

# The Daily Deac

## A Moveable Feast

November 29th, 2012

Earlier in the semester, I was fortunate to be invited to a presentation about some proposed public space campus enhancements. I came away from that presentation **so** excited, yet also anxious that it would not happen – because once I saw some of the ideas and possibilities, I wanted it very, very badly for Wake Forest. At lunch yesterday, I ran into a colleague in Campus Life and a professor, who told me I needed to see the Quad, because we have just added some of these enhancements! Many pictures are to follow.



The ideas came from the team who designed (or redesigned) [Bryant Park](#) in New York City. They had taken what had been a struggling public space, and through the addition of moveable cafe style tables and chairs, some clever programming, and a lot of innovation, they created an interesting and useful place for people to gather, reflect, play piano, do yoga, see movies, or bring a picnic lunch or dinner.



We now have several sections of new seating and tables on the Quad: in front of Reynolda Hall, in front of Davis Hall near the newly-renovated Subway, and in front of Kitchin Hall near the Deacon Shop. As you can see from these pictures, we have moveable cafe tables and chairs, and two Wake Forest carts that have a bunch of different kinds of board games (Davis side) and exercise equipment, yoga mats, and balls (Kitchin side). Students can help themselves to these items and use them while on the Quad, or can study here, visit with friends, eat lunch, whatever. Same for faculty and staff.



It was pretty cold yesterday and especially in the areas under the shade we did not see a lot of takers for the tables. But on nicer days, when it is a little warmer, my prediction is there will be a lot of people making use of them. I am told we are still awaiting the

arrival of a ping pong table and an outdoor piano, too. It is a fabulous idea, and my hat is off to the many offices that were involved in designing this for our campus.



I don't know the particulars about what happens to these items (the carts particularly) at night and on weekends. People asked during the presentation earlier this fall how many Bryant Park chairs are lost to theft. The design team said that there was some, but less than you would think – because people liked Bryant Park so much they did not want to jeopardize what they had.



My hope and expectation is that our students would treat these new campus enhancements with respect. After all, they are all bound to the Honor Code, which says this in the Student Handbook: *“When you signed your application for admission to Wake Forest, you agreed to live by the honor system at Wake Forest. In specific terms that means that you and every other student have agreed not to deceive (lie to) any member of the community, not to steal from one another, not to cheat on academic work, not to plagiarize academic work, and not to engage in any other forms of academic misconduct. It means that we can trust each other, and that we willingly accept responsibility for our own conduct and activities. This is a tradition that goes back to the founding of Wake Forest, and with your participation, it continues to be a cornerstone of our community and our interactions with one another.”*



My fondest wish is that your students use these tables and chairs and games and toys to have fun, destress, connect with each other, learn to play chess or Jenga, etc., and spend time outdoors on our beautiful campus. This is a moveable feast. Let's all enjoy it!

And because I was already there taking pictures, here are a few bonus shots of the holiday decorations that have gone up – wreaths and garland and the big Moravian Star.





