

JONATHAN BRADSHAW, Ph.D., is an Assistant Professor of English at WCU and has his Ph.D. in Composition & Rhetoric from Miami University. He has conducted communications-based participatory research with two Appalachian civic organizations: Appalshop, a multimedia nonprofit in eastern Kentucky, and the Urban Appalachian Community Coalition, a community advocacy organization in Cincinnati, OH. He teaches courses on rhetoric, writing, and pedagogical theory.



PATRICIA BRICKER, Ed.D., M.S., Associate Professor and Associate Director of the School of Teaching and Learning, leads Growing Minds @ WCU: The Local Food and Farm to School Education Project. Since 2009, WCU students have been actively engaged in the community by observing, assisting, and leading local food cooking classes, gardening lessons, and local food cafeteria taste tests. Additional engagement projects include citizen science service learning days and a range of science education initiatives in the region.



SHELBY HICKS, M.F.A., as a student organization adviser and as an instructor in a studio setting with a "real" project and client at a previous institution I experienced the increase of student engagement, higher level of achievement and overall interest in community and "real" projects. The students set a higher standard for themselves when they were passionate and connected to the project. Student organization volunteered to restore a "water garden" for the local conservation area. Completed a Mock LEED renovation project for a local business owner.



SCOTTIE KAPEL joined Western Carolina University in 2016. As Outreach & Scholarly Communication Librarian, her areas of focus are copyright, open access, and undergraduate research support. One of her goals in supporting undergraduate researchers is to help students determine the most compelling way to translate their service-learning experiences into a presentable research product, and she hopes to teach students how to explore their service interests in greater depth through research.



KAE RIVERS LIVSEY, Ph.D., MPH, RN, Associate Professor, Dr. Livsey has more than 10 years of experience in creating and developing applied community based learning experiences for undergraduate BSN students with particular emphasis on use of community based service learning experiences, simulation and working with underserved populations. Dr. Livsey also has experience working as a BSN prepared RN in a primary care setting, where she engaged in chronic disease management and practice redesign for a free clinic as the sole RN on staff. In her role as Dean Fellow for Strategic Initiatives for the College of Health and Human Sciences, Dr. Livsey also works as a consultant with WNC Healthy Impact to assist public health and hospital systems to utilize the Results Based Accountability model to support program performance evaluation and impact population health goals.



NANCY LUKE, Ph.D., M.A., as a former classroom teacher, I recognized the importance of developing and sustaining classroom community through mutual respect, understanding of self and others, and shared experience. Focus on community is the still the framework for my practice as a teacher educator and associate professor in the School of Teaching and Learning. I believe that when we participate in community engagement and service, we develop as informed and engaged citizens and contribute more fully as professionals.



AMY MURPHY-NUGEN, Ph.D., MSW, assistant professor in the Department of Social Work at Western Carolina University, teaches courses on rural community advocacy and policy; community and organizational behavior and practice; program evaluation; and human behavior and the social environment. Community engagement is the foundation of her professional and academic identity. Her teaching, research and service intersect in the areas of community economic development, not-for-profit management/leadership, public policy and the scholarship of teaching and learning. John teaches television production courses where students produce original story ideas. Community-based documentaries are popular topics, and these student videos can amplify the benefits of service-learning projects. Recent videos include promotions for a local food bank, local recycling initiatives, and a documentary on cultural-historic interpretation of the solar eclipse through folklore told by Cherokee elders. John's research agenda involves the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) and the Broadcast Education Association (BEA).



WILLIAM RICHMOND, Ph.D., is a professor in Computer Information Systems. He has been involved in service learning since the late 1980's. Since coming to WCU in 2005, his students have provided over 10,000 hours of service to the local community. He had been involved in SL-related scholarship as well as being actively involved with the Center for Service Learning. He is a member of the Community Engagement Advisory board and has won several engagement awards.



DIANE STYERS, Ph.D., M.A., I utilize interdisciplinary project-based learning techniques in my courses, and this approach has initiated collaborations with WCU faculty and students in various disciplines across campus. This method has allowed me to bring geospatial projects into non-NRCM courses, which allows students and faculty to see the value of geospatial tools early in their careers, and apply these to major projects. I am excited to expand this model to the community through participation in the FICE institute.



SHANTEL SULLIVAN MSW, LMSW, Originally from Upstate New York, Dr. Sullivan joined the Western Carolina faculty in the fall of 2016 while completing her doctorate in education with a concentration in educational leadership from the University of New England. Dr. Sullivan is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Dr. Sullivan has spent nearly a decade working to foster interprofessional programming and relationships. This focus has led to interprofessional initiatives in perinatal bereavement, incident stress debriefing, diabetes education, leadership development, pain management, and clinical placement design.



JOHN WALSH, M.F.A., teaches television production courses where students produce original story ideas. Community-based documentaries are popular topics, and these student videos can amplify the benefits of service-learning projects. Recent videos include promotions for a local food bank, local recycling initiatives, and a documentary on cultural-historic interpretation of the solar eclipse through folklore told by Cherokee elders. John's research agenda involves the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) and the Broadcast Education Association (BEA).



TODD WATSON, DPT, OCS, FAAOMPT, the department of physical has a long history of service-learning projects within its curriculum and I have been an active faculty participant since my arrival in 2002. Since 2013 I have taken 3 DPT student groups to Honduras to serve on a medical mission experience. I have another course will occur over this coming winter break with 13 DPT participating, and another opportunity for early August is in the planning states. With this international service-learning travel course, student experience the Central American culture, develop relationships with young girls at an orphanage and are able to offer physical therapy services at a free clinic they help manage during their stay. During two of these previous trips, and the planned upcoming January course, the clinic has been coordinated as an interdisciplinary clinic with students from East Carolina University. I hope to explore similar offerings to WCU undergraduate health science majors, develop the relationship with ECU further, and develop the clinic in Honduras.



DR. YANJUN YAN, Ph.D., M.S., is an Assistant Professor in the School of Engineering and Technology (SET). Her research interests include statistical signal processing, swarm robotics, engineering education, and global learning. Our SET students engage with local, national, and even international community through industry-sponsored capstone projects, and we are looking for more ways to do service learning. Dr. Yan strives to provide students with faculty-led study-abroad opportunities, and she is interested in expanding it with service learning component, too.

