Dear Wheelock Community Members:

The Department of Government & External Affairs, and Community Impact (DGEA & CI) is pleased to share this monthly email that highlights just some of the recent media coverage of Wheelock, its students, faculty, administrators, and alumnae/i. We encourage you to visit the Wheelock website and take a look at all of our news coverage. We hope this newsletter serves to inform you about the work that your colleagues are doing, and to instill pride among our community. Feel free to share with your networks.

Please note:

Opinions expressed by experts represent their personal perspectives, not necessarily those of the College. Wheelock supports diverse perspectives and this newsletter serves to highlight the breadth and depth of research and areas of expertise.

Some websites may require registration to access the articles and some links may no longer be active. Please contact Beth Kaplan with any issues viewing articles.

February 2015

Institutional News

Partners in Progress: College, Community, and the Board's Contribution
Trusteeship Magazine, February 2015
Then-Mayor Thomas M. Menino approached Wheelock’s President Jenkins-Scott with a public-private proposal: Given Wheelock’s well-established interest in children and families, would the college consider taking over one of the community centers to keep it running? The college took over the Mattahunt Community Center in 2011 after refurbishing the facilities.

87 Undergraduate Schools Recognized By myActions For Green & Compassionate Student Activity
PRWEB, 2/17/15
The Student Actions Awards celebrate: student leadership, student activation, initiatives and impact. Wheelock College was awarded with the Silver Level for its excellence this fall semester.

Faculty in the News

Newton’s Deborah Lisansky Beck to be honored by social workers group
Newton Tab, 2/9/15
The National Association of Social Workers, Massachusetts chapter, has announced that it will honor Wheelock professor and Newton native Deborah Lisansky Beck, MSW, LICSW, with the “Greatest Contribution to Social Work Education” award.

Reading Instruction in Kindergarten: What Will it Cost in the Long Haul?
Huffington Post, 2/2/15
Diane Levin, Professor of Early Childhood Education at Wheelock College, asks herself how many children will become disengaged from the learning process, doing only what is required to complete assigned tasks, not seeing school and learning
as something interesting and relevant for their lives?

How to Talk to Kids About Violence in the News
St. Louis Magazine, 2/6/15
Violence in the news can deeply affect children, and parents should try to protect very young kids from overhearing news they just aren’t capable of comprehending, said Dr. Diane Levin, professor of education at Boston’s Wheelock College.

What Does the ’Sports Illustrated’ Cover Teach Our Kids?
Yahoo, 2/6/15
Diane Levin, Professor of Early Childhood Education at Wheelock College says that catching sight of all that skin, glorified on the newsstand at the grocery store, “becomes an important part of what they understand as to what it means to be girl and what people value,” she says. “It shows them girls are supposed to be pretty, and how you look is really important.

Can too many snow days widen the achievement gap?
The Hechinger Report, 2/13/15
The never-ending snow days are taking away valuable time and services from most low income students. “For children living in families at or below the poverty line, the lunch and breakfast programs at school are often the main meals they receive,” said Lenette Azzi-Lessing, an associate professor at Wheelock College, an education school in Boston.

Hearts Of Gold: Valentine’s Day And Our National Identity
Cognoscenti, 2/13/15
Eric Silverman, Professor of American Studies and Chair, Psychology and Human Development at Wheelock wrote, “Valentine’s Day as we know it, like most of our holidays, is an American invention, born of the marketplace and catering to a nation as committed to conspicuous consumption as to loftier values.”

In Voodoo’s survival, a tale of black resilience
Al Jazeera America, 2/25/15
Akeia Bernard, a Rhode Island native and anthropology teacher at Boston’s Wheelock College visiting New Orleans with her students says that although she “grew up super-Catholic,” as an adult she realized her grandmother “did things super-African.”

Family Play Plans
Boston Parent’s Paper, 2/25/15
Professor Diane Levin authored this piece along with Blakely Bundy, M.Ed, a member of the Teachers Resisting Unhealthy Children’s Entertainment (TRUCE) Steering Committee, on meaningful, creative play activities for the whole family for the winter.

Professor Gail Dines and the 50 Dollars Not 50 Shades campaign
The campaign urges people to donate to women’s shelters, rather than buy a movie ticket. This campaign was covered by over 350 media outlets around the world in over 20 countries. Here is a sampling of some of the mentions:

‘Fifty Shades Of Grey’ Boycott Calls For People To Ditch The Film And Give $50
Boston’s NPR news station, 2/11/15
“This is about a seasoned predator who is a stalker and an abuser and sadist, honing in on a much younger woman,” said Gail Dines, who started a social media campaign called #50dollarsnot50shades is asking people to donate $50 to a battered women’s shelter instead of going to see the movie, which critics say glamorizes and perpetuates violence against women. “It is a movie that tells lies about women’s lives.”

Film’s ‘Fifty Shades’ of kinky sex stoke debate on domestic abuse
Reuters UK, 2/11/15
“This is about a seasoned predator who is a stalker and an abuser and sadist, honing in on a much younger woman,” said Gail Dines, professor of sociology at Boston’s Wheelock College. Dines founded the “50 Dollars Not 50 Shades” campaign that urges people to donate to women’s shelters, rather than buy a movie ticket.
Fifty Shades Of Grey: Domestic violence campaigners demand boycott for glamorisation of sexual abuse

*International Business News, 2/6/15*

Activists have launched an online campaign calling for the boycott of the Fifty Shades Of Grey movie on grounds that it promotes domestic violence. Almost 6,000 people have given their backing in the form of a Facebook like to the “50 dollars not 50 shades” initiative urging cinemagoers to donate the cost - $50 (£33) - of a movie night to charities supporting abused women.

Staff in the News

**Go Away: In Praise Of The Gap Year, For All Students**
*Cognoscenti, 2/6/15*

Instead of enrolling in college directly after high school, gap year students take a year off to work, perform service such as volunteering in homeless shelters in New York, animal rescue organizations in Thailand or hospitals in Cape Town. They work on farms in Central America, ranches in Canada or film crews in New Zealand, said Jacob Murray, the Executive Director of the Wheelock College Aspire Institute.

**Ray Elliott, others want Amherst Town Meeting to adopt Race Amity Day**
*MassLive, 2/24/15*

Ray Elliott wants the town to proclaim the second Sunday of June to be Race Amity Day and he and others are bringing the proposal to Town Meeting. The day was created by the National Center for Race Amity established in January 2010 and based at Wheelock College in Boston.

Contact Us

If you have connection with a media outlet or story line ideas that we ought to be pursuing feel free to email Beth Kaplan directly at bkaplan@wheelock.edu.