Despite the sub-freezing temperatures and still-rising snow banks, things are really heating up here on campus! The Half-Year Program we told you about in the last issue was a huge success, our Black Student Union student organization is currently sponsoring some wonderful African-American History Month initiatives, and many offices will soon be heavily preparing for our upcoming undergraduate and graduate Commencement Ceremonies. We are also proud to be hosting our 2nd annual Community Service Fair on Friday, February 28 in which your student can choose to participate in service projects from local organizations such as Make-A-Wish, Mattahunt Community Center, Rosie's Place, Ronald McDonald House, and more! On top of this, coursework, assignments, and internships are in full-swing until students leave for the upcoming Spring Break.

Speaking of Spring Break, we would like to reiterate the residence hall timelines and policies. Residence halls will officially close on Friday, March 7 at 9:00pm and will not re-open until Sunday, March 16 at noon. Students who would like to stay on campus throughout Spring Break must fill out an application recently sent to them via their Wheelock email by residence life staff. Extra copies are available in the Office of Student Life. Applications are due on Wednesday, March 5 and should be passed in by noon to the Office of Student Life. Acceptable reasons to remain on campus during Spring Break include academics, distance from home, or athletic participation.

As always, we value your feedback and want this newsletter to be as useful as possible. We also want to encourage open dialogue with you and work as partners toward your student's success. If there are any topics you would like to see in future issues of this newsletter or if you have any specific questions, do not hesitate to send in suggestions or inquiries to family@wheelock.edu.

Sincerely,
Jonathan Lewis, Director of Student Engagement (Office of Student Success)
Bryan McGrath, Assistant Dean of Students (Office of Student Life)

First Year Students Consider Major Decisions

The Office of Academic Advising is in the midst of an exciting program for new students. The Wildcats Get R.E.A.L. About Majors program (Reflect. Engage. Ask. Learn.) is an opportunity for all new students to learn more about what majors are offered at Wheelock and what their academic interests are as college students. Last week we concluded seven self-reflection workshops that gave students the opportunity to reflect on their own experiences and interests as young adults. “What makes you happy? What classes do you enjoy? What experiences have you had that have given you transferrable skills?” were just a few of the many questions posed to students during these workshops.

On Wednesday, February 26, students will take what they have learned from these workshops and hear more about
four different majors that are offered here at Wheelock. Students will attend presentations from faculty members who teach in the different departments and they will have an opportunity to engage and ask questions about the major.

Finally, on Wednesday, March 5, students will have the opportunity to attend an on-campus fair where all majors will be represented. We encourage them to speak with upperclass students in the major, learn more about the academic clubs that they can get involved in, and declare their major(s) if they are ready! Along with raffle prizes, Willy the Wildcat, food and activities, the Office of Academic Advising is looking forward to working with all new students as they begin their journey towards their college majors!

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**Social Work Department Thanks Field Instructors at Annual Breakfast**

Students are invited to join the Social Work Department in celebrating Social Work Month and its theme of Self-Care and Personal Wellness at our Field Instructor Appreciation Breakfast. This event is held annually to celebrate the profession of social work, our ideals, and most importantly the field instructors that make it possible for our Wheelock students to gain experience in a real social work setting.

The event will include a healthy breakfast, an awards ceremony for our field instructors and advisors, a keynote speaker, and small group health awareness round table discussions. We encourage all involved with the Wheelock and Social Work communities to join us in our celebration on March 7, 2014 from 8:30-11:30AM in the Ladd Room at our Brookline Campus, 43 Hawes Street. Please RSVP by February 28, 2014 at [www.wheelock.edu/field-instructor-appreciation](http://www.wheelock.edu/field-instructor-appreciation).

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**Calling All Potential Peer Tutors**

The Peer Tutors will be holding job information and recruiting tables in the Campus Center on the following dates during lunch (12:00pm-1:00pm) and dinner (6:00pm-7:00pm):

- Monday, March 3
- Tuesday, March 4
- Wednesday, March 5
- Thursday, March 6

Please encourage your student to apply. For more information, visit the Peer Tutor website. With any questions, contact Julia Mears, Assistant Director for Academic Assistance, at jmears@wheelock.edu.

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**Wheelock Wildcats Excel On- and Off-The Court**

The winter athletics season has come to an end with a lot of exciting results for the Wheelock men’s and women’s basketball teams.

The women’s team earned a playoff spot for the first time since 2002 as the seventh seed and challenged second-seeded Elms College for most of the first half, before succumbing in the end. Freshman center [Michelle Woods (Wilmington, MA)](http://www.wheelock.edu/field-instructor-appreciation) enjoyed the greatest rookie season in school history and maybe the best of any player in school annals. The post player earned NECC Rookie of the Week honors a league-high six times and was also named the New England Women's Basketball Association Rookie of the Week as well as the Eastern College Athletic Conference Co-Player of the Week during the season. Woods averaged 19.2 points and 9.3 rebounds per game and became the first player in program history to score 500 points in season, while also setting season marks for field goals made and free throws made. She wasn’t the only player putting her name in the school’s record book with freshman point guard [Jaime Grzych (Columbia, CT)](http://www.wheelock.edu/field-instructor-appreciation) establishing a new season standard for assists. The
Wildcats’ future looks bright with rookies comprising the starting five in 22 of 26 games this season. Freshman forward Shannon Garvey (Clarksburg, MA) averaged 10.4 points and 6.5 rebounds per game, while classmate Emily Doyle (Lynn, MA) emerged as one of the team’s top scorers late in the season, averaging 13.5 points per game with 18 made three-pointers in the team’s final six contests.

The men’s basketball team’s future also looks bright after completing a season where you could make rookie of the year arguments for multiple players. Freshman point guard Nicholas Fenton (East Hartford, CT) shattered the school record for season assists with 179 and finished the season with 7.2 assists per game to rank third in the nation, while standing nineteenth among all NCAA Division III players with 2.56 steals per game. He wasn’t the only player getting national attention. Freshman guard Derek Fournier (Johnston, RI) was also among the country’s elite with a school-record 76 three-pointers to place seventeenth in the nation and second among all Division III freshman. He was also one of the most accurate shooters in the country with a 44.4% (76-171) success rate. Fournier was named the NECC Rookie of the Week as was classmate Anthony Williams (White Plains, NY), who earned the honor three times, a league-best. The forward led Wheelock with 16.2 points per game to go with 5.6 rebounds. He scored a school-record 404 points, which is also the fourth-most for any player in school history. Senior swingman Paul Coucci (Dartmouth, MA) finished his career by averaging 16.8 points per game in his final five outings and ended with 107 lifetime three-pointers to stand second all-time at Wheelock. He also made 58 trifectas for the season for the second-most in school history.

There were plenty of academic honors handed out to recognize the achievements of Wheelock’s fall athletes as well. The NECC named five Wildcats to the Academic All-Conference team, while 15 student-athletes earned Dean’s List Honors at Wheelock. The women’s cross country team was recognized for their work in the classroom by the United States Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association with the All-Academic Team Award based on its 3.67 team cumulative grade point average, which is the ninth highest in the nation.

Counseling Center Introduces Spring Initiatives

The Counseling Center has recently announced some of the spring initiatives that they will be sponsoring. If you think your student may be interested in or may benefit from any of these events, please encourage them to attend:

- **Transfer Student Group** - Transferring schools can bring additional challenges, anxieties and concerns... Join us for conversation and snacks every Tuesday from 6pm-7pm in the Library room 3M. Please contact Acey Neel at acneel@wheelock.edu for more information.

- **Senior Decisions Group** - Share your experiences and challenges. Make a plan for “the next step”. Have a snack, smile, and DE-STRESS! Please contact Marcia Lowry at mlowry@wheelock.edu for more information.

- **MI Group** - Do you have a family member or a loved one who struggles with chronic mental illness? Come join us for some supportive discussion, ways you can take care of yourself, and ideas for coping and staying positive on Mondays from 2pm-3pm in the Library. Please contact Marcia Lowry at mlowry@wheelock.edu for more information.

- **At-Home Body-Blast** - Not into going to the gym? Want to learn to work out in your room but not sure where to start? Join us for an at-home workout! Wednesday, March 16 at 6pm in the Wolf Room. Please contact Gaby Avery-Peck at gaverypeck@wheelock.edu for more information.
IMPORTANT DATES

Monday, March 10 - Friday, March 14: *Spring Break (no classes)*
Thursday, March 13 - Wednesday, March 19: *Undergraduate Mid-Semester Evaluations*
Monday, March 17: *Classes resume; Summer and Fall course selection advising begins*

To view other upcoming dates and deadlines, please see Wheelock's [academic calendar](#).

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