

Welcome From Dean Kim Winter

A message from College of Education and Allied Professions Dean, Kim K. Winter

You may have heard: we've had a decade of momentum at Western Carolina University. Just one year after student enrollment topped 11,000 for the first time ever, total student headcount stands at 11,639 this fall. We welcomed the largest freshman class, GPAs and test scores are up, and freshman to sophomore retention rate is holding steady at 80%. The College of Education and Allied Professions also experienced enrollment growth this fall - over 4%. And what's more - CEAP is home to undergraduate psychology, one of the top 11 growth programs at WCU. In this edition of the CEAP newsletter, you will read about several other prime examples of engagement and strong academic programs, faculty, and staff. Here are a few highlights:

- CEAP has become an anchor institution for Future Teachers of North Carolina (FTNC), which brings clinical training and coursework to high school students. In addition, Drs. Tammy Barron and Sarah Meltzer have been collaborating with other faculty on the design of foundations and special education curriculum that will help these students earn college credit at UNC System institutions.
- Dr. Jon Campbell was hired as the PsyD program director and is collaborating with psychology faculty on curriculum, accreditation, and getting ready for final approvals so that we can market and recruit our first cohort in advance of Fall, 2019.

- Dr. Andrew Bobilya and the Parks and Recreation Management program continue to work on gaining approval for a masters in Experiential and Outdoor Education.
- In September, CEAP hosted PREPaRE training on school crisis prevention and response as we are committed to improving and strengthening school safety, crisis management, and emergency response plans. Close to 100 preservice and in-service counselors and school psychologists, school administrators, teachers, university faculty and administrators, and other stakeholders participated in this training.

In this edition of the CEAP newsletter, you will read more about prime examples of engagement and strong academic programs, faculty, and staff. We spotlight two of our large, online programs: Birth-Kindergarten and Human Resources. We also share the major impact being made through faculty-led travel. From the boundary waters of Minnesota to Botswana, Africa, our students are engaged in rich field-based experiences, global thinking, and the building of cultural competencies. Speaking of rich field-based experiences for preservice teachers, The Catamount School promoted its first group of 8th graders on to the high school and early college with great success, and we jumped into our second year with 10% enrollment growth! Last but certainly not least, our student support services unit finally moved into renovated space with a permanent associate dean in place - and we are fortunate and happy to welcome Dr. Patricia Bricker.

Not only have these initiatives successfully connected the College of Education and Allied Professions to the wider community, they are



among reasons that CEAP has earned a stellar reputation in our region and beyond. We hope you enjoy reading these articles which showcase faculty, staff, and candidates who are positively impacting students, families and communities. Our graduates change the lives of generations of individuals through their roles. We appreciate your interest and invite you to explore the many opportunities available in the CEAP. Should you have any questions, we hope you will contact us to learn more.

Sincerely,

Kim K. Winter, Ph.D., Dean
College of Education and Allied Professions
828.227.7311
kkruebel@wcu.edu

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DR. LISEN ROBERTS **FACULTY/COUNSELING PROGRAM**

I am honored to introduce myself. I have been here at WCU more than 20 years, so I know many of you, but hopefully I can say something here that is new to you. My history at WCU is actually unusual. I began in the fall of 1997 as the program director of child and family studies in the now-long-gone College of Applied Sciences. By 2001, that program was discontinued and I was suddenly and reluctantly back on the job market. Gratefully, unbeknownst to me, faculty and administrators here at Western believed in me and knew that my background, in addition to family studies, was counseling. Conversations happened and voila! I was added to the counseling program in the College of Education and Allied Professions. What a blessing! All these years later, I remain grateful to my superiors, all retired now, who made my academic move at WCU possible. I've now served as counseling program director for 10 years and this fall 2018, I am transitioning out of that position and into department head of the Human Services Department. I am honored to be a part of leadership in both counseling and human services. In my personal life, I am also in transition this fall as my daughter Marina goes off to college at the University of NC at Greensboro. Outside of WCU, I have spent much of the last 10 years as a "dance mom" – not the pushy type that reality shows are made of, but rather just a steady force behind my dancer daughter. I drive to and from the studio daily, sit

through weekend competitions, wait outside closed-door auditions, pay the bills, sew the costumes, volunteer at recitals, and just generally support and cheer my dancer. And off she now goes to UNC-G, majoring in dance and choreography. Transitions!



KIRSTYN SHEW **UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT/ INCLUSIVE EDUCATION, B.S.**

My name is Kirstyn Shew and I am a senior in the Inclusive Education Program at Western Carolina University. Before attending Western, I always knew teaching was my life's calling. But it wasn't until I met a very special young man on a beach trip that I realized God was not only calling me to teach, but to teach those who we can learn the most from, exceptional students. After attending Wilkes Community College and hearing about Western's inclusive education program, I knew I had found my home.

Since coming to WCU, I have not only grown as a future educator, but also as a person. I have found community and lifelong friendships through the Bridge Church on campus and through my program. I have also had the privilege of being involved in the University Participant Program (UP Program), which has made me a better person over all. Western has become a part of my soul; I love my church family, my fellow future educators, and I have made bonds with my professors that I know will last long after I walk across

the graduation stage this spring. God used Western and the people that make it what it is to help me discover where I belong in the world. I know that I will leave well prepared to help my students find their place in the world too.

After graduating, I hope to get a job teaching in an inclusive setting, where all students can learn from one another and work together to achieve their goals. I hope to help remove the negative stigma that follows special education, by educating people about the goals that the new push for inclusion brings. I hope that in the future, we have classrooms filled with all types of students, learning in an environment where everyone is on board, doing what they can to make an equitable opportunity for all students to achieve.



KIMBERLY SANDERS **ALUMNA/ELEMENTARY**

My name is Kimberly Sanders and I graduated from Western Carolina University in May 2004 with a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education. After completing my bachelor's degree, I was given the opportunity to return to my hometown of Franklin, NC to teach at a local public school for four years. During this time, I married my husband Bobby and together we now have 3 children. For a period of time I felt that it would serve my family to stay home with my children and be a stay at home mom. When my oldest daughter, Claire, was five and starting school I felt that I could

return to the field of teaching and pursue my career. I started working at my current school, South Macon Elementary, in Franklin, NC in the fall of 2011. My true passion has always been to teach primary students so in the fall of 2014 I moved to kindergarten. I love to teach literacy and math to primary students and it gives me great joy to see the growth that kindergartners make as they learn and discover the academic world around them. In the 2016-2017 school year, I partnered with Dr. Patricia Bricker and Melissa Faetz from WCU to collect data and explore how primary students learn through the STEM process. STEM uses science, technology, engineering, and math to teach a variety of standards through authentic and hands-on experiences. In March 2018, I was given the honor of presenting our data at the National Science Teachers Association Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. Our presentation was titled Primary Grade Engineers. In June of 2018 I was accepted into the Master of Arts in Elementary Education graduate program with a focus in STEM education.



HANNAH MITCHELL **GRADUATE STUDENT/CLINICAL** **PSYCHOLOGY, M.A..**

My name is Hannah Mitchell and I am in the second year of the Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology Program at WCU. I attended the University of Tennessee for my undergraduate degree before deciding I wanted to gain

more clinical and research experience prior to applying to PhD programs. The volume of research and clinical experiences I would be allotted at WCU was one of the main reasons I chose to attend graduate school here, as well as the picturesque mountains WCU calls home. Since beginning my master's degree, I have been given the opportunity to see clients in the McKee Psychological Services Clinic on WCU's campus. Having a psychological clinic on campus with faculty willing to provide ample supervision and feedback is a huge blessing for psychology master's students at WCU. The clinic is unmatched by other programs. WCU is not only home to top-notch clinical experiences, but research training as well. I am most interested in researching the biological and psychological underpinnings of disordered eating, particularly for individuals from a low socioeconomic status. More broadly, I am interested in examining predictors of treatment adherence for individuals with chronic illnesses. I am pleased to be working on multiple manuscripts, completing data collection, completing clinical work, and attending classes. The strong community and fellowship among WCU graduate students is a huge bonus to attending school here. Hoping to integrate myself further into the community of WCU students, I accepted the role of Graduate Student Association (GSA) President this year. The GSA executive team and I are very jazzed to use GSA to foster further interdisciplinary relationships, organize service opportunities for graduate students, and host social events. When not on campus, I am enjoying all that western North Carolina offers—going on scenic runs, trying out the local breweries, and hiking.

DENISE ROYER **STAFF/ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT** **SPECIALIST**

Originally from Michigan, and prior to coming to North Carolina in 1983, I worked for a newspaper in the production area. I continued in the newspaper industry upon arriving in North Carolina until I started at Western Carolina University in March, 2007, in the College of Education and Allied Professions. I started as an administrative assistant and

am now a student services specialist. I have been blessed to have had three excellent department heads (Drs. Lisa Bloom, Dale Brotherton, and Phyllis Robertson), as well as wonderful faculty within the Department of Human Services. I couldn't have asked for a better group of people to work with in my department, as well as in the college. While in Michigan many years ago, I completed an associate's degree. Upon starting at WCU, I decided to complete my bachelor's degree with the help of tuition waivers from WCU. After ten years and many classes, I graduated May, 2018, with a BSBA in Computer Information Systems. What a journey that was and what amazing support I received from department heads and faculty. Aside from the degree, taking classes was a way to connect with what students were experiencing, and that helped me relate to students. Since I now have time to do something besides study, I plan on spending time walking, reading, and enjoying more time with family and friends.



KENNETH KELTY **UNIVERSITY PARTICIPANT** **ALUMNUS '14**

Since graduating in 2014 from the WCU University Participant Program, Kenneth Kelty has been continuing to advocate for himself and for other people with disabilities. In addition to working part time as an administrative assistant at The Arc of The Triangle, Kenneth also served as a youth

peer mentor with The Alliance of Disability Advocates in Raleigh. He has taught students with and without disabilities about disability history and the importance of self-advocacy. He has spoken at many conferences in North Carolina and across the country as well as at elementary schools, high schools, and universities. He has written many articles and is listed as one of the top 100 people to know for autism awareness month. In fall of 2015 he was recruited by UNC Carolina Institute for Developmental Disabilities to participate in the Leadership Education in

Neuro-Developmental Disabilities and Related Disorders Graduate Program and then was invited back in 2017 to be a fellow in The Maternal Child Health Bureau Leadership Consortium. He was the first graduate of an inclusive post-secondary education program to participate in a graduate level program. Kenneth was the 2017 recipient of the Laura Lee Self-Advocate Leadership Award presented at The State of The Art Conference at Syracuse University and gave a powerful keynote presentation about empowering people with disabilities which

may be seen on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5EvDTgRV7qM>. He has written for the Global Observatory for Inclusion, a website that advocates for inclusion across the world <http://www.globi-observatory.org/my-experience-with-autism-and-disability-self-advocacy/> and maintains his own public Facebook page www.facebook.com/kennethkelty/. Kenneth recently joined Toastmasters International and is planning both to become an accredited speaker and to publish a book about his life with autism and an intellectual disability.

Dr. Patricia Bricker Assumes Associate Dean Role

Dr. Patricia Bricker began her new role as the College of Education and Allied Professions Associate Dean for Academic Affairs on July 1st. Since joining Western Carolina University in 2001 as a visiting assistant professor, Dr. Bricker has held numerous roles in the college including serving as the Associate Director of the School of Teaching and Learning since 2014. In her new role, Dr. Bricker will serve as Director of Teacher Education, lead college curriculum, assessment, and accreditation efforts, and lead Suite 201, the student support services unit for the college. Bricker was selected after a national search was conducted by a campus search committee, chaired by Dr. Dale Carpenter, professor and previous dean of the College of Education and Allied Professions.



Elizabeth Graves, Accomplished Motivational Interviewer

Dr. Elizabeth Graves, faculty member in the counseling graduate program, earned international Motivational Interviewing Network of Trainers (MINT) status in 2014 and has been recently chosen from an international pool of highly qualified candidates to help lead a Train-the-Trainer (TNT) team at this year's annual international MINT conference in October. Here in western North Carolina, she leads regular Motivational Interviewing (MI) trainings for school and community counselors in WNC and the High Country. Motivational Interviewing (MI) is an evidence-based communication technique notably successful in helping people make positive behavior change. Originally rooted in addictions recovery, it now enjoys interdisciplinary renown in areas like health care, criminal and juvenile justice, domestic violence, mental health, and education.

Students, Faculty and Alumni Honored at Annual Ceremony

On Monday, April 23, 2018, hundreds of excited students, parents, friends, donors, faculty and staff filled the University Center Grand Room to watch dozens of students receive scholarships and awards and to recognize alumni for their career achievements at the annual College of Education and Allied Professions Honors and Awards Ceremony. Approximately \$180,000 in scholarships were awarded to 90 deserving undergraduate and graduate students. Awards for outstanding achievement were presented to 20 students by their program faculty. In addition, four College of Education and Allied Professions alumni were recognized for their professional achievements: Chris Moore, B.S., Parks and Recreation Management (2001); Erin Hambrick, M.A., Clinical Psychology (2009); Kristy Doss, M.A.Ed., Special Education (2008), and Tim Hardin, B.S., Psychology (2007) and M.A.Ed., School Counseling (2009).

Prior to the Honors and Awards Ceremony, many College of Education and Allied Professions faculty and staff were recognized for their teaching, exemplary service, research, and commitment to their profession at the annual State of the College Meeting on Friday, April 20, 2018.

Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award: Dr. Windy Gordon

Taft B. Botner Award for Superior Teaching: Dr. Nancy Luke

Legislative Award for Superior Teaching: Dr. Brandi Hinnant-Crawford & Dr. Nathan Roth

Dean's Research Award: Dr. Roya Scales

Exemplary Service Award: Mary Rompf & Dr. Dale Brotherton

Good News Award (for those who have published a book or received an external grant award of \$50,000 or more): Dr. Carrie Rogers, Dr. Kofi Lomotey, Dr. Lisa Bloom, Dr. David Westling, Dr. David McCord, Dr. Maurice Phipps, Dr. Marie-Line Germain, Todd Murdock, Dr. David Westling, Dr. Kelly Kelley, Dr. Charmion Rush, Dr. Tammy Barron, Dr. Karena Cooper-Duffy, Dr. Ellie Blair, Dr. Jess Weiler, Dr. Phyllis Robertson, Dr. Heidi Von Dohlen

Soaring High Award: Dr. Kelly Kelley



Above: Anderson (Saltz) recipients. Right: Strong Scholars recipients.



Program Highlight: Birth-Kindergarten Program

By Dr. Cathy Grist, Birth-Kindergarten Program Director

WCU's fully online Bachelor of Science in Birth-Kindergarten Program continues to grow in student enrollment and the number of faculty who serve the program. The program courses are taught through a fully distance learning format; students attend from all over the state of North Carolina, as well as from a few other states. This fall, the program has admitted 94 new degree-seeking and alternative licensure students. The total program has approximately 375 students. We receive approximately 40 inquiries a month.

Currently, there are five full-time faculty in the program, and each semester there are approximately eight adjunct faculty who teach eleven courses for the program. We have two faculty members that are starting their third year with us, Dr. Derek Becker, and Dr. Kaitlin Bargreen. Faculty and adjuncts have a variety of experiences that provide students in the program with differing perspectives about

young children's development and learning. The program would not be successful without our Suite 201 advisors, Deb Henry and Greg McLamb. They have been instrumental in providing seamless services to BK students from the time of admission until graduation or program completion. The advising services offered are exemplary, and students appreciate the skills both advisors bring to the program. Effective advising in the BK Program is essential to student success, due to the substantial number of students enrolled that are considered "non-traditional," often entering student life after many years employed in the field of early childhood education.

Changes in the Program

We have some interesting changes in the program this year. A state-mandated community college articulation agreement began this fall. Students at all community colleges across the state are now



able to enter the program with 60 hours of course work. The Birth-Kindergarten Program is one of 12 programs in the state that offers a four-year degree. Faculty in the program have been working over the summer to create new concentrations for students who plan to enroll with these additional course credits per the new state articulation agreement.

Faculty have also been developing syllabi for graduate courses within a proposed concentration in the Comprehensive M.A.Ed. We are designing tracks to offer students opportunities to gain expertise and knowledge in a few areas of early childhood education. We are hoping to have curricula approval by fall, 2019.

BK in the Community

Faculty in the program have been engaging in research projects in local preschools and childcare centers. Over the last year, Dr. Derek Becker conducted a study in Haywood County Schools and several area childcare centers that examined executive functioning and activity levels in young children. Dr. Cathy Grist has implemented research in a local preschool program on self-regulation skills in young children. All faculty are working on publications from research conducted with a local preschool program on using the Response-to-Intervention processes within a collaborative professional development model to teach emerging math skills. On an international level, Dr. Lori Caudle began conducting research with colleagues from both Spain and Mexico. This

research is examining the development of teachers, specifically their transfer of Project Approach knowledge and related practices after professional development activities.

Faculty Accomplishments

There have been some exciting recent accomplishments of faculty in the program. Myra Watson is now the Assistant Director of the School of Teaching and Learning and was accepted into the Ed.D. Program at Western Carolina University this past summer. Myra also works as the WCU Regional Director for NC New Teacher Support Program. Dr. Kaitlin Bargreen is now the coordinator of the BK Online Experiences course, which is the orientation course for all students entering the program. This past summer, Dr. Lori Caudle published and edited a book titled, *Teachers and Teaching: Global Practices, Challenges, and Prospects*. Dr. Derek Becker, Dr. Cathy Grist, Dr. Lori Caudle, and Myra Watson published an article, “Complex Physical Activities, Outdoor Play, and School Readiness among Preschoolers,” that appeared in *Global Education Review*. This summer, Dr. Caudle collaborated with another CEAP colleague, Dr. Jennifer Barrett-Tatum, to publish an article, “Implementing New Literacies Instruction and Design through a Cross-Institutional Peer Review Process with Pre-Service Early Childhood Teachers.”

For more information on the BK Program, please visit bk.wcu.edu or contact program director, Dr. Cathy Grist (clgrist.wcu.edu).





Mickey Hughes Pledge Marked as Largest Scholarship Donation in History

Based on article originally published by the Office of Communications and Public Relations

Mickey Charles Hughes, a resident of Falls Church, Virginia shared the news of a \$5 million estate gift via a videotaped announcement unveiled at the “Lead the Way” kickoff event on March 1, 2018. The gift pledge marks the largest donation designated specifically for scholarship support in Western Carolina University history. The public phase of the “Lead the Way” fundraising campaign, only the second in the university’s history, is inspired by former WCU Chancellor David O. Belcher, who passed away on June 17, 2018, after battling brain cancer since April, 2016. Belcher announced at his March, 2012, installation address that increasing support for endowed scholarships for deserving WCU students would be the top philanthropic priority of his administration. Under his leadership as chancellor, more than 200 new endowed scholarships were funded. But that represents just a good start, and the public phase of the “Lead the Way” campaign is designed to honor Belcher’s legacy by encouraging others to follow his lead, said WCU Acting Chancellor

Alison Morrison-Shetlar. With the pledge of \$5 million by Mickey Charles Hughes, “the campaign is well on its way to meeting its goal,” said Lori Lewis, WCU vice chancellor for advancement.

Hughes originally endowed the Leone Hyde Ray Endowed Scholarship in 1998 in memory of his mother, Velma “Leone” Hyde Hughes Ray, a 1941 graduate of WCU who earned her degree in education and worked as a teacher in WNC and eastern Tennessee. Born in 1919 on a Robbinsville, NC farm, Ray was the fourth of eight children growing up during the severe economic conditions of the Great Depression. Ray was determined to realize her dream of attending college, Hughes said. “She set out for Western Carolina Teachers College in Cullowhee, where she paid her own way through school,” he said. The first female in her family to attend college, she taught elementary school for six years in Robbinsville and for thirty-four years in Maryville, Tennessee. She was the sister of Arnold Hyde, a 1938 WCU alumni who served on

the WCU Board of Trustees from 1949 until 1953 and from 1957 until 1973. Before her death in 1996, Ray indicated that she would like her family to establish a scholarship fund to enable other students from the region to attend WCU and major in an undergraduate teacher education field in the university's School of Teaching and Learning, Hughes said. Ray's only child, Hughes attended both the University of Tennessee and George Washington University, and has served with the U.S. Department of Education and the Missile Defense Agency, among other positions in the Washington, D.C., area. The Hyde family also previously established the Marshall A. Hyde Scholarship Fund in memory of Ray's brother, who was killed in action during World War II in Italy.

Upon the settlement of Hughes' estate, the university will rename its School of Teaching and Learning as the Hyde Hughes School of Teaching and Learning in honor of his mother's legacy to the teaching profession and in recognition of his philanthropic support of future educators at WCU. Any WCU student in western North Carolina and eastern Tennessee interested in pursuing teaching as a career is eligible for the scholarship. Dr. Kim K. Winter, Dean of the College of Education and Allied Professions said, "I think there is no way to really measure the kind of impact a scholarship is going to make on a student for whom without that funding college would not be possible. A transformational gift such as this one is going to go on to impact hundreds of students from this area and eastern Tennessee over such a long time, it will live on in perpetuity continuing to make that kind of impact."

Anna Crisp, a 2017 English education graduate and Leone Hyde Ray Scholarship recipient, said she has always known she wanted to be a teacher. "I have known since I was a little kid playing school with my cousins. We would bring out the thesauruses at my grandma's house and teach little lessons with them ...I've known ever since then that I wanted to be a teacher. To know that someone was willing to push me further towards my goal of becoming an educator was very encouraging."

To learn more about scholarships, or apply, visit scholarships.wcu.edu. To learn more about the "Lead the Way" campaign or make a gift, visit leadtheway.wcu.edu



Velma "Leone" Hyde Hughes Ray



CATAMOUNTS TRAVEL THE WORLD

Boundary Waters

By Dr. Andrew Bobilya and Glenn Middleton



The Parks and Recreation Management (PRM) program has been running an expedition-style course for many years under the guidance of professor emeritus, Maurice Phipps. This course had yearly rotation between the environs of the Pisgah National Forest and Nantahala National Forest of western North Carolina and the Tetons near Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Since taking over the coordination of the course, PRM Associate Professor Andrew Bobilya and instructor Glenn Middleton have broadened those environs to include areas such as the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW), the site of the course's most recent expedition during the summer of 2018. This area covers much of the border between Minnesota and Canada and is home to moose, loons, otters, and beavers, many of which were seen on the expedition! The group traveled through the Northeastern section of the BWCAW for eight days, paddling on pristine international waters and portaging through serene evergreen forests. Students were given the opportunity to learn from, teach, and lead their peers throughout phases of the expedition. This included the opportunity to earn certificates from both the Wilderness Education and Leave No Trace associations. These opportunities had a lasting impact as is evidenced by two members of

the BWCAW expedition. PRM student Krista Patton shares, "The PRM 427 Flat Water Canoe Expedition during summer 2018 encompassed every aspect of experiential learning. The course allowed a group of six strangers to work together in the backcountry learning Leave No Trace principles, backcountry skills, and teaching methods, all while exploring the beautiful Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. I will never forget the moments spent around the campfire laughing, hauling canoes across swampy portages, or paddling across the strong waves on international waters." PRM student Charles Martin, says, "Living in the wilderness is an experience that I think everyone should undergo at some point in their life. This experience changed my life and re-connected me with emotions that I forgot existed."

The location for the upcoming summer 2019 expedition will be in the Linville Gorge Wilderness Area in NC, which continues to offer many of the unique learning opportunities for WCU students! If interested, please contact either Glenn Middleton (gdmiddleton@wcu.edu) or Andrew Bobilya (ajbobilya@wcu.edu) for more information. Registration is by application between October and January.

Psychology of Hate

By Drs. David Solomon and Alvin Malesky

On a warm day in June, 2018, 19 students and their instructors, Drs. David Solomon and Alvin Malesky approached a gate bearing the infamous words, “Arbeit macht frei” – work sets you free. The bright weather of the day created a strange juxtaposition with the fact that the group was about to enter Dachau, one of the first concentration camps set up by the Nazi party in Germany. This was one of several key experiences of the 17-day travel course, The Psychology of Hate, designed to help students understand the psychological, social, and historical factors that lead to acts of genocide such as the Holocaust. While such acts remain unfathomable, the experiential components of the course were intended to move students beyond what can be learned through course readings. The course spanned six cities: Budapest, Vienna, Munich, Nuremberg, Berlin, and Amsterdam. During this

time, students visited two concentration camps, met with a diplomat to discuss the modern-day politics of several countries impacted by WWI, and received a guided tour of a Nazi rally ground. Many students reported being emotionally moved as they walked through the cramped secret annex where Anne Frank and her family hid for several years before being apprehended by the Nazis. While learning about the history of the Holocaust is a valuable part of a trip, it is secondary to goals of guiding students in understanding not only how prejudices grow, but also how such prejudices and biases can be combatted in themselves and in society. The department of psychology hopes to continue to offer this high-impact course and integrate new educational travel opportunities for students in future.





Travels in Peru

By Caitlin Lambert, sophomore elementary education major

In June, 2018, our group of eight students and two faculty (Dean Kim Winter and Teacher Advising Coordinator Jenny Stewart) left for Peru. Our purpose was to study the educational system, particularly in contrast to Cherokee education, which we had studied during the spring semester before our trip. We traveled to Lima, Cusco, Pisac, Machu Picchu, and a number of ancient archeological sites. Our twelve days in Peru showed me some of the most breathtakingly beautiful sites I have ever seen. In Pisac, known as the “Sacred Valley”, we stayed in a small town with narrow cobblestone

streets and native women carrying crops in giant bundles on their backs. To get to Machu Picchu, we took a two-hour train through the jungle, winding along rivers and between towering, fog-covered mountains. Despite the dozens of amazing things we did on our trip, the highlight for me was visiting an indigenous Quechua village, nestled among the Andes Mountains. It was beautiful, in a simple, joyful way. I truthfully wish I could have stayed there forever. The people greeted us with hand-strung necklaces made of flowers, fed us boiled potatoes, and

danced with us in the field. We brought and distributed school supplies, and seeing the excitement on the children’s faces – even to get something as simple as a pencil – was so humbling. I realized that my purpose in Peru wasn’t to “bless” the students and teachers I was visiting, although they acted as though it was indeed a blessing. My purpose wasn’t to somehow touch their lives. My purpose was to learn from them, widen my worldview, and allow that to change both the way I live and the way I teach.

Guten Tag from Germany

By Drs. Dan Grube and Nancy Luke

Eight teacher education students from elementary, middle, inclusive, and health and physical education programs traveled to Germany from June 26th to July 12th as part of a faculty led travel course sponsored by faculty members in the School of Teaching and Learning, Drs. Dan Grube and Nancy Luke. Students took a course in their major with English-speaking German teacher education students at WCU's partner university, Pädagogische Hochschule Ludwigsburg. They also participated in a variety of cultural experiences in Germany and Austria. Sights and destinations included touring the cities of Tübingen, Germany and Salzburg, Austria; visiting two public schools, one in each country; seeing Eagle's Nest and Lake Königssee in Berchtesgaden, Germany; exploring the culturally rich city of Munich; and visiting two Holocaust memorial sites in Germany (Vaihingen-Enz and Dachau).

In addition to these excursions, the group visited one of Germany's Baumwipfelpfad or treetop walkways (<https://www.baumwipfelpfad-schwarzwald.de/schwarzwald-en/>) in the charming town of Bad Wildbad. After riding a funicular up to the top of the mountain, the group hiked on a wooden walkway through the Black Forest to the spiraling pathway that led to a spectacular 360° view of the region. Some members of the group then opted to glide to the bottom of the walkway via a 20 meter enclosed, circular slide. After the funicular ride back into town, the group saw what this delightful Black Forest village had to offer in terms of food and shopping. This was just one of many opportunities these student travelers had to experience the culture, history, and people of Germany and Austria.





Botswana, Africa

By Amy Rose, Karena Cooper-Duffy, and Trish Davis

Dr. Amy Rose, Assistant Professor in the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders, Trish Davis, clinical supervisor in WCU's Speech-Hearing Clinic, and Dr. Karena Cooper-Duffy, Professor in the School of Teaching and Learning, led 12 current and future speech-language pathologists and special education teachers from NC public schools and WCU on a life-changing journey through Botswana, Africa. This 4-week adventure was made possible through the Fulbright-Hays Group Project Abroad (GPA) program and through a partnership with the Department of Special Support Services, Ministry of Basic Education, in the Republic of Botswana. Participants worked very hard to meet the objectives of the project, including 1) enhancing participants' knowledge of Botswana history, culture, and language; 2) developing participants' intercultural competence and cross-cultural communication skills; 3) strengthening the collaboration between Botswana and US teacher educators and teacher candidates;

and 4) developing accessible curricular activities to enrich the integration of African culture and language instruction in K-12 area studies. Specifically, participants worked alongside teachers and students at eight schools in the cities of Gaborone, Francistown, and Maun; presented workshops at the Autism Botswana Seminar with 130+ attendees; learned some Setswana words and phrases, gained knowledge about Botswana's history, traditions, culture, and educational system; met with administrators and other stakeholders; engaged in cultural activities, including visits to Mokolodi Nature Reserve, Bahurutshe Cultural Village, Three Chiefs Statues, and Victoria Falls; participated in game and boat drives in Chobe National Park and the Okavango Delta; presented curricular activities and lesson plans at the culminating event; and purchased classroom materials for the eight target schools. One participant expressed in her final journal entry, "the trip exceeded my expectations and has been nothing less than amazing."



Windy Gordon Recognized with Chancellor's Teaching Award

Dr. Windy Gordon, Assistant Professor of Psychology and Director of Undergraduate Studies in Psychology, was named the recipient of the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award at the annual Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards on Friday, April 27, 2018. This recognition is the most prestigious on-campus award and recognizes superior teaching and meritorious performance.

Gordon, who received his doctorate at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1983, has been a member of the WCU faculty since 2004. He has been recognized twice before for his superior teaching, giving the university's annual

"Last Lecture" both in 2009 and 2016. The award honors a WCU faculty member for teaching with great passion and enthusiasm and is the only teaching award at WCU in which the recipient is selected solely by students. The "Last Lecture" allows faculty members to share words they would present if it was the final lecture they had a chance to give. Alvin Malesky, Head of the Psychology Department, says, "Windy is an outstanding teacher and advocate for our students. He is a major asset to the Psychology Department and Western Carolina University. The Chancellor's Teaching Award is well deserved."

WCU MSHR Graduate Students Provide Pro-Bono HR Consulting to Graham County

By Melissa Haynes, Tanya Roberts, Stephanie Sellers, and Jeff Taylor

As part of WCU's online Master of Science Degree in Human Resources (MSHR), two required classes, HR 670: HR Consulting, and HR 671: Advanced HR Consulting involve hands-on, practical human resource experience. In these two classes, coined The HR Consulting Initiative, students are paired with non-profit organizations, small businesses, and government agencies in need of human resource support. Students assume the role of consultant, developing a relationship with the client, determining HR needs, revising, updating, or creating needed documents, and consulting with the client throughout the project.

This spring, Graham County Government was one of the non-profit organizations seeking HR consultation. As a small county with the majority of its land federally controlled, their tax base is very low, meaning they have no funding available for such outside consultative services. Their County Manager and Finance Officer, Becky Garland, was paired with three WCU MSHR students: Melissa Haynes (Greensboro), Tanya Roberts (New Bern), and Stephanie Sellers (Raleigh). Students, along with Associate Professor Dr. Marie-Line Germain, held their first client calls beginning in late January, 2018. They agreed on what needed to be reviewed, shared, and established how they would proceed. Communication was streamlined through Jeff Taylor, another MSHR student who served as the project manager for this course.

Two major projects were identified for Graham County: revising and updating their personnel manual, and creating a complete onboarding process. Melissa, Tanya and Stephanie worked together utilizing various

forms of technology (SamePage, Google Docs, GroupMe, SharePoint, texting and phone calls), divided up the projects and got to work. Over the next several months, the students accomplished several things. The personnel manual was updated to ensure legal compliance, re-formatted with embedded weblinks, and given a consistent layout. They also developed a comprehensive onboarding process by creating several new forms, statements and check lists, and revising the employment offer letter and performance appraisal. The completion of these projects gives Graham County a robust and engaging personnel manual for employees to more easily navigate and utilize, and the HR Director has an onboarding process with guidelines for hiring, evaluating and properly introducing new employees to their job. Tanya and Jeff presented their work with Graham County at the June 1st WCU Board of Trustees meeting as an example of community engagement.

By providing this consultation service, graduate students learn how to approach the consulting process in a professional and engaging manner. Delivering products that meet the needs of the client and addressing deficiencies the client may not have been aware of, the students utilize what they learned in the MSHR program. The client receives a valuable service free of charge from graduate students under the tutelage of a human resource professor. This component of the MSHR program is a win-win proposition that has been in place since 2011. For more information about The Consulting Initiative, visit: consulting.wcu.edu.

Suite 201 Settles into New Office Space

As we begin the fall semester, you may have noticed the renovations in Suite 201. Gone are the fire-hazard wood cubicle, asbestos tiles, drafty windows, random wires sticking out of walls, and dated look. Facilities management worked in collaboration with Suite 201 staff to design a space to house the associate dean's office, Suite 201 staff, and a conference room. The new conference room, Killian 201P, can now be reserved for meetings in 25Live. In addition, we have several spaces to attract students. We have a new workspace bar where students can plug in their devices and a new reception/student hangout area as you walk in. We also have a kitchenette to support events for students throughout the year. We are grateful the university and facilities management funded these renovations. Please come by to see our new space and talk with us about how we can better serve our students.





The Catamount School Promotes Inaugural Class

On May 30, 2018, eager parents and students filled Blue Ridge Hall to celebrate the first 8th grade Catamount School class's promotion to 9th grade. Following dinner, remarks by teachers, and academic award recognition, 12 students were presented certificates of promotion by Dr. Kim Winter, Dean of the College of Education and Allied Professions. It was a busy year for The Catamount School, which first opened its doors to 57 students in grades 6, 7, and 8 on August 22, 2017. Students completed classes in math, science, language arts, social studies, and daily physical education and enrichment, led by five teachers and multiple student teacher interns through collaboration with the School of Teaching and Learning at WCU. After the last day of school on June 1st, the teachers participated in multiple professional development days, planning and brainstorming how to make the 2018-2019 year even better! The Catamount School welcomed a new 6th grade class on August 20, 2018. For more information on the Catamount School, please contact 828-331-1775 or visit catamountschool.wcu.edu.

Congratulations to the following students on the successful completion of 8th grade: Anneka Abbott, Eva Busbin, Calista Cruea, Jurney Egerdahl, Emma Fox, Mary Istvan, Culhan Lovett, Melody Myers, Pierson Owen, Lucy Rayburn, Joshua Stack and Jabari "JJ" Woods. The following awards were also presented: *Excellence in Math I* to Mary Istvan, *Excellence in 8th Grade Math* to Lucy Rayburn, *Excellence in Language Arts* to Melody Myers, *Excellence in Science* to Jurney Egerdahl and *Excellence in History* to Pierson Owen.

For more information, contact the Dean's office in the College of Education and Allied Professions at 828-227-7311 or the Catamount School at 828-331-1775.

New Faculty & Staff

School of Teaching and Learning



Chip Cody
Principal,
The Catamount School



Jennifer Hardin
Math Teacher/Leader
The Catamount School



Gretchen Reece
Grant Coordinator,
University Participant
Program



Donald Sinyard
Instructor

Suite 201



Keith West
Assistant Professor



Christy Baird
Instructor, Office of Field
Experience



Tabatha Gillett
Advisor



Jonathan Campbell
Professor

Psychology

Human Services



Darrius Stanley
Assistant Professor



Sarah Minnis
Assistant Professor



Elizabeth Likis-Werle
Assistant Professor

CEAP Snippets

- **Dr. Yancey Gulley**, Assistant Professor in the Higher Education Student Affairs Program, was presented with the LEAD award from the Department of Campus Activities at WCU. This award is given to a student, faculty/staff member, department, or member of the community who exemplifies the ideals of leadership and who makes a difference.
- Thirty years after completing a dissertation on teacher moonlighting in Tennessee, **Dr. Ellie Blair** has published a collection of essays on a topic that refuses to go away, titled, *By the Light of the Silvery Moon- Teacher Moonlighting and the Dark Side of Teachers' Work*. It connects older work with more contemporary research highlighting the impact of moonlighting on the teaching profession. The book is also the recipient of the American Educational Studies Association 2018 Critics Choice Book Award. AESA is an international group of noted scholars in the foundations of education.
- **Dr. Brandi Hinnant-Crawford**, faculty member in the Department of Human Services, has co-authored a chapter in *Living the Legacy of American American Education: A Model for School and University Engagement*. The chapter, "Focus on Problem Solving and Deliverables" is co-authored with Miyoshi Juergensen and gives concrete examples on mutually beneficial delivery models.
- **Rebecca Ensley** and **Chris English** represented the Educational Leadership Program and WCU graduate students by attending N.C. Graduate Education Day on Wednesday, May 30th, at the N.C. General Assembly. They met with NC policymakers including Sen. Jim Davis and Representatives Cody Henson, Mike Clampitt, Brian Turner, and Kevin Corbin. Gov. Roy Cooper declared the entire week as "Graduate Education Week" in North Carolina.
- **Dr. Heidi Von Dohlen**, faculty member in the Educational Leadership Program, led a team of middle school teachers to Guatemala City where they provided professional development at a school, Safe Passage, who serves children and families who work in and around the city's garbage dump. This trip was sponsored by the Rotary Club.
- **Dr. Callie Schultz, Dr. Gayle Wells, and Tacquice Davis** in collaboration with two colleagues from Elizabeth City State University won the UNC-System Undergraduate Research Award Program (URAP) award. Their multi-faceted project includes purchasing the Missouri Community Action Network (MCAN)'s Poverty Simulation Kit, training WCU and ECSU faculty, staff, and students to run the simulation, facilitating six iterations of the Poverty Simulation in 2018-2019, and managing four undergraduate research projects based on student experiences and community impact of the simulation on both campuses.
- **Drs. Jess Weiler** and **Phyllis Robertson** have received renewal and expansion of the Transforming Principal Preparation Grant, funded by the NC General Assembly, in the amount of \$700,000.00. This grant will provide 10 MSA students with full tuition scholarships including paid, full-time, administrative internships designed with research-supported coaching models. The funds will also allow for student conference attendance and the expansion of the MSA program's curricular focus on leadership for equity and social justice. In total, the MSA program will have received \$1,100,561.00 across four years (2016-2020) supporting 20 students directly while improving school leadership broadly, across the western region.
- **Dr. Tom Ford**, psychology faculty member, co-authored the book *The Psychology of Humor: An Integrative Approach (2nd Edition)*.
- The North Carolina Association for Colleges and Teacher Educators (NC-ACTE) honored teacher education game changers at their annual fall forum. **Dr. Dale Carpenter**, special education faculty member and former CEAP Dean, was recognized as an education game changer. Thank you Dr. Carpenter for all that you have done for teacher education in North Carolina!
- Roy Cooper has appointed **Dr. Brandi Hinnant-Crawford** to the North Carolina Interagency Coordinating Council for Children from Birth to Five with Disabilities and Their Families. Hinnant-Crawford is an assistant professor of educational leadership and co-chair of the CEAP Diversity Committee. Cooper said, "I'm grateful that these skilled North Carolinians will share their expertise with our state by serving on these key boards and commissions."
- **Dr. Lori Caudle**, Birth-Kindergarten Education faculty member, published a book titled, *Teachers and Teaching: Global Practices, Challenges, and Prospects*.
- Psychology faculty members, **Drs. Ethan Schilling, Mickey Randolph**, and **Candace Boan-Lenzo**, published a paper titled "Job Burnout in School Psychology: How Big is the Problem" in the journal, *Contemporary School Psychology*. This paper examines the extent of feelings of job burnout among school psychologists practicing in the Southeastern US and offers suggestions for preventing burnout and effectively intervening when such feelings occur in practitioners.





**COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
AND ALLIED PROFESSIONS**

204 Killian
1 University Drive
Cullowhee, NC 28723

CEAP News

CONTACT US:
91 Killian Building Lane / Cullowhee, NC 28723 / 828.227.7311

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CONTACT OUR ACADEMIC DEPARTMENTS

HUMAN SERVICES
91 Killian Building Lane
Killian, Room 208
Cullowhee, NC 28723
828.227.7310

SCHOOL OF TEACHING & LEARNING
1 University Drive
Reid Gym, Room 100
Cullowhee, NC 28723
828.227.7108

PSYCHOLOGY
91 Killian Building Lane
Killian, Room 302B
Cullowhee, NC 28723
828.227.7361