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Office of University
Communications

January 26, 2017

Dr. Joseph Moore Will Develop Mentor Program and Research Opportunities

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C.—President Dr. Frank Bonner has announced the appointment of Dr. Joseph Moore as Special Assistant to the President for Academic Enhancement. This new position recognizes Gardner-Webb University’s commitment to providing students with unique educational experiences.

photo of Dr. Joseph Moore

“I believe passionately in the value of special opportunities and academic enhancements for students,” Bonner asserted. “These include—but are by no means limited to—study away programs; undergraduate, faculty-guided research; internships; and perhaps most important of all, special mentoring by a faculty member. These are the kind of experiences that I want to promote and for which I am committed to find support and funding.”

Moore, an assistant professor of history, is also chair of the Department of Social Sciences and will continue in this position. In his new role, he will further develop the Master Mentor concept that he worked on with Dr. David Yelton, GWU Associate Provost of Arts and Sciences. “The Master Mentor program is a first of its kind program. Faculty are empowered to focus on guiding students in exceptional research projects,” Moore explained. “Students will be given the kind of advanced intellectual development and oversight most universities offer only in graduate level studies. We want to see each student reach their full potential, and I’m excited to take part in making that ideal a concrete reality.”

Since joining the faculty at Gardner-Webb in 2011, Moore has been the recipient of various grants and fellowships from institutions such as Yale, Harvard, Duke, and the Organization for American Historians. His writings have appeared in *The New York Times* and a variety of books and journals. He is the author of “Founding Sins: How a Group of Antislavery Radicals Fought to Put Christ into the Constitution” (Oxford University Press).

Moore’s passion is to inspire students in their own research. “Student research develops the abilities students need to rise quickly in their careers,” he observed. “A good researcher knows how to become an expert on a topic quickly, how to avoid the too-easy answer to a

tough problem, and how to see the complexities in each situation. A great student researcher isn't just going to get a job, they are going to get promotions. Gardner-Webb will be a leader in higher education in the years ahead in building student research skills.”