

# CLA Newsletter

June 2021 END OF THE SEMESTER EDITION

Issue 04

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## Message from the Editor:

by [Erin Schwartz](#)

Welcome to the final edition of the CLA Newsletter for Spring 2021. Graduation is just around the corner! Some of us will start summer sessions soon after. Whether you're staying put in Wenzhou or traveling across China this summer, the newsletter staff wishes everyone a safe and happy break! Thank you to all the CLA faculty and staff who have contributed to this newsletter!

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## FINAL GRADES ANNOUNCEMENT:

The registrar's office released the following information via email about when to submit final grades:

The "Final Grading" option will be available on the "Faculty" menu within KeanWISE beginning Thursday, **June 3 at 12:00 AM (Beijing time)**, and the deadline for online grade submission is **Sunday, June 13, 2021 at 11:00 PM (Beijing time)**.

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## Instructional Skills Workshop

The ISW has been offered at WKU for 6 years.

The Instructional Skills Workshop (ISW) is offered within a small group setting of 5 participants and is designed to enhance the teaching effectiveness of experienced educators. It employs a structured approach to peer feedback on microteaching with additional thematic sessions for instructors' learning. During the 6-hour workshop the participants design and conduct one "mini-lessons" and receive verbal, and written feedback from the other participants who have been learners in the mini-lessons.

Please contact [Garry Gray](#) for more information.

## INFORMATION ABOUT MINOR PROGRAMS:

Just a reminder that in a Google Drive folder along with Newsletter submissions is information about what minor programs are available for students. If you have information that should be included in the folder, please let us know.

Contact [Erin Schwartz](#) for more information.

## ID 2415 Students Making History with Dyslexia Education

ID 2415 is a communication class involving teamwork on a service learning project. The students produced a talent show on May 14 to help raise awareness of dyslexia, which is not often discussed in China. Faculty and students performed many acts including dancing, singing, juggling, and magic. Prince Louis of Luxembourg, who is a mentor to ID 2415 students, also presented a short talk and Q & A on dyslexia. Students in the class also won a second prize for their project "Caring for Children with Dyslexia" in the third annual WKU Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition. The students were awarded 3000 RMB. (More about the competition below.) The students are conducting the first dyslexia awareness campaign in China on five major social media platforms, reaching more than 20,000 readers. Lu Meng, a Chinese fashion model and social media influencer (with over 650,000 followers) recently reached out to us to discuss cooperation to publicize dyslexia in China. ID 2415 is also expressing a special thank-you to all faculty, staff, and students who made the talent show possible, including all performers, IT staff, Evangeline Xiang, and stage manager Liuke Skye Wang.

## Teams Won Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition

John Chua coached two student teams at the third annual WKU Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition held on May 12. The teams presented two projects he originated. MyGoodAgency.com, China's first bilingual platform for students to share and get information about studying at global top universities, won the second prize in the entrepreneurship category. "Caring for Children with Dyslexia" won the second prize in the charity or social service category. There were 27 competing teams. Both

teams won 3000rmb each with all the prize money going to the students. Moving forward, both teams aim to win further competitions and grants.

## University of Southern California Screened and Discussed John Chua's Film

USC's Keck School of Medicine screened John Chua's 2017 short film *Cut: Exposing FGM* which originally aired on the PBS network after winning a PBS prize. After the screening, they conducted a discussion about how health care systems are historically and currently "complicit in gender- and power-based harm."

[https://calendar.usc.edu/event/cut\\_exposing\\_fgm\\_worldwide\\_screening\\_panel#.YKjWymYzbEY](https://calendar.usc.edu/event/cut_exposing_fgm_worldwide_screening_panel#.YKjWymYzbEY)

## Three CLA Professors Are Awarded Research Support Grants

On May 24th, WKU's 2021 Internal (Faculty/Staff) Research Support Program announced grant awards to three CLA professors. They are:

**Amrita Kaur** for her project 'Perceived teachers' autonomy support and teacher control and the role of emotions for students' engagement and achievement'

**Joaquin Lopez Mugica** for the project 'Researching European Union (EU) films in China through festivals and commercial audiences' (with John Chua as the project's co-investigator)

**John Chua** for the project 'Understanding the Hopes and Intentions of Chinese Students Planning to Study Abroad'

Overall, 18 WKU projects were awarded program funding.

## Publication Announcement:

[Anna De Vaul's](#) second poetry collection, *Cosmonaut*, will be published by Valley Press (UK) on September 2, 2021. Anna will be giving public readings from the book as a Featured Reader in the Tulsa Glitterary Reading Series in July and as a panel member at the OutWrite Festival in Washington, D.C. in August.

## Psychology Students Win Presentation Award:

On April 28, 2021, five psychology major students from the College of Liberal Arts, Wenzhou Kean University participated in Student Research Day and won the "Best Oral Presentation" Award. Those five students are- He Yuzhen, Huang Yuchong, Lukehan, Zhan Yinuo, Zhou Yu-Zoey. Some of these students were interviewed to share their experience of Student Research Day and share advice for others to follow their steps.

1.How was the presentation experience?

To be honest, this presentation has benefited us a lot. We followed through the four steps of Feynman's learning method: Concept, Teach, Review, Simplify. We constantly reviewed all the materials of our study and while reading complex reference materials, we kept simplifying them in our minds. Our group did not expect to win this award at all, we just hoped that we can do our best to complete our work. Undoubtedly this experience has been a source of great encouragement to all of us!

2. How did the judges ( panel ) contribute to your learning?

We are very grateful to all the judges who chaired our session! They indeed provided a lot of invaluable advice for us! Hari Adhikari was the first professor to ask us questions. He asked us "Why did you choose qualitative experiments? Why not choose quantitative experiments?" And luckily, this question was emphasized countless times by our supervisor. There is no doubt that we answered him with confidence.

Secondly, we would like to especially thank Professor Leah. She asked about 7 questions and provided several suggestions for us to work on. Prof Oliver and Prof Virginia motivated us all through the presentations. We feel we overlooked several details in our study which judges helped us to notice.

3. How do you feel about Student Research Day? In what ways winning the best oral presentation has motivated you?

This is a great event! This opportunity provided us with a valuable platform to share our study with the university's academic community. We were waiting for this event throughout the winter vacation. This is our first study, and this award had reinforced our beliefs in hard work and dedication. We are very proud of our work and happy that our university recognized it. We also hope to publish our results in a reputable journal and its outcomes can contribute meaningfully to teaching and learning practices.

4. What advice do you have for other students to prepare and perform like you all?

As the Chinese textbook says, "Science is the primary productive force". You don't know what impact our study will have on society, the idea is not to give up. We would like other students to believe in themselves, don't bury your enthusiasm and courage, and try to explore more possibilities. If you are interested in a topic, just go ahead! Seek support from your supervisor and don't be shy to make it public. We hope we can inspire more students to join Student-Research Day.



Report submitted by [Amrita Kaur](#)

# Have a Great Summer!

by **Erin Schwartz**

No more issues of the newsletter will be published until the beginning of Fall semester. If some things come up you'd like to share in the first edition of that semester, use the google folder link below.

I'll send out a request for updates at the end of August for submissions.

To access the folder, please sign in with your Kean email address. (If you do not have one, let me know to give you access.)

Issue 05: Fall Opener

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1yz1txrymWiGAc2Mjv4Ky3FCyDrdPZqJ?usp=sharing>

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