March came in like a lion and, based on recent forecasts, may go out like one as well! Despite the brief respite of Spring Break, the Wheelock community has been busy, busy, busy with coursework, Spring athletics, preparation for housing selection (see below), and Commencement planning. On top of all this, there has been and will be an array of various community service projects sponsored throughout this semester. We would particularly like to commend Wheelock Child Life Organization (WCLO) for hosting a Dance Marathon on March 22 that raised over $12,000 for Boston Children's Hospital! This is the quintessential example of committed Wheelock students autonomously running an event and truly improving the lives children and families!

There are also some other upcoming community service projects that we would like to highlight:

- On Wednesday, April 2, from 9:30am-4:30pm the Office of Student Success will host its third annual Wheebay Auction, where students, faculty, and staff donate over 25 different goods and services for community members to bid on. All proceeds will benefit The One Fund. [http://www.wheelock.edu/wheebay-auction](http://www.wheelock.edu/wheebay-auction)
- During the weekend of April 11-13, the Alumni Relations Office will be sponsoring their annual World Service Weekend in which past and present members of the Wheelock community come together to serve organizations such as Mattahunt Community Center, Rosie's Place, Dreamfar, and the Walk For Hunger.
- On Saturday, April 26 at 7:30pm, Wheelock will be hosting its 18th annual Make-A-Wish Talent Show in the Wheelock Family Theatre. Families are invited to attend and enjoy the various talents of our Wheelock students. All proceeds of this show will go towards the Make-A-Wish Foundation of MA & RI.

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)

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**Important Financial Aid Reminders**

**New Web Resources for Students with Educational Loans**

We know our students and their families make a major financial investment to attend Wheelock College, including taking federal and private loans. Do you have a sense of how you or your student will afford to pay back those loans after graduation? While thinking about this may be scary, it's never too early to at least begin to plan. To get you started, we have developed some new web resources that will help everyone understand debt management basics. [Click here](#) to access
the pages on wheelock.edu. In addition to the information we have provided online the Financial Aid office will be hosting two sessions on debt management for your students: the first on Tuesday, April 15 at 1pm in Campus Center 302; the second on Wednesday, April 23 in the Hawes Campus Ladd Room (time TBD).

**FAFSA Deadline April 15**

It’s almost that time of year again! The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) for the 2014-2015 academic year is now available online. You can log on to FAFSA’s website to complete your renewal application. Note that the FAFSA website is [www.fafsa.gov](http://www.fafsa.gov). This year FAFSA has made some updates to their new website to make it easier than ever to apply. The priority deadline for returning students to apply for financial aid is April 15, 2014. With additional questions, please contact the Financial Aid Office.

**Consider Applying for Private Scholarships**

Check out our [webpage](http://www.wheelock.edu) for an updated list of private scholarship opportunities and search engines. Act fast, as deadlines are approaching!

With questions, contact Financial Aid at 617-879-2443 or by email at finaid@wheelock.edu.

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**Room Selection is coming up on April 12**

It's almost time for your student to choose his/her room and roommate(s) for next year! Please make sure your student's Spring 2014 bill is clear of a balance, and that they register for at least 12 credits in Fall 2014 during course selection (April 2-4). They will also need to complete an online housing application and contract, which can be found online. All materials are due Monday, April 7.

For students who are looking to make connections with potential new roommates, or who want to learn more about other residence halls, we highly encourage students to participate in upcoming housing information sessions on April 10. The first program - a Housing Expo - will take place 2:30-5pm in the Wolf Community Room; the second - a Roommate Social - will take place at 7pm in the Pilgrim Student Center.

With questions, contact Residence Life at 617-879-2258.

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**Academic Advising Prepares Students for Success**

The Office of Academic Advising wrapped up a successful four-week major exploration program for first-year and transfer students. The “Wildcats Get R.E.A.L. About Majors” program required students to attend both a self-reflection workshop and
a major exploration conference, during which they attended four different department presentations to learn more about the many majors offered at Wheelock. Students were also invited to a major exploration fair where they gathered more information about majors, spoke with student clubs and college offices, and had the opportunity to declare their major(s). The Office of Academic Advising looks forward to working with first-year and transfer students as they continue their academic journey at Wheelock.

Our office is also in the midst of course advising! First-year and transfer students are currently meeting with their Student Advisors to think about what classes they are interested in taking for the Fall 2014 semester. We encourage students to not only choose a variety of courses that they are interested in, but to think about why they want to take the classes that they register for. Furthermore, most sophomore students will be meeting with their new faculty advisors as they select their Fall 2014 courses. Check out our website to learn more about our 2+2 advising model that we use here at Wheelock. We look forward to continuing to work with all students throughout the Spring semester.

With questions about major selection or course registration, please encourage your student to contact their Academic Advisor or email advising@wheelock.edu.

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**Jumpstart Corps Members Teach Through Core Stories**

Wheelock's Jumpstart students work each year with over 100 preschool children at Head Start and other early learning centers in the Boston area. Wheelock's partnership with the Jumpstart program is part of our commitment to academic excellence, community service, and serving children and families. Recently, members of Jumpstart facilitated core story sessions at many of their various sites. During these sessions, children learned about the unit: Wind and Water through core story books such as *Gilberto and the Wind* by Marie Hall Ets, *One Dark Night* by Hazel Hutchins and *Rabbits and Raindrops* by Jim Arnosky.

In session 9’s *Let’s Find out About It*, children developed vocabulary and comprehension as they learned that some materials absorb water or “get wet” and that exposure to the air allows water to evaporate from the material so that it “becomes dry”. While in the book center, children developed vocabulary and comprehension as they explored books that had information about rabbits just like the rabbits in the core story book *Rabbits and Raindrops*.

The Jumpstart Site Managers at Wheelock College would like to thank the Corps members for all of their hard work and dedication thus far. Children have been greatly benefiting from these sessions and it can be seen when Site Managers go out for observation visits.

Keep up the good work Corps members!

Laura Valdez
Jumpstart Site Manager
Wheelock College
Looking for the perfect gift for your grad?

For parents of graduating seniors, join the Wheelock College tradition and frame your student's diploma! A portion of all sales goes to support the Wheelock College Alumni Association. The made-in-the-USA frames feature the Wheelock College name and seal, and will preserve your student's hard-earned diploma for a lifetime. The affordable frames can be customized so that you can match your preferred style and décor. Desk accessories are also available. Order your custom frame online.

With questions, contact Alumni Relations by email at alumnirelations@wheelock.edu.

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, April 2: Last Day to Withdraw from Full-Semester Courses
Wednesday, April 2 - Friday, April 4: Undergraduate Summer and Fall Course Selection
Monday, April 7 - Friday, April 11: Colleges of the Fenway Undergraduate Summer and Fall Cross-Registration Week
Saturday, April 12: Housing Selection
Monday, April 21: Patriot's Day (no classes)

To view other upcoming dates and deadlines, please see Wheelock's academic calendar.