

## Counseling Program Moves to Biltmore Park

In an effort to best meet the needs of the majority of our prospective and current counseling graduate students, the WCU counseling program will hold all classes and related program activities at the Biltmore Park instructional site effective summer 2015.

The counseling program office is located in room 349 and the phone number is 828.227.6528.

## College of Education and Allied Profession's Annual Golf Tournament

The CEAP 3rd Annual Golf Tournament will be held June 20 at Crooked Creek Golf Club in Hendersonville, North Carolina. Sponsors and participants may select the scholarships they wish to support and make additional donations if they wish. If you would like more information about the tournament or would like to make a contribution, please contact David Claxton at 828.227.3556 or [claxton@wcu.edu](mailto:claxton@wcu.edu)

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Newsletter Editor – Lydia Cook



## Internationally Acclaimed Expert Speaks with CEAP

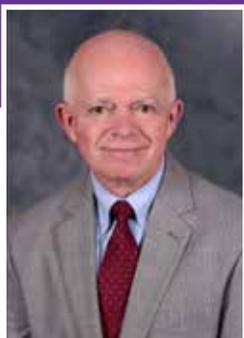
Dr. Lisa D. Delpit, the Felton G. Clark Distinguished Professor of Education at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, visited WCU on Friday, Feb 27. John Bryant, WCU doctoral student and senior human resources director for Henderson County Public Schools, conducted a public interview with her in the University Theatre. Delpit, an internationally acclaimed expert on the educational experiences of children of color and on the preparation of teachers who work with these children, responded to questions from John for about an hour. Then the floor was opened to questions from the audience of about 100 who had come to hear Delpit.

On Saturday, Delpit visited WCU's Biltmore Park instructional site for a 90-minute discussion with 31 graduate students who are working toward their doctorates in education. On Friday and Saturday, her comments focused on issues related to teacher preparation, the uniquenesses of rural communities, the importance of parents and communities in the education of all children, and more.

Delpit is the author of numerous publications, most notably *Other People's Children and Multiplication is for White People*. The events were sponsored by the Department of Human Services.

## Dean's Message:

# *Focus on Scholarships*



Western Carolina University, under the leadership of Chancellor David O. Belcher, has been engaged in a tremendous effort to increase our financial support for students. The College of Education and Allied Professions, with the generous support of donors, has added more than 15 new scholarships in the last three years and increased the dollar amount awarded to students in the college by approximately 70 percent. This newsletter will highlight some of our available scholarships for students in our programs.

In addition, we are continuing our effort to invite membership into the Killian Society whose mission is to endow new scholarships in the College and to add to existing scholarships. Current students and graduates from the last five years can become members of the Killian Society with a contribution of \$125 in increments of at least \$25 per year for five years. Others (alumni and friends) can join the Killian Society with \$125 per year for five years, or \$625, and dedicate the contribution to any existing scholarship. To learn more or become a member, visit [KillianSociety.wcu.edu](http://KillianSociety.wcu.edu).

Our goal is to offer more support for students in all programs to make a quality education more accessible and reduce the amount of debt to be paid back upon graduation. If you would like to contribute to the existing highlighted scholarships or to explore the development of a new scholarship, contact me personally at 828.227.7311 or [carpenter@wcu.edu](mailto:carpenter@wcu.edu).

## Sharon Dole Scholarship

The Sharon Dole Endowed Scholarship is for graduate students enrolled in the special education program with a concentration in gifted, creative and innovative education. Dr. Dole views the scholarship as a way to encourage teachers who demonstrate the personal characteristics of creativity, enthusiasm and passion to pursue graduate studies in gifted education in order to best prepare their K-12 students for the 21st century.

The scholarship coincides with the revision of the master's program in gifted education to focus more on critical thinking and problem solving, collaboration, self-directed learning and academic mindsets, all elements outlined by the Hewlitt Foundation as necessary for deeper learning. The 30-hour program is completely online, with the exception of a one-week field experience in the summer called Rocket to Creativity, during which the teachers work with children in grades 1-9 on project-based and problem-based learning.

Western Carolina University has a long history of involvement in gifted education. It was under Dr. Carl D. Killian's leadership that The Cullowhee Experience, a summer residential program for highly gifted students, was initiated in 1958. The program, which lasted until 2000, drew national attention and Dr. Killian was appointed by Governor Luther H. Hodges to chair a legislative committee to study the possibility of serving gifted students in the public schools. Today, North Carolina is one of the few states in the country that legislates services for gifted students.

## Claxton Family Scholarship

The Claxton Family Scholarship was established to support undergraduate students majoring in health and physical education at Western Carolina University. The scholarship will be awarded for the first time in the fall of 2016.

Students majoring in health and physical education are preparing to earn teacher certification in health and physical education in grades K-12 in North Carolina. Recipients of the Claxton Family Scholarship will be health and physical education majors who have demonstrated the knowledge, skills and desire to promote physically active lifestyles in the children with whom they work. Health and physical education teachers have been identified as a first line of defense in the battle against childhood obesity and the health risks associated with too little physical activity. Furthermore, active children have also been shown to go beyond the health benefits of being physically active and are also better learners in other academic areas while in school.

The Claxton Family Scholarship was created in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Brannan Claxton, who were strong supporters of public school education and who believed strongly in the benefit of physical activity in children's lives.

## John and Anna McFadden Scholarship

Western Carolina University's John "Jack" McFadden, professor emeritus of education, and Anna McFadden, director of academic engagement and IT governance and assistant CIO in the Division of Information Technology, have donated more than \$10,000 to endow a scholarship at WCU to assist aspiring science educators. The scholarship will be awarded annually starting in the fall of 2015 to a junior or senior who is pursuing a major in secondary education with the intention to teach science at the high-school level.

Jack McFadden spent 33 years teaching on campus and Anna McFadden is in her 18th year, having served as a professor, department head, and director of Coulter Faculty Commons before accepting a leadership role in the Division of IT.

"We not only love the institution and feel it has been good to us, but also believe in the mission of Western in its service to the region," said Anna McFadden.

Jack McFadden said endowing the scholarship was also simply about wanting to give back.

"I was able to get an education through the GI Bill and the National Science

Foundation," he said. "I found myself in a position to do this for someone else and helping a Western student seemed appropriate."

## Phipps, Tholkes, Singleton Scholarship

The Phipps, Tholkes, Singleton Scholarship is being established to support students majoring in Parks and Recreation Management at Western Carolina University. At this time, the program is in the process of accepting donations to endow the scholarship during the next five years. The scholarship will be available to parks and recreation management majors who are actively engaged in the program, with a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

The Parks and Recreation Management major at WCU has been recently recognized as one of eight high performing, exceptional programs by a university task force conducting a comprehensive review of WCU's academic programs. This recognition, along with being voted the No. 1 "top adventure college" in the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic regions through an online poll sponsored by Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine, reconfirms the commitment and loyalty that many of the parks and recreation management students have for the program.

The scholarship is named for three faculty members who have been the foundation of the Parks and Recreation major for over 20 years. In 1992, Dr. Maurice Phipps came to WCU to reorganize the PRM program and serve as its program coordinator. Dr. Ben Tholkes, the current program coordinator, joined the PRM program in 1993. Debby Singleton joined the PRM program as an adjunct faculty member in 1996 and also served as the fitness director for the newly renovated Reid Fitness Center. Several years later, she joined the faculty full-time as an instructor and advisor in the PRM program. Phipps, Tholkes and Singleton were instrumental in establishing experiential education as the cornerstone of the PRM curriculum, securing over 300 internship sites for the students and building a solid reputation for producing graduates who had the knowledge, skills and abilities to be successful in their professional careers.

There are incredible advantages for the PRM program to be located here in western North Carolina with the abundance of outdoor opportunities that can be integrated into the curriculum. With this scholarship, Phipps, Tholkes and Singleton want to give a helping hand to PRM students to help them fulfill their educational and professional goals.

## Grant-Funded Psychology Research

Dr. Ethan Schilling, assistant professor of School Psychology, has been awarded a \$10,000 grant to research "The State of School Reentry Services for Students with Chronic Health Conditions in North Carolina." Research shows that schools vary widely in their ability to effectively serve these students. Dr. Schilling, along with a graduate assistant, will be working with school systems across North Carolina to identify different types of services being offered and the barriers preventing success. As a result of their study, they plan to identify the best support for schools in the provision of these services and ultimately develop training material for schools to utilize in meeting the unique needs of students experiencing chronic health problems.

# WCU Growth Mind Study Approved

*-From the Counseling Connection Newsletter*

A new study taking place on the Cullowhee campus aims to measure the effects of teaching growth mind-set to WCU students who are currently on academic probation. Growth mindset, originates with the research of Stanford University's Dr. Carol Dweck, who has shown that by teaching students that their mind is expandable and that intelligence is not a "fixed" trait, their motivation level improves, leading to increased academic success and improved self-worth. The study involves approximately 120 students, 60 in treatment and 60 in a control group. The primary dependent variables are end-of-semester GPAs and semester completion.

The study was approved by the Institutional Review Board on Jan. 28 and six counseling graduate students—Gentry Hamrick, Laura Holst, Shawn Hudson, Nicole Kelley, Annie Meyer, and Heather Ridge—under the supervision of Dr. Russ Curtis, are teaching the students growth-minded principles in order to better recognize their academic strengths. In an effort to better illustrate the details and inspiration behind the study, Counseling Connections asked Dr. Curtis a few questions about the importance of growth mind in post-secondary education:

**Counseling Connections:** *Thank you for agreeing to answer some of these questions and help out. What is the general scope of the study's size, in regards to participants, mentors and faculty involved?*

**Dr. Russ Curtis:** The study involves approximately 120 students (60 treatment, 60 control) enrolled in LC 101 (Academic Probation Contract Class) and 6 WCU counseling graduate assistants. Dr. Laura Cruz, director of the Coulter Faculty Commons and Chesney Reich, director of the Writing and Learning Commons, inspired this study and were instrumental in its design and IRB approval process. Dr. Lisen Roberts has been instrumental in getting our GAs involved and excited about the project.

**CC:** *Does the study go beyond LC 101?*

**Dr. Curtis:** The results of this study should expand the knowledge base of using growth minded strategies with post-secondary students, which, to date, have not received adequate attention.

I believe growth mind will quickly infiltrate the substance abuse and mental health treatment world as well. There is preliminary evidence that this could serve many people, but I believe that helping K-12 and beyond students persist with their dreams will go a long way in keeping people from needing mental health services.

In other words, growth mind interventions might be a powerful prevention strategy.

**CC:** *Was there an inspiration behind it, and, if so, what was that?*

**Dr. Curtis:** Chesney Reich contacted me after consulting Laura Cruz, who shared that I specialized in positive psychology. During my initial phone call with Chesney, I shared my excitement about the growth mind research from Carol Dweck and everything seemed to take off from there. I should say that Dr. Cruz's energy and fearless can-do attitude coupled with Chesney's care and concern for student success (which we all have) and her thoughtful attention to detail make this an exciting team to work with.

**CC:** *When did the project start?*

**Dr. Curtis:** The project began with a training I gave to our WCU counseling LC 101 GAs the Friday before classes started. That information, then, was used by our GAs to begin working with the LC 101 students.

**CC:** *How do you expect that teaching students the fundamentals of growth mindset will help them?*

**Dr. Curtis:** Perseverance pays off and is a far more valuable skill/trait than intelligence.

**CC:** *Is this your first study at Western?*

**Dr. Curtis:** No. I've conducted several studies with WCU students.

**CC:** *What is the first action that someone who has an idea for a study needs to take?*

**Dr. Curtis:** Read as many refereed journal articles about your interested topic as possible. That's always the first step.

**CC:** *Have you had any personal experiences with using or teaching growth mindset that you would like to share?*

**Dr. Curtis:** This is a personal topic for me because I believe we live in a society that values and prizes intelligence and is completely unaware that most of the folks who do well in this world did so by being closely aligned to their personal values and incorporated said values into their work, lives and relationships. Ultimately, success is the degree to which you make meaning and happiness in your life, and I believe those who stay true to themselves despite immense (and growing) distraction and pressure to do otherwise are the ones who reap the benefits of happiness. Think about it, all the best creative writing programs attempt to help writers rediscover their own voices and not imitate their favorite authors. The same could be said about any profession.

**CC:** *Thank you very much for your time.*

## NCATE reaccreditation process underway

This year, the college will be visited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education as part of the continuing accreditation process. The institutional report was submitted in January with the off-site visit in April and the campus visit in September. The college was last visited for accreditation in 2007.



## WCU's After-School Program Awarded NCDPI's After-School Quality Improvement Grant

Western Carolina University's College of Education and Allied Professions and College of Arts and Sciences, in partnership with Jackson County Public Schools and Cullowhee United Methodist Church, applied for the After-School Quality Improvement Grant Program to support our program for students with limited English proficiency in kindergarten through eighth grade at Cullowhee Valley School. The program, known as the Language Enhancement After-School Program, was awarded approximately \$142,000 annually for two years, with a possible third year of funding.

The goals for the L.E.A.P. are to improve English language development and proficiency with a focus on literacy skills, including both reading and writing, to improve communication skills for social language and to establish an outreach and education program to increase parental involvement in meeting the students' educational goals. The grant provided playground equipment, a computer, smart board and five iPads to aid in meeting these goals. Additionally, students will participate in cultural experiences and field trips and host two parent nights in which students will give presentations that are representative of L.E.A.P. activities.

L.E.A.P. will employ a cooperative learning approach and problem-based learning model. In order to focus on the specific student needs of the targeted population, the curriculum developers will solicit input from the content and English as a second language teachers who serve these students at CVS. These teachers will also inform decisions regarding program themes in order to provide continuity between day school activities and after-school activities

and alignment to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study.

The program will focus on experiences in station-based scenarios in which the students will have opportunities to interact in playful and meaningful ways with a focus on literacy-building activities. The stations will vary from physical/outside, structured games, to academic-focused reading and writing, to learning and interacting with various forms of technological tools.

In addition to the stations, there will be academic volunteers and tutors to provide individual homework help for any student who needs one-on-one assistance. These volunteers and tutors will also be available to work one-on-one with students who need individual support in reading comprehension activities and fluency. The volunteers serving the academic needs of the students will be from WCU's Teacher Education Program and have prior training in effective literacy development and/or English as a second language methodology as part of their teacher training programs. They will be supervised by WCU faculty with expertise in teaching English to speakers of other languages and literacy development.

The academic volunteers will also receive credit for their time at L.E.A.P. as it will be tied to their teacher education program. All volunteers and tutors will report to a full-time, program coordinator who will be hired through JCPS.

Grant writing team: Kim Winter, Eleanor Petrone (College of Arts & Sciences), Chená Flood, Jenny Stewart and Belinda Petricek. Terri Hollifield and Kathryn Kantz are team members from Jackson County Public Schools.



## Wednesday's Wisdom

During spring semester, Suite 201 is hosting a series of professional development opportunities for undergraduate education majors. These enrichment sessions, called Wednesday's Wisdom, provide practical activities, strategies and principles for developing a classroom management plan, creating an engaging classroom community, designing effective instructional strategies, assuming professional roles and responsibilities, building a résumé and working with parents. The final session will be a panel discussion made up of interns II and first-year teachers, who will share their experiences and answer questions from the undergrads.

In addition to the Wednesday's Wisdom initiative, Suite 201 is facilitating several test-taking strategy sessions to help students prepare for the newly required licensure tests, the Foundations of Reading test and the General Curriculum test. A passing score on these new tests is a prerequisite for licensure in elementary education, special education, and inclusive education. The Foundations of Reading test assesses proficiency in and depth of understanding of the subjects of reading and writing development. The General Curriculum test assesses proficiency in and depth of understanding of language arts, history and social science, science and technology/engineering and mathematics.

# A Unique Win for the 2014 Homecoming King and Queen

by Kelly Kelley



On Saturday, Oct. 25, 2014, two students sponsored by the University Participant program were selected to represent Western Carolina University as the 2014 Homecoming king and queen.

First-year students Ali Hale of Hickory and Trace Shuler of Robbinsville were filled

with smiles and Catamount spirit as they anxiously waited on the football field with the 2014 Homecoming court and previous WCU Homecoming king and queen.

**More about Ali:** Ali is concentrating in early childhood and elementary education. In her spare time she enjoys reading, listening to music, doing yard work and cooking. When she finishes the UP program she would like to live in Hickory with a roommate and help in a kindergarten classroom.

**More about Trace:** Trace is concentrating in nursing and helping people. He enjoys running, learning new things, spending time with family and friends and shopping in his spare time. When he finishes the UP program he would like to get a job in a

hospital, live in an apartment and drive a Camaro.

Since receiving the king and queen titles, Ali and Trace have been busy interviewing with media and helping with parades on campus. They are always honored to share their Catamount spirit and represent the WCU student body.

It is truly refreshing to see the inclusive spirit displayed and genuine acceptance of individuals with disabilities as part of our learning communities among faculty, staff, and students.

For more information about the UP Program go to [up.wcu.edu](http://up.wcu.edu) or contact Kelly Kelley at [kkelley@email.wcu.edu](mailto:kkelley@email.wcu.edu).

## CEAP Snippets

by Lee Nickles

Four Health and Physical Education faculty members presented at the National Association of Kinesiology in Higher Education Conference held Jan. 8-10 in Clearwater, Florida. **Dr. Bob Beaudet, Dr. Robby Jacobs, Dr. Tom Watterson and Dr. Gayle Wells** each presented on their current research.

WCU's master's degree program in special education is ranked No. 15 in the nation on a list of "30 Best Online Master in Special Education Degree Programs" by [TheBestSchools.org](http://TheBestSchools.org). Rankings are based on academic excellence, course offerings, faculty strengths, and reputation.

**Justin Menickelli**, associate professor of health, physical education and recreation, received a \$500 grant from the Professional Disc Golf Association to teach disc golf to at-risk pre-teens. The project for children at the School of Alternatives in Jackson County will promote healthy behaviors, sportsmanship and environmental stewardship.

The Asheville Citizen-Times published a guest column, "Five facts about North

Carolina schools," written by **Dean Dale Carpenter**. The article appeared in the December 19, 2014, issue and is available from the newspaper's website and from our college.

On February 10-11, health and physical education students and faculty advocated in Washington, D.C., for school health and physical education. Students **Meredith Byers, Jessy Wilkins, Camden Young, Daniel Hartley** and faculty members **Dr. Tom Watterson and Dr. Gayle Wells** met with Congressman Mark Meadows and other lawmakers to advocate for inclusion of health and physical education in the federal education law known as Elementary and Secondary Education Act up for reauthorization in Congress.

Current students, alumni and faculty of the counseling program presented at the North Carolina Counseling Association's annual conference held Feb. 11-13 in Greensboro, North Carolina. **Katie Goetz (MS '05)** and **Dr. Russ Curtis** presented a pre-conference workshop titled, "Positive Psychotherapy in Integrated Care." **Sara Hunter** (student) and **Dr. Curtis** presented on "Growth Mindset:

Priming Clients and Students for Success."

**Dr. Lisen Roberts** and **Luke Gill** (student) presented on "Ethical use of Social Media in Counseling." Current students who also gave poster presentations included **Laura Lindsey, Sara Hunter, Mallory Lovice, Rob Davis, Kellie Hayes, Allyson Frick, Shawn Hudson, Lauren Myers, Angelica Echevarria, Natasha Cramer, Kim Granelle,** and **Heather Ridge**.

**Dr. Karena Cooper-Duffy** and three students in special education—**Alyssa Moore, Peyton Young,** and **Sarah James**—gave a presentation at the North Carolina Council for Exceptional Children conference on Jan 30. Their topic was "Using Thematic Units to Teach the Extended Common Core to Students with Significant Intellectual Disabilities."

**Brannigan Barker**, a senior inclusive education major, was awarded the Outstanding Undergraduate Student scholarship from the North Carolina Council for Exceptional Children. Brannigan, who was also named to the Chancellor's list, is currently student teaching at Hazelwood Elementary School.

# The Killian Society *making an impact*



Dr. Carl Dan Killian Sr. became head of the education and psychology department at Western Carolina Teacher's College in 1935. The Killian Building is named for him. Established during Western Carolina University's 125th anniversary the College of Education and Allied Professions launched a campaign to honor Dr. Killian and all those who both preceded and followed him in making an impact on teaching and in the allied professions in Western North Carolina, across our state, and across the nation.

## The Killian Society COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & ALLIED PROFESSIONS

As a member of the Killian Society, I commit to contribute \$125 per year for five years. Alumni who graduated within the past five years may join Killian Society by making a gift of \$25 for five years.

## Endowed Scholarships

Carl Dan Killian Memorial\*

### Teaching

Gurney & Ann Chambers  
Mary Alice Gambill Shuford  
& Dr. David F. Shuford  
Ed & Bertha Henson Reed  
District 1 Retired School Personnel  
Duane & Wanda Reid  
Michael Dougherty Family  
Robert Lee & Ella Richards Madison  
Katherine R. Reich & Emma H. Russ  
William A. & Patricia L. Ledford  
Stephanie Stow  
Morrill Family Fund for Research  
Soaring High  
Jessie Lindsay & John Donivan Hales  
Janice H. Holt  
Teach for Tomorrow  
Beta Lambda Sorority  
Reagan Lee Hartley

### Math and Science Education

Dwight & Jessie Ryland  
Genevieve & E. J. Whitmire

### Gifted, Creative and Innovative Education

Sharon Dole

### Elementary and Middle Grades

Capps Family Memorial  
Elizabeth "Beth" Tyson  
Lofquist  
Fanny Green Yost  
Linda Reep Lankford  
Myrtle Olivia Whitmire  
Pamela M. Sekulow  
Rachel R. Williams Sweet  
Taft B. & Malvery Botner  
Ed & Bertha Henson Reed  
Carolyn West

\*denotes scholarships that have not yet reached the minimum endowment level.

### Inclusive Education

Little E. J. Whitmire  
Jane Schulz  
Betty Jo & Mark A. Knott  
Steven C. Jones  
Rosemary Cameron  
Kevin J. Bradshaw \*

### Health and Physical Education

Otto Spilker  
Women in Physical Education  
Claxton Family Scholarship

### Counseling

Carole Hearn Curtis  
Mary Deck "Break by the Lake"  
Daniel L. Saddler

### Early Childhood Special Education

Hoyt & Lora Ponder

### Human Service Training

Mary & Charles Wayte Graduate

### Science Education

John & Anna McFadden

### Psychology

Linda Elaine Glenn  
Hedy & Vanessa White  
John H. Wakeley

### Educational Leadership

Guy and Jo Edith Burchfiel

### Doctorate in Education

Dixie L. & Miles S. McGinty

### Parks and Recreation Management

Phipps, Tholkes, Singleton \*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please indicate the scholarship to which  
your donations will be directed.**

Scholarship \_\_\_\_\_

#### Gift Information:

I wish to make my gift of \$125 in \_\_\_\_\_  
(month) of each year. \_\_\_ Please send me a pledge  
reminder accordingly.

\_\_\_ To make a gift online go to: [makeagift.wcu.edu](http://makeagift.wcu.edu)

\_\_\_ Enclose a check (made payable to the  
WCU Foundation) *please note The Killian Society*

\_\_\_ Enclosed is my one-time gift of \$625.

#### Please charge my:

\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_ American Express

\_\_\_ Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. \_\_\_\_\_

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Mailing Information:

WCU Foundation  
201 H.F. Robinson | Cullowhee, NC 28723



COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
& ALLIED PROFESSIONS

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## CEAP News

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## CEAP Assessment Day Success

The College of Education and Allied Professions held the annual assessment day on Friday, Jan. 30. Over 100 college faculty, staff, administrators and colleagues from Arts and Sciences, Fine and Performing Arts, the Office of Planning and Effectiveness and the Provost's Office attended the event. The day's events began with an opening session for the college, then programs moved to rooms to work on the day's tasks. Program faculty had the opportunity to discuss student learning outcomes and program goals and to review assessment data on student performance and college effectiveness. Lunch was provided, then a final session at the end of the day provided opportunities for faculty from different programs to discuss assessment across the college.

### CONTACT OUR ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

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