Law dogs

Wofford’s mock trial club entered two teams in regional competitions earlier this month. The teams used the mock trial Interim class as a training camp.

By Robert W. Dalton

For two hours, prosecutors and defense attorneys peppered witnesses with questions and sparred with each other over procedural issues. Jurors, tasked with deciding the innocence or guilt of a defendant charged with arson and murder, listened intently.

The drama didn’t unfold in a courtroom, however. Instead, this case was contested in a classroom as part of Wofford’s mock trial Interim class.
Dr. Katherine Valde, assistant professor of philosophy, taught the class. She says mock trial is a way for students to gain experience and skills, especially students planning to pursue a career in the legal profession.

“Law is a part of all of our lives, so gaining a better understanding of how the law really works is beneficial for everyone,” she says. “While students often want to use their moral intuition to argue cases, mock trial highlights the separation between legal and moral reasoning, demonstrating to students the important lesson that law is a self-contained system and to argue legally one must use available legal resources.”

Jordan Willey ’23, a government major from Moncks Corner, South Carolina, suggested the class. As the founder and president of Wofford’s mock trial club, he wanted to use it as a training camp for the regional competitions held Feb. 11-13.

Jim Hackney ’77 and Scott Haight are displaying more than 50 pieces of their pottery collection at the Richardson Family Art Museum for the next four months. The exhibit celebrates North Carolina pottery.

By Noah Ravan ’22

Jim Hackney ’77 and Scott Haight have close to 400 pieces of pottery in their collection, and they’re displaying a portion of it at Wofford College over the next four months.
The Hackney-Haight Collection will be on exhibit in the Richardson Family Art Museum through May 22. It’s titled “I Work with Clay.” The exhibit features many utilitarian pieces made in North Carolina, including pots, plates, mugs and vases made by potters who are considered living gems in the Tar Heel state.

“There’s something wonderful about sitting down with a lump of mud and turning it into something beautiful,” says Hackney, who became interested in pottery at a young age.

The Richardson Family Art Museum is open to the public on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 1 to 5 p.m., and on Thursdays from 1 to 7 p.m. Admission is free and reservations are not required.

**Upcoming Black History Month events**

The college has three Black History Month events remaining, including “Geographies of Pain and Pleasure: Black Women in Segregated New Orleans,” a lecture being presented by Dr. LaKisha Simmons, associate professor of history and women’s studies at the University of Michigan, at 4 p.m. today (Thursday, Feb. 17) in Olin Theater in the Franklin W. Olin Building.

Find more Black History Month events.

**100 issues of Conquer & Prevail**

The first issue of the Conquer & Prevail newsletter was delivered to the inboxes of students, staff, faculty, alumni and friends of the college on March 20, 2020. The COVID-19 pandemic forced the campus community to scatter, and it was important to have a vehicle to keep people connected and to share the good that Terriers were doing. It also was an opportunity for alumni and friends of the college to be included while we all shared in the experience of living in a pandemic.

This is issue No. 100 of Conquer & Prevail! The newsletter continues to evolve while celebrating Terrier accomplishments, making campus announcements and promoting upcoming events. Thanks for reading, pitching story ideas and reaching out to learn more. Find all issues of the newsletter on the college's digital commons.