can accomplish that mission if we really focus on the needs of our students and graduate faculty,” said Higgins, who began his career at Western 25 years ago. “There is potential for Western to do so much. We can really make a difference in the lives of people in Western North Carolina.”
As interim director at Coulter Faculty Center, McFadden has done an excellent job coordinating the center’s redesign, said Beth Loquist, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs. The center’s namesake, Chancellor Emeritus Myron Coulter, wanted it to become a national leader in the scholarship of teaching and learning.

“Because Anna continues to be a practitioner and researcher on quality teaching, she brings additional credibility to her role as she sponsors workshops or seminars on the scholarship of teaching and learning, or how to properly integrate technology into the teaching and learning process,” Carter said. “The Coulter Faculty Center will flourish under her leadership.”

McFadden brought vast experience to Western as a K-12 teacher and instructor, administrator, curriculum developer and principal at Irmo (S.C.) High School.

“What attracted me to Western was its strong emphasis on teaching,” she said. “I was told I was entering a department of strong teachers, and I found that to be true. Western is a place where faculty are celebrated, respected and listened to.”

—by TERESA KILLIAN

---

**WCU NewsFile**

 ► **James T. Costa**, the H.F. and Katherine P. Robinson Professor of Biology and director of the Highlands Biological Station, is author of “The Other Insect Societies.” In the book, published by Harvard University Press, Costa argues that, in their efforts to explain the mysteries of the communal behaviors that have evolved among ants, bees and similar insects, evolutionary biologists have long ignored the diverse social arrangements that exist among the remaining 28 orders. He specifically examines social phenomena from the world of the arthropods—beetles and bugs, caterpillars and cockroaches, mantids and membracids, sawflies and spiders.

 ► **Cynthia S. Deale**, associate professor of management and international business, presented a paper that she co-authored titled “Marketing Locally Harvested Shrimp to South Carolina Coastal Visitors: The Development of a Culinary Tourism Supply Chain” at the fall conference of the Southeast Council on Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Education in Memphis, Tenn.

 ► **Kyuho Lee**, assistant professor of hospitality and tourism, coauthored a paper, “Developing Competitive International Service Strategy: The Case of TGI Friday’s Korea,” that was accepted for presentation at the International Conference on Services Management in New Delhi, India, in June.

 ► **Ron Rash**, the John and Dorothy Parris Distinguished Professor of Appalachian Culture at Western Carolina University, won the North Carolina Literary and Historical Association’s 2006 Sir Walter Raleigh Award for Fiction for his third novel, “The World Made Straight.”

 ► **Josh Whitmore**, director of outdoor programs, placed ninth in the masters world championship cross-country mountain bike race in Canada in September. Whitmore was slowed in a steep section by an unplanned obstacle—a black bear walking on the course, as well as a few crashes that he described as “just slow over the handlebar types, nothing too crazy,” which are common on the technical course.
**November**

**Monday, Nov. 20**
Art workshop — book binding. $7 p.m. Room 150, FAPAC. (227-3458)

Catamount basketball — vs. Atlanta Christian. $7 p.m. RRAC. (227-7338)

Concert — woodwind quintets and clarinet ensemble. 8 p.m. RH. (227-7242)

**Wednesday, Nov. 22–Sunday, Nov. 26**
Thanksgiving Holiday — no classes.

**Friday, Nov. 24–Saturday, Nov. 25**
Hard Candy Christmas — arts and crafts show. $10 a.m.–5 p.m. RRAC. (524-3405)

**Monday, Nov. 27**
Catamount basketball — vs. Toccoa Falls. $7 p.m. RRAC. (227-7242)

**Tuesday, Nov. 28**
Workshop — “The Spirituality and Mythology of Native American Culture,” featuring the Fast Horses, Minnesota-based Lakota family. 3–4 p.m. Illusions, UC. (227-2276)

Performance — the Fast Horses, performing native music and dance. 7 p.m. Theater, UC. (227-2276)

Catamount Concert Series — Vive la France, solo and four-hand French piano music, Andrew Adams and Bradley Martin. 8 p.m. RH. (227-7242)

**Wednesday, Nov. 29**
Meeting — Faculty Senate. 3–5 p.m. Room 104, Killian Building. (227-7495)

**Thursday, Nov. 30**
Concert — WCU Wind Ensemble. 8 p.m. RH. (227-7242)

**December**

**Friday, Dec. 1–Saturday, Dec. 2**
Madrigal dinner — re-creation of pageantry, music and food of 16th-century England. $6.30 p.m. Grandroom, UC. (227-7206)

**Friday, Dec. 1**
Quarterly meeting — WCU board of trustees. 9:30 a.m. Multipurpose Room, UC. (227-7100)

Day Without Art — Choreography, Flava Dance team, cast of “A Grand Night for Singing” perform to raise hope on World AIDS Day. Noon-2 p.m. HA. (227-3672)

**Sunday, December 3**
ArtiFacts! — potato-stamp holiday cards. No admission charge but registration required. 2:30–3:30 p.m. MHC. (227-7129)

Concert — Holiday performance, WCU student ensembles and music faculty. $5. 3 p.m. FAPAC. (227-7242)

Concert — WCU Inspirational Choir. 6 p.m. Grandroom, UC. (227-7234)

**Exhibits**

**Mountain Heritage Center**

**Gallery A:**
“Migration of the Scotch-Irish People.” Permanent exhibit.

**Gallery B:**

**Gallery C:**

**Lobby:**
“People of the Land,” and “Mountain Heritage Day Award Winner.” Ongoing exhibitions.

**Slideshow Spotlight**

**FOR NOVEMBER:** “New Threads in Old Patterns” features coverlets and tells the story of the handicraft revival in Southern Appalachia.

**FOR DECEMBER:** “Irons in the Fire” describes the role of blacksmithing in pioneer and Cherokee culture in the Southern Appalachians.

**Mountain Heritage Center hours:**
8 a.m.–5 p.m. Monday–Friday
(227-7129 or www.wcu.edu/mhc)

**Fine Art Museum**

**Fine and Performing Arts Center**

“WORLDVIEWS. Selections from Western Carolina University’s Permanent Collection and New Acquisitions.” Continuing exhibit.


**Museum hours:**
Tuesday–Thursday, 11 a.m.–6 p.m.; Friday 11 a.m.–4 p.m.; first Saturday of each month 1–4 p.m. (227-3591 or http://fapac.wcu.edu)

**Submissions:** Send news items and calendar notices to WCU Calendar, 1601 Ramsey Center, Western Carolina University, Cullowhee, NC 28723 or e-mail to: Reporter@email.wcu.edu. Submit items for the university’s online calendar at least one week prior to the event.

**Key:** $—Admission fee; BB—Belk Building; CAC—Catamount Athletic Center; CAT—Center for Applied Technology; CCB—Cordelia Camp Building; CSC—Catamount Softball Complex; FAPAC—Fine and Performing Arts Center; HA—Hoey Auditorium; HFR—H.F. Robinson Administration Building; HS/CF—Hennon Stadium/Childress Field; MHC—Mountain Heritage Center; NSA—Natural Sciences Auditorium; RH—Recital Hall, Coulter Building; RRAC—Ramsey Regional Activity Center; UC—A.K. Hinds University Center; WS/BW—Whitmire Stadium/Bob Waters Field.
An exhibit titled “Harvey K. Littleton and Friends: A Legacy of Transforming Object, Image and Idea” is now open at the Fine Art Museum.

Littleton, a renowned artist and master teacher, is widely considered the father of the contemporary studio glass movement in the United States and Europe, as well as the inventor of a versatile and unique vitreographic print-making process.

More than 60 works in mixed media, vitreography, painting, studio glass, ceramics sculpture, prints and book arts are featured.

Pat Brown Elected President of National Honor Society

Pat Brown, dean of educational outreach, has been elected president of Alpha Sigma Lambda national honor society for nontraditional students. Brown, who assumed the two-year presidency Nov. 1, has been treasurer and vice president with the organization for the past six years.

Alpha Sigma Lambda is America’s only chapter-based honor society for nontraditional students. This year marks the 60th anniversary of the honor society. The society seeks to motivate and recognize adult students who, while managing work, family and other life responsibilities, achieve and maintain high scholastic standards.

Brown initiated the establishment of the Mu Epsilon chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda at WCU in 2004. The chapter has inducted more than 100 adult learners. Mu Epsilon also supports the Malcolm J. Loughlin Scholarship program, which is open to qualified juniors who represent the standards of the society and the qualities of Loughlin, WCU’s former associate dean of educational outreach, who died in January.

QEP Committee continued from page 1

collaborative efforts of faculty and student affairs, a division committed to the personal, social, and intellectual development of students. Advising opportunities are numerous, including a pre-professional program that helps students make decisions for their entire college experience to prepare for graduate programs such as medical or veterinary school.

To build on those initiatives, the QEP proposes expanding the Career Services Office into a Career Education Center. More coordination would take place among advising, service learning, international programs, undergraduate research and career education. Coulter Faculty Center would help faculty and staff find ways to encourage synthesis and create opportunities for students.

“Faculty and staff would be more intentional in encouraging students to think holistically about their education – drawing students to a minor or second major that complements their goals, or helping them choose an internship that builds on what they learned in the classroom to apply it to the real world,” Philyaw said.

One mechanism for that communication would be an “education briefcase,” an electronic tool that pulls together student documents and facilitates communication with faculty, advisers and career counselors to integrate what they are learning in courses, service learning projects, internships and other activities, said Carol Burton, director of WCU’s SACS review. Briefcase materials could include information from students such as papers about majors or careers, or proposals for undergraduate research. The collection would help students develop cover letters or applications for graduate school, as well as help students process their experiences at WCU in an integrated way.

“We would not change what we do,” Philyaw said, “but rather how we do it.”

–by TERESA KILLIAN

–by JONI KENYON

The Reporter is published by the Office of Public Relations. Mail faculty/staff notes, events, notices, and changes of address to: The Reporter, 1601 Ramsey Center, or send them via e-mail to: Reporter@email.wcu.edu.