

# the Reporter

Western Carolina University Faculty & Staff News

SEPTEMBER 2-8, 2015 | [thereporter.wcu.edu](http://thereporter.wcu.edu)



## WCU hits all-time high freshman retention rate of 80 percent

Western Carolina University has hit an all-time high in the percentage of first-time, full-time undergraduate students who have returned for their sophomore year as 80 percent of last year's freshman class is back in school this fall semester. ... [\(CONTINUE READING\)](#)

## Mountain Heritage Center resumes full operation at Hunter Library

The Mountain Heritage Center, Western Carolina University's museum of Appalachian culture, is back at full operation after a summertime move from H.F. Robinson Administration Building to space at WCU's Hunter Library. ... [\(CONTINUE READING\)](#)

## Office of Career Services looks to grow under new leadership

It was during the job interview process, when Theresa Cruz Paul repeatedly heard about Western Carolina University's emphasis on building and growing the Office of Career Services, and how it was a part of the university's strategic plan, that she knew Cullowhee was the place for her to be. ... [\(CONTINUE READING\)](#)

## WCU receives FCC construction permit for new FM frequency

Western Carolina University has received a construction permit from the Federal Communications Commission to create a new noncommercial radio station on the 95.3 FM frequency. ... [\(CONTINUE READING\)](#)

## New model will expand academic learning communities beyond first semester, year

A new paradigm for academic learning communities at Western Carolina University emerged from the experiences of faculty and staff members attending the National Summer Institute on Learning Communities at Evergreen State College in mid-July. ... [\(CONTINUE READING\)](#)

### NOTEWORTHY NEWS | [thereporter.wcu.edu/category/briefs](http://thereporter.wcu.edu/category/briefs)

Employee Appreciation Day Celebration on Thursday to include free lunch  
Golden Dragon Acrobats bring ancient performance art to WCU on Sept. 9  
Competitions enliven activities at Mountain Heritage Day, Sept. 26

### ACHIEVEMENTS | [thereporter.wcu.edu/category/achievements](http://thereporter.wcu.edu/category/achievements)

Read about the latest achievements of faculty and staff; this week: Jackie Sievert and Mark Kossick.

### HEADLINES FROM WCU NEWS SERVICES | [news-prod.wcu.edu](http://news-prod.wcu.edu)

Students throw their filming skills into high gear on an alumnus' movie project  
Family friendly paddling competition set for Sept. 12  
Sneed to deliver Indian health lecture Wednesday  
Steep Canyon Rangers coming to WCU  
LIFE@WesternCarolina starting its second year of programs  
Bookstore certified as Energy Star  
Proposed QEP topics to be focus of Sept. 1 forum  
WCU foliage forecaster predicts one of best leaf seasons in recent years  
WCU volleyball team hosting tournament Aug. 28-29  
Several construction projects in the works or on drawing boards

### CALENDAR | [events.wcu.edu](http://events.wcu.edu)

Sept. 3 | Reception: Cathryn Griffin Photography  
Sept. 3 | Jurassic World  
Sept. 4 | Board of Trustees  
Sept. 4 | Kickoff in Cullowhee!  
Sept. 4 | Women's Soccer vs. Campbell  
Sept. 4 | The Mowglis  
Sept. 4 – 6 | Jurassic World  
Sept. 5 | Football vs. Mars Hill  
Sept. 6 | Women's Soccer vs. Longwood  
Sept. 8 | Why We Step and Hop  
Sept. 9 | Golden Dragon Acrobats

**HIGHER EDUCATION NEWSWATCH** | [news-prod.wcu.edu/higher-education-newswatch](http://news-prod.wcu.edu/higher-education-newswatch)

**Ron Rash's 'Waterfall' searches for answers in ruined Appalachia** | Atlanta Journal-Constitution – review of upcoming book by WCU's Ron Rash

**Reality Check: Social Security Disability Holdup** | WLOS News 13 – about student who is fighting Social Security over disability designation

**Mountain Projects celebrates 50 years this week** | The Sylva Herald – about Mountain Projects anniversary, which includes information about WCU's Kneedler Child Development Center

**WCU Professor Worked with Late Director Wes Craven** | Asheville Citizen-Times – about the death of director Wes Craven, with interview with Jack Sholder

**Guest column: Jules Verne imagined WNC without visiting** | Asheville Citizen-Times – guest column about Jules Verne's connection to WNC; includes comment from Brian Gastle

**A Fine Showmance: How Terrence Mann and Charlotte d'Amboise's Love Began With Kisses in Cats Makeup** | Playbill – about early theatre days of two WCU professors

**2016 National Financial Plan Competition Registration Begins** | PRWeb / The Edwardsville Intelligencer (Illinois) – about financial planning competition that includes WCU students

**How Serena rode into Rash's mind, inspiring novel** | Asheville Citizen-Times – about Ron Rash's inspiration for novel "Serena"

**Rob Neufeld: Rash's suspense novel gives time to poetry** | Asheville Citizen-Times – about Ron Rash's upcoming new release

**ATHLETICS** | [catamountsports.com](http://catamountsports.com)

**Football.** Notes from Tuesday's (Sept. 1) SoCon Football Teleconference

**W. Volleyball.** Vervelde's Triple-Double Leads Catamounts over UNCA

**W. Soccer.** Women's Soccer Drops 1-0 Heart-breaker at Middle Tennessee

**Football.** 2015 Western Carolina Catamount Yearbook

**W. Soccer.** Women's Soccer Central: at Middle Tennessee



Submit story ideas and suggestions to The Reporter  
via e-mail at [reporter@wcu.edu](mailto:reporter@wcu.edu).