

PRESENTATIONS, MEETINGS & PANELS

Sixteen VWC colleagues traveled to a three-day Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy at Virginia Tech to learn new ways to engage their students. **Linda Ferguson, Joyce Howell** and **Sue Larkin** presented “Blending Digital Pedagogies into Face-to-Face Classes;” **Joyce Easter** presented “Invigorating the Lab Curriculum with Process Skill Development;” and **Denise Wilkinson** and **Kathy Stolley** presented the poster “Talk About Teaching: A Case Study of a Faculty Forum Created to Encourage and Foster Effective Teaching.” Other attendees included: **Rebecca Hooker, Paul Ewell, Sandra Ewell, Taryn Myers, Jen Slivka, Kathy Merlock Jackson, Gabi Martorell, Julia Capewell** and **Robin Takacs**. Participants will share conference take-aways at the March 14 *Talk About Teaching* session.



Ten Recreation & Leisure Studies majors attended the North Carolina Recreation Therapy Association Student/Professional Issues Forum at the University of Mount Olive where **Wayne Pollock** presented a session titled “Professional Ethics: Necessary for the Advancement of the Profession.”

Ben Haller served as Area Chair for the Classical Representations in Popular Culture area at the Southwest Popular/American Culture Conference in Albuquerque New Mexico, chairing three panels and presenting a paper entitled, “New England Trout and Midas in the Shadow of Monument Mountain: The Yankee Reception of Classical Mythology in Nathaniel Hawthorne’s *A Wonder Book*.”

Vivian Teter presented a paper on a panel titled “Crossing the Line: Writing as a Healing Practice” at the National Conference of the Association of Writers and Writing Programs in Washington, D.C.. She also participated in the conference’s Book Fair as an author for Wolf Ridge Press of San Francisco, signing copies of her book, *Breath Enough*.



Leslie Caughell was invited to present preliminary results from her research project, “It’s a Matter of Trust: Increasing the Efficacy of Fact-Checking Stories” to journalists, leaders of businesses and non-profit organizations, and scholars at a summit in Washington, DC sponsored by the Poynter Institute, the American Press Institute, and Duke Reporters Lab entitled “Fact-Checking: What happened in 2016; finding our way in 2017.”

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Takyera Collins, Robin Takacs, Kathy Stolley and **Diane Hotaling** played major roles in providing a successful class and meaningful service learning environment for the students in the winter session 2017 *INST/PORT 124* course, who partnered with three different emergency homeless shelters in the surrounding cities.



IN PRINT

Alain Gabon’s article “Me or Chaos. Why our governments need terrorism.” was published in the *Middle East Eye*.

OTHER

Leslie Caughell was quoted in the *Richmond Times Dispatch* about the gender dynamics involved in a political ad about state senator Jill Vogel, who is running for the gubernatorial nomination for the Republican Party.

Eric Mazur’s “Lobbying & Religious Advocacy” class (*RELST 308, winter 2017*) presented Norfolk City Council with ways to amend the municipal code to remove religious bias. Previous classes made appeals in person, resulting in 5 separate changes in the Code; this year, snow closures and the Council’s meeting schedule necessitated a written appeal.