The teacher-scholar model is more than a nifty idea. Wake Forest is one of only two Top-25 National Universities in which faculty — not graduate assistants — teach all full-credit academic courses. We also rank 8th in teaching among the Top 25 National Universities. The student-faculty ratio is 11 to 1. Less than 1% of undergraduate classes at Wake Forest have 50 or more students.

We are one of only three Top-50 national universities that reference service to humankind in the official mission statement. In 2014, participants in the public service Spring Break program travelled 90,000 round-trip miles in the name of Pro Humanitate. Our Campus Garden helps provide 500 free meals per month to otherwise undernourished local residents. These are only two of many examples.

We don’t just encourage foreign study; we own it. We are the only Top-25 National University that owns three residential-academic houses in foreign countries. They are in Venice, Vienna and London, and they help explain why 53 percent of the Class of 2012 earned academic credit abroad. That’s the third highest rate among the 281 National Universities.

The Office of Personal and Career Development isn’t your grandfather’s placement office. Wake Forest takes the long-term perspective, helping our students from the time they arrive on campus to find their academic passions and prepare them for lives of meaning and purpose. The results are clear: 97.6% of the class of 2013 secured employment or entered graduate school within six months of graduation.

We are from everywhere! Demon Deacon undergraduates hail from 47 states and 28 foreign countries. Minority representation in the undergraduate student body has increased 93% since 2001. All students are required to take at least one class that fosters intercultural appreciation and to complete an advanced-level course in a foreign language.

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We are the only university with fewer than 5,000 current undergraduates that has produced 15 Rhodes Scholars and eight NCAA Division I team athletic championships. (Three of our Rhodes winners were also intercollegiate athletes.) We are also the only college to host two U.S. Presidential Debates (1998, 2000) and to win two National Debate Tournaments (1997, 2008.)

Undergraduates are deeply involved in that vital research and creative work. More than at any other university in the Top 25, Wake Forest faculty directly engage undergraduates in their laboratories, dance studios, archeological digs, and historical archives. Dozens of students each year see their work published in disciplinary journals. Our distinctive URICA (undergraduate-research) program funds student-faculty collaborations that take students across the U.S. and around the globe.

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We are Black and Gold... and GREEN too! In 2012-2013, the campus community saved 74,789 kilowatt hours of electricity. That’s enough to power a light bulb from now until 2028.

Couch potatoes don’t grow here. More than 88% of the undergraduate population plays at least one season of intramural sports at Wake Forest. From the Volunteer Service Corps to Ultimate Frisbee to Wake Radio, students here are involved in over 194 chartered organizations.

Ours is the Library of Champions. Z. Smith Reynolds Library won the 2011 Association of College and Research Libraries Excellence Award. Think Super Bowl, but for libraries. And the ZSR website welcomes a unique visitor every 12 seconds.

Student wellbeing is in our DNA. As profiled in a recent Inside Higher Education feature, Wake Forest is emerging as a national leader in this area. Our landmark Thrive program emphasizes eight dimensions of wellbeing: physical, emotional, social, financial, environmental, occupational, mental and spiritual.

Winston-Salem! The City of the Arts! Winston-Salem Dash Baseball! Old Salem Historic District! Home to four colleges and universities! Four hours from the beach! Two hours from the mountains! And according to multiple publications, one of America’s best places to call home.