Budget cuts, enrollment growth among topics tackled at Opening Assembly

The collective efforts of faculty and staff to attract and retain larger numbers of students at Western Carolina University are helping the institution weather lingering budget constraints that otherwise would hamstring efforts to improve academic quality and enhance the student experience. ... (CONTINUE READING | LISTEN TO REMARKS)

Process to reaffirm university accreditation gets underway

The comprehensive, three-year process to reaffirm WCU's accreditation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges has begun, and faculty, staff and students will have opportunities to take part. ... (CONTINUE READING)

Stephen Miller to direct accreditation reaffirmation effort

"Dr. Miller’s experience with the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business accreditation, exemplary roles as a member of Faculty Senate and faculty member, incredible organizational skills and commitment to Western Carolina University make him an excellent candidate for shepherding us through the SACSCOC reaffirmation process," said Provost Alison Morrison-Shetlar. ... (CONTINUE READING)

UNC Board of Governors to meet at WCU in September

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors will hold its September meeting on the Western Carolina campus in conjunction with the 125th anniversary of the founding of the institution that became WCU. ... (CONTINUE READING)

Arts Alive @ 125 event on Sept. 2 to benefit arts group

WCU’s first couple will host a show celebrating 125 years of the arts at WCU called “Arts Alive @ 125” in the John W. Bardo Fine and Performing Arts Center on Tuesday, Sept. 2. ... (CONTINUE READING)
WCU students win top prizes at energy summit

Students in WCU’s computer science and environmental science programs presented their capstone projects at the Appalachian Energy Summit in Boone and returned to WCU with two grand prizes. ...

BRIEFS | thereporter.wcu.edu/category/briefs
WCU ranked among ‘most technologically savvy online schools’
Convocation, Ballyhoo to open fall semester
Students, faculty to help build playground; more volunteers sought
Free food planned for WCU Big Birthday Bash garnering attention

ACHIEVEMENTS | thereporter.wcu.edu/category/achievements
Read about the latest achievements of faculty and staff, including Herb Bailey, Roseanna Belt, Tom Belt, Andrew Denson and Jane Eastman.

HEADLINES FROM WCU NEWS SERVICES | news-prod.wcu.edu
Galaxy of Stars series to open with return of Riders in the Sky
Soccer team to face UNCA in exhibition
Tickets available for Aug. 17 film festival debut
Bass Cats place in top 25 at national tournament

EVENTS | calendar.wcu.edu
Aug. 14 | Biltmore Park New Student Orientation
Aug. 15 | Freshman Move-In
Aug. 15 | Freshman Convocation
Aug. 16 | Freshman Assembly
Aug. 16 | Valley Ballyhoo
Aug. 18 | First Day of Classes
Aug. 20 | Serena: Faculty Workshop with Ron Rash

HIGHER EDUCATION NEWSWATCH | news-prod.wcu.edu/higher-education-newswatch
Spending Shifts as Colleges Compete on Students’ Comfort | Chronicle of Higher Education (includes info about WCU in bar graph-icon link)
Area GOP legislators oppose plan to test in WNC for gas | The Sylva Herald (about fracking hearing scheduled for our campus)
McCrory makes appointments to boards on forestry, medical centers, libraries and more | The Voter Update (includes appointment of Patricia Morse to the N.C. Social Work Certification and Licensure Board)
In bosses’ silence, WCU former dean defends reputation | The Sylva Herald (updated story on leadership change in College of Fine and Performing Arts)
Lights, camera, money | Covington (Georgia) News (about impact of film industry on local economy, with comment from Steve Morse)
The Report Card for Aug. 8 | Asheville Citizen-Times (editorial report card gives a grade of ‘A’ to WCU for recognition as the No. 1 college for outdoor adventure in the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic, and a grade of ‘A’ to U.S. Rep. Mark Meadows for effort to exempt student workers from Affordable Care Act and mentions Chancellor David O. Belcher for pitching the idea.)
N.C. congressman pushes law to exempt student workers from Obamacare | Campus Reform (includes comments from Chancellor David O. Belcher, who helped inspire the legislation)
Q&A with Heather Laine Talley, author of Saving Face | NYU Press Blog (feature in connection with Talley’s book “Saving Face: Disfigurement and the Politics of Appearance”)

PPI Forum: Fewer meetings, more action | The Macon News (about WCU Public Policy Institute forum held in Franklin and includes comments from Todd Collins and mentions WCU student Brian Burgess)

8 awarded Golden Leaf Foundation Scholarships | The Daily Herald (Roanoke Rapids) (about Golden Leaf Foundation Scholarship recipients, including a student who said she plans to attend WCU)

Meadows pushes to exempt student workers from Obamacare | Asheville Citizen-Times (about U.S. Rep. Mark Meadows introducing the Student Worker Exemption Act based on an idea pitched by WCU Chancellor David Belcher)

Rosemont-based drum corps spends summer on road | The Chicago Tribune (WCU marching band student mentioned in Chicago Tribune story about local drum corps)

WCU captures ‘top adventure college’ title in magazine poll | The Sylva Herald

WCU plans debates for congress, statehouse races | The Sylva Herald (about the WCU Public Policy Institute hosting a series of political debates)

Local Civil War group to host ‘Gettysburg’ actor | The Sylva Herald (about WNC Civil War Round Table hosting Patrick Falci, star of Civil War movie “Gettysburg,” at WCU’s Mountain Heritage Center)

Former Catamount baseball players honored, promoted | The Sylva Herald

Focused on Franklin: Residents pack in to sound off at town hall meeting | Smoky Mountain News (Todd Collins, associate professor and director of WCU’s Public Policy Institute, and graduate student Brian Burgess are mentioned)

Pisgah/Tuscoloa tailgate in Canton | Smoky Mountain News (mentions WCU’s participation)

Coding sexism out of the UK tech industry | Wired (quotes Tom Ford in a story about sexism in the UK tech industry)

A family man with a business mind- Ryan Johnson | Montgomery Herald (features 2007 WCU engineering technology alumnus Ryan Johnson)

What does a state poet laureate do—and why does it matter? | Indy Week (about the importance of poet laureates mentions Kathryn Stripling Byer’s service as poet-in-residence at WCU)

ATHLETICS | catamountsports.com
Football Fall Report # 6: August 13, 2014
Women's soccer defeats Winthrop 2-0 in exhibition game
Football Position-by-Position Preview: Linebackers
Catamount Diamond Notes: Recapping WCU's Summer Leagues
Football Position-by-Position Preview: Wide Receivers