

THE GRAD GAZETTE

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE WSSU GRADUATE COLLEGE

WELCOME TO THE DEAN'S CORNER

Dear Graduate Scholars, Alumni, Faculty, Staff and Supporters,

As we approach the final stretch of the semester, I would like to take a moment to recognize and commend our graduate scholars. Your dedication, resilience, and intellectual pursuits are absolutely amazing. Graduate education is both a challenge and a privilege, requiring not only commitment but also a deep passion for discovery and innovation. I know that as deadlines approach and responsibilities mount, it can be easy to feel overwhelmed. However, remember your hard work is shaping not just your future but also the academic excellence of our entire institution.

Your research, ideas, and contributions to scholarship are integral to the University's mission. Through your thesis work, projects, publications, and conference presentations, you are expanding our knowledge base, inspiring future generations, and elevating the impact of our scholarly enterprise. The rigor of your studies and originality of your insights reinforce our university's standing as a hub for intellectual inquiry and innovation.

This is the time to stay focused, manage your time wisely, and lean on the resources available to you – faculty, mentors, academic advisors, peers, and support services. Take advantage of writing workshops, research consultations, exam preps, and wellness initiatives designed to help you maintain balance and clarity as you navigate your final projects and exams.

Finishing strong is about more than just crossing the finish line – it is also about taking pride in how far you have come and making the most of every learning opportunity. Keep pushing forward, stay motivated, and remember that each step you take brings you closer to your academic and professional goals while leaving a lasting imprint on WSSU's scholarly legacy.

We believe in you and are here to support you. Let's finish this semester with excellence and determination!

WARM REGARDS,

Montrale Boykin

DEAN OF THE GRADUATE COLLEGE

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HIGHLIGHTS FROM LAST MONTH

INFORMATION SESSION

The Graduate College hosted its Spring Information Session, inviting WSSU's undergraduate students to explore the various programs we offer, meet our Dean, and hear firsthand experiences from our students. Our Program Coordinators were thrilled to engage with students as they made their way through each table, gathering valuable information and picking up some fun goodies along the way!

These events provide students with an invaluable opportunity for one-on-one interactions, offering insights into the admissions process, application tips, and the diverse career paths that various graduate degrees can open up. The session concluded with a Graduate Student Panel, where our students tackled important topics like Imposter Syndrome, effective study strategies, and how to balance full-time work while pursuing a degree. Our Undergrad Rams were incredibly engaged, asking thoughtful and insightful questions throughout the event! We're thrilled with the turnout and can't wait to plan our next session for the Fall term—stay tuned!



HIGHLIGHTS FROM LAST MONTH

MONEY MOVES: FINANCIAL PLANNING CAREER SPOTLIGHT

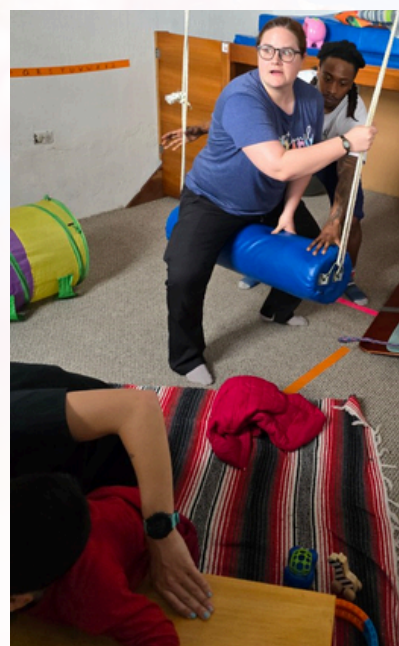


Fun Fact: According to the Certified Financial Planning (CFP) Board, fewer than 2,000 African Americans hold a CFP certification, representing less than 2% of the overall population of Certified Financial Planners. The Graduate College had the privilege of hosting three of them on campus for our **Money Moves: Financial Planning Career Spotlight**. Our students had the unique opportunity to engage with four financial planners, and while the conversation covered important topics like crypto investments, entrepreneurship, and risk management, it went far beyond just numbers. The facilitators shared powerful insights on the importance of mentorship and grit, drawing from their own journeys into the financial planning field. They praised our students for taking the initiative to connect and invest in their futures, leaving them with this encouraging thought: **"Don't let fear be the limiting factor."** Our students left with more than just information, they left with tangible resources that their dreams are possible and not beyond their reach.

Rams Go Abroad

Our second-year graduate students from the Department of Occupational Therapy recently had the incredible opportunity to complete a Level I Adult Fieldwork in Ecuador. For one week, they provided essential Occupational Therapy services to the local community in a free Pediatric and Adult Outpatient Clinic. This hands-on experience allowed our students to immerse themselves in a diverse healthcare setting while making a meaningful impact on the lives of Ecuadorians. The students gained invaluable cultural competence, clinical skills, and a deeper understanding of global health challenges.

A big thank you to the clinic staff and the community for welcoming our students and making this experience unforgettable!



Thank you for reading!

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 7, 2025:
**WSSU Graduate College
 & Leadership Winston
 Salem Partner for:**
Business After Hours

WSSU GRADUATE
 COLLEGE & LEADERSHIP
 WINSTON SALEM
 PRESENTS:



BUSINESS AFTER HOURS



EVENT DETAILS:

SIR WINSTON
 104 W 4TH ST
 WINSTON-SALEM, NC 27101
DATE: MAY 7, 2025
TIME: 5:00PM-9:00PM

**RSVP
TODAY**



JOIN US TO NETWORK WITH FELLOW PROFESSIONALS AND MAKE NEW CONNECTIONS!



GRADUATE COLLEGE FEATURED ON WGHP FOX 8!

The Graduate College teamed up with Reporter Celeste G. Smith of WGHP Fox 8 to interview our Dean Boykin, and Graduate Student Association President, Makeiah Trotter about the historic milestone of achieving the **largest graduate student enrollment in WSSU's history!** We also shared experiences of being a graduate student at WSSU!