

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 embrace the season of Valentine's Day, love is in the air. Not just love for friends, family, and partners, but also for something just as enduring: **the love of learning**. At Winston-Salem State University's Graduate College, we celebrate the passion and purpose that drive each of you to pursue advanced education and lifelong intellectual growth.

Graduate education is more than a journey; it's a commitment to curiosity, discovery, and impact. Like any great love, it requires dedication, resilience, and the willingness to grow through challenges. Whether you are in the early stages of your studies or preparing to cross the graduation stage, your pursuit of knowledge is a testament to your unwavering commitment to personal and professional fulfillment.

This Valentine's season, I encourage you to reflect on what inspires you – what fuels your passion for research, innovation, and scholarship. Hold close the excitement of discovery, the joy of deep discussions, and the thrill of pushing boundaries in your field. Remember, the love of learning is a lifelong affair, one that will enrich your life and the lives of those around you.

Thank you for being part of our vibrant graduate community. We appreciate your contribution to enhancing our intellectual enterprise. Your dedication makes our institution a place of inspiration and impact. May your academic journey continue to be filled with purpose, passion, and love for learning.

WARM REGARDS,
Montrale Boykin

INTERIM DEAN OF THE GRADUATE COLLEGE

IN THIS ISSUE

Dean's Corner

Highlights from last month

Innovative Curriculum practices



HIGHLIGHTS FROM LAST MONTH

INAUGURATION OF THE GRADUATE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

In January the Graduate Student Association Executive Board was inaugurated! During the event, our Chancellor, Bonita Brown and Dean Montrale Boykin delivered inspiring charges to the Board, urging them to remain curious, purposeful, and dedicated to amplifying the voices of graduate students. Lastly, they highlighted their profound impact on the fabric of the WSSU community. Our

GSA President, Makeiah Trotter, shared her vision for her presidency, expressing her commitment to fostering inclusivity, empowering her peers, and supporting the growth of the graduate student body. The ceremony concluded with refreshments, laughter, and a special moment—***the unveiling of President Trotter's photo on the Student Leadership Wall located on the second floor in the Student Center!*** The creation of the Graduate Student Association is a true reflection of turning **your words** into meaningful action!



INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM PRACTICES

3D PRINTING



The 3D printed splint technology is a game changer because it improves productivity for the Occupational Therapist, while saving patients money due to the process efficiency. In addition to the potential lower cost for the 3D printing method, it also allows for custom colors and design. Second year MSOT student Cristina Sorensen was recently featured on FOX8 WGHP morning news for creating a program and 3D printed devices that help moms complete childcare tasks safely.

The Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT) program has been using 3D printers to create adaptive equipment for underserved clients in East Winston since 2018. 3D printing is a process that uses 3D printers and specialized software to create three dimensional objects by adding successive layers of filament. Our students currently use **Ultimaker Printers**, which use a process called **fused deposition modeling** or FDM. The WSSU MSOT program partnered with Spentys in 2023 and became the **FIRST** university in the nation to implement training for OT students on creating 3D printed splints using an innovative platform.



Thank you for reading!

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