65 or older? You can audit courses, if space available

Beginning this semester, the General Assembly authorized the UNC Board of Governors to establish rules permitting those who have attained the age of 65 to audit courses tuition-free on a space available basis (see below).

Senior citizens 65 and older who wish to take advantage of this tuition-free opportunity and audit a class must submit a completed Visiting Auditor Registration Form to UNCG Online. The UNCG Online staff verifies that space is available and obtains instructor permission for the audit.

SECTION 10.12.(a) Chapter 115B of the General Statutes is amended by adding a new section to read:

“§ 115B-2.2. Senior citizens may audit classes.

Any person who is at least 65 years old may audit courses offered at the constituent institutions of The University of North Carolina and the community colleges as defined in G.S. 115D-2(2) without payment of any required registration fee or tuition for the audit provided the audit is approved in accordance with policies adopted by the Board of Governors and the State Board of Community Colleges for their respective institutions, and there is no cost to the State. A person shall be allowed to audit a class under this section only on a space available basis. Persons auditing classes under this section shall not be counted in the computation of enrollment for funding purposes. This section does not apply to audits of courses provided on a self-supporting basis by community colleges.”

Any additional questions may be directed to the University Registrar’s Office or UNCG Online.

###

Glorious sounds of Collage: Atlantic Crossings Sept. 9

This is the 10th annual Collage, a unique production in which musicians in groups large and small seamlessly take the spotlight onstage and from various places in the auditorium, one after another, exploring musical pieces from various decades and illustrating connections of musical works across time and cultures.

This year’s production, which includes more than 300 students from the School of Music, will be a celebration of diversity and the exchange of ideas between cultures across the Atlantic Ocean. Over the course of nearly thirty brief performances, Collage explores the relationship between Europe, Africa, the Americas and the Caribbean through music, with works like Dvorak’s New World Symphony, jazzed-up Bach, sacred music from eighteenth-century Brazil, and much, much more.

The performance will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Sept. 9.
A week following this concert, the School of Music will present its Collage concert outside of Greensboro for the first time. That concert, in Raleigh’s Meymandi Concert Hall, is already sold out.

Tickets remain for the UNCG Auditorium concert (as of Aug. 21).

Tickets have sold out each year in Greensboro.

Tickets are $14-$26 for adults, $10-$21 for seniors and $7-$16 for students. All ticket proceeds benefit the School of Music Collage Scholarship Fund.

Tickets are available in person, by phone, and online through Triad Stage until Sept. 9:

Triad Stage Box Office
232 South Elm Street
Monday - Friday, 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
(336) 272-0160
Purchase tickets from Triad Stage online here.
For group tickets, contact the Triad Stage Box office in person or at 336.373.0160 (discounts are available for groups of 10 or more).

Tickets are also available at UNCG Box Office Locations, Aug. 21 - Sept. 8:

Music Building Box Office
UNCG Music Building
100 McIver St.
Monday - Friday, 12-1 p.m. and 5 - 6 p.m.

Brown Building Theatre Box Office
UNCG Brown Building
402 Tate St.
Monday - Friday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

See full information at vpa.uncg.edu/collage/collage-gso.

###

New year, new tradition with UNCG’s NAV1GATE

A new tradition was born Aug. 14 as UNCG welcomed the newest group of Spartans at the inaugural NAV1GATE New Student Convocation.

Nearly 3,000 first-year and transfer students participated in the daylong event, which included a re-energized convocation celebration, a welcome from each dean, academic success sessions, a “UNCG History Walk” through campus and a “Convocation Craze” to round out the day.

New students also received a special welcome from Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr., who congratulated them on this “giant step” in their lives, and encouraged them to follow their passions, ask for help from faculty and staff, and surround themselves with supportive people.
“This giant step takes courage and commitment. I congratulate you for getting to this important milestone in your life,” Gilliam said. “I look forward to taking this adventure with all of you.”

See social media photos and clips at UNCG Now.

By Alyssa Bedrosian

Photograph by Katie Loyd

###

Before National Folk Festival, a journey through Celtic music at UNCG Sept. 7

In two weeks, prepare for a global weekend, and it starts at UNCG.

Thursday, Sept. 7, the night before the National Folk Festival kicks off in downtown Greensboro, UNCG and the Atlantic World Research Network welcome Scottish music maven Fiona Ritchie, best known as host and producer of NPR’s “The Thistle & Shamrock,” and Doug Orr, founder of the legendary Swannanoa Gathering. The free concert begins at 7 p.m. in the EUC auditorium.

They will present “Wayfaring Strangers,” a transatlantic journey through Celtic and mountain music in story and song, based on their bestselling book and album.

Gaelic music duo Mary Jane Lamond and Wendy MacIsaac, from Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia, open the evening presentation.

“One of North Carolina’s most powerful transatlantic ties is its Celtic music traditions,” said Dr. Christopher Hodgkins, director of the Atlantic World Research Network. “They are the songs of highland and lowland Scotland and Ulster, and their ties go further back to ancient Gaelic music of Wales, Ireland, France, and Spain—and northward to the Canadian Maritime Provinces.”

The concert also serves as an introduction to UNCG’s 2017 Atlantic World Research Network (AWRN) conference, “Atlantic World Arts.” AWRN focuses on interdisciplinary research, teaching and creative work concerning peoples, cultures and ecologies of the “Atlantic Rim” – Africa, Europe and the Americas – embracing Atlantic World work in the humanities, arts, sciences and social sciences.

This year’s conference also includes a keynote lecture on African modernist photography by Dr. Candace Keller, a presentation on the art of African-American preaching by Dr. Jeff Titon, a transatlantic modernism art exhibition at the Weatherspoon Art Museum and sessions that illustrate thematic links to UNCG’s annual Collage concert (featured in this week’s Campus Weekly.)

For more information about the interdisciplinary Atlantic World Arts Symposium, which includes presentations throughout Sept. 8 and 9, visit the website: awrn.uncg.edu.

Photography courtesy R. L. Geyer

###

Haskell named Bernard Distinguished Scholar of Jewish Studies

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Provost Dunn and Dean Kiss have an announcement:

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Ellen D. Haskell has been appointed as the Herman & Zelda Bernard Distinguished Scholar of Jewish Studies. She is an outstanding professor and teacher-scholar in the Department of Religious Studies.

The Herman & Zelda Bernard Distinguished Professorship was established by family and friends in recognition of the Bernards’ contributions to the Jewish community in North Carolina. Zelda Bernard, a native of Danville, Virginia, was employed by the Works Progress Administration and U.S. Patent and Trademark Office until her marriage to Mr. Bernard in 1945. Herman Bernard, a native of High Point, North Carolina, was the founder of Casard Furniture Manufacturing and Bernards Inc., a furniture import business. The Bernards were both active in the affairs of B’hai Israel Synagogue and other important Jewish boards and communities in North Carolina.

As the new Bernard Scholar, Dr. Haskell brings groundbreaking approaches to Jewish Studies in her work on theology, culture, and gender. Her research productivity includes the publication of two monographs in important scholarly presses within four years, well-articulated plans for future scholarship, and most recently, an invited book chapter that will soon be published by Oxford University Press along with contributions from an international group of scholars.

Dr. Haskell’s area of specialty is late 13th-century Jewish mysticism and in particular the highly influential “Book of Splendor (Sefer HaZohar),” the major work of the Spanish Kabbalistic tradition. The Kabbalah is an esoteric school of Jewish thought that teases out the hidden meaning of Jewish scripture. Her scholarship focuses especially on two areas of discourse: gendered religious imagery, and indications of cultural transmission and the relationship between medieval Jews and Christians. In her first monograph, Suckling at My Mother’s Breasts: The Image of a Nursing God in Jewish Mysticism (SUNY, 2012), Dr. Haskell explores the many spiritual and theological meanings that invest the mystical representation of God as a nursing mother.

Dr. Haskell’s recently published second book, “Mystical Resistance: Uncovering the Zohar’s Conversations with Christianity” (Oxford, 2016), initiates a new scholarly direction. In this volume, she transforms our understanding of the Zohar by uncovering within it a range of hidden Jewish arguments against Christian claims. Her groundbreaking reinterpretation of the Zohar uncovers a rich record of the strategies and specific arguments that 13th-century Spanish Jews used to contest Christian power and illuminates Jewish resistance to a persecuting society in innovative ways. In summary, these achievements make clear that Dr. Haskell is a significant figure in her field and that she will continue to be a dynamic and engaged scholar.

We are pleased that Dr. Haskell will be the Herman & Zelda Bernard Distinguished Scholar of Jewish Studies at UNCG.

###

UNCG opens Campus Violence Response Center

On Thursday, Aug. 24, at 4 p.m., during UNCG’s Sexual Assault Awareness Week, is the official grand opening of the innovative Campus Violence Response Center (CVRC). The opening event will feature
a slideshow, tours, refreshments and remarks from the staff and local representatives from state agencies.

The center is dedicated to responding to students who report an assault incident, with an emphasis on the victim’s convenience and comfort. Established through a recent grant from the Governor’s Crime Commission in the North Carolina Department of Public Safety, and developed by UNCG Title IX Coordinator Murphie Chappell, the CVRC increases victim support and streamlines the reporting of incidents on campus. The CVRC will have three primary staff members, in addition to the advisory support of Chappell and Katie Vance of the Title IX Office.

“A lot of campuses have the various pieces similar to this but with this place, we’re bringing the services to the victim,” said Chappell. “We’ve created a comfortable, confidential space where people can go and get an immediate response.”

Dr. Christine Murray, director of the Healthy Relationships Initiative and associate professor in UNCG’s Department of Counseling and Educational Development, pointed to the CVRC’s innovation in bringing an adapted version of the Family Justice Center model to campus response.

“It brings a variety of resources for victims under one roof,” she said. “Our campus community is fortunate to have this new center to bring that type of coordinated care to UNCG.”

Lauren Rivenbark has joined UNCG as the CVRC counselor. Rivenbark worked at the Collaboration for Assault Response & Education Center at UNC Wilmington before and after earning her master’s degree in social work, in addition to serving as a counselor at a rape crisis center in Wilmington.

Tia Jarrell, who serves as the navigator, or first point of contact for the center, worked for the Title IX Office and the Dean of Students Office as a UNCG undergraduate.

In addition to responding to students reporting incidents, Rivenbark and Jarrell will initiate a support and discussion group that will meet beside the center, in Gove 015, every Thursday.

CVRC will work closely with UNCG Police, and campus outreach partners also include the Dean of Students Office, Housing and Residence Life, Office of Intercultural Engagement, Recreation and Wellness, the Counseling Center, the Center for Women’s Health and Wellness and the Office of Student Rights and Responsibilities. Their community partners include the Family Justice Center, the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Family Services of the Piedmont.

The Campus Violence Response Center is located on the ground floor of the Gove Student Health Center. More information is available on the CVRC website: cvrc.uncg.edu.

By Susan Kirby-Smith

Visual, l-r: Katie Vance, Murphie Chappell, Lauren Rivenbark, Tia Jarrell

###

**University Speaking Center serves campus, community**

In a 2017 study, 63.9 percent of college students reported fear of public speaking - a high number for a population who will be assigned to make oral presentations for a grade in the immediate future. Two speaking-intensive courses are required for the completion of any undergraduate degree at UNCG and, beyond the degree, many careers require
effective speaking and presentations.

Fortunately, UNCG students can receive one-on-one consultations to work on oral presentations and general speaking skills at the University Speaking Center, now in operation for 15 years.

The center directors Kim Cuny and Erin Ellis describe the peer-to-peer individual consultations as non-instructional and judgement-free.

“We meet students where they are and we move them forward,” said Cuny.

Dianne Garrett, lecturer in the Bryan School of Business, frequently sends her students to Speaking Center consultations.

“Afterwards, they tend to hold themselves with more professionalism in approach and in execution,” she said. “The speeches are more organized and polished.”

Interior architecture professors Dr. Maruja Torres-Antonini and Felicia F. Dean have their Basic Environmental Design III students receive coaching from Speaking Center consultants throughout the semester, on design proposal projects that are meant to mimic real-world presentations to clients. The instructors film the students’ initial presentations and the Speaking Center consultants view the films with the students individually and help them make changes for a final presentation.

“We’ve found that the quality and efficiency of our students’ verbal presentations improve significantly with this approach,” said Torres-Antonini.

The center is staffed with four graduate and 45 undergraduate consultants who have completed a course in Speaking Center theory and practice. They’re not only prepared to do individual consultations in interpersonal, public and group communication, but also to conduct group trainings and workshops.

In the context of developing spoken communication projects, the consultants are prepared to address technology issues, such as how to put a PowerPoint presentation from a phone on the classroom projector, or how to record a speech for an online assignment. They offer conversation practice for non-native speakers of English and coaching for advanced speakers preparing to make public presentations. The Speaking Center is also a safe space for students working on their identity presentation, if they are in the process of changing their gender or cultural identity.

Beyond its hallmark one-on-one consultations and class workshops, the Speaking Center consultations conduct workshops with tutors from the UNCG Student Success Center and the Graduate School’s new teaching assistants.

During the past year, Cuny and Ellis collaborated with Professor of Biology Bruce Kirchoff on a workshop titled “Communicating Science,” which was open to any scientist in the area and drew participants from NC A&T and Bennett College as well as from UNCG. Cuny and Kirchoff plan to hold more “Communicating Science” workshops this fall.

“The students seem to enjoy the process,” Kirchoff observed about those who have attended Speaking Center consultations and trainings. “They appear more relaxed having had the chance to practice prior to their formal presentations.”

Consultants also facilitate workshops at nonprofits, such as Peacehaven, a farm and housing community for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and those workshops can become part of graduate student research and teaching portfolios.

UNCG’s University Speaking Center faculty, students and alumni frequently receive awards at the National Association of Communication Centers Conference for their research and records of service. At the 2017 conference, communication studies graduate student Taylor Williams received the Outstanding Graduate Tutor Award.

Cuny describes all of the consultants as strong interpersonal communicators who have a passion for helping others, and for learning from their experiences with students and other speakers.

“We’re one of the places on campus where students can make connections,” she said.

By Susan Kirby-Smith

Photography courtesy Taylor Williams

###
“South Pacific” first look at Weatherspoon Art Museum

How does a Pulitzer Prize meet the Great White Way?

UNCG emeritus professor Bob Gatten can tell you at the “South Pacific” preview event. Take a deep dive into the history of the iconic Rodgers and Hammerstein musical that opens Sept. 17, presented by UNCG and Triad Stage.

The Aug. 31 preview will include early photos and videos from the rehearsal and design process and Gatten will share his knowledge of the Pulitzer Prize-winning “Tales of the South Pacific,” by James Michener, and of how Michener’s work came to be the inspiration for what many regard as the best musical of all time.

Gatten has conducted research at the Michener Archives at the University of Northern Colorado and at the “South Pacific” archives of the Rodgers and Hammerstein Organization in New York, and saw no fewer than seven performances of the 2008 revival at Lincoln Center.

The preview event will begin at 6 p.m. in the Weatherspoon auditorium and is free and open to the public. Attendees receive a 25 percent off discount code for tickets to “South Pacific.” For more information, contact Triad Stage at: 336.272.0160 or triadstage.org.

###

Human Rights Film Series starts Sept. 7

Join the Human Rights Research Network for its annual International Human Rights Film Series. This year’s theme is “History and Human Rights.” The films include “Belle” (Sept. 7), “Paradise Now” (Oct. 12) and “The Devil Came on Horseback” (Nov. 16).

All films begin at 6:30 p.m. in the School of Education Building, Room 120. A post-film discussion facilitated by members of UNCG faculty will follow all screenings.

“Belle,” the first film in the series, tells the story of Elizabeth Belle, the mixed-race daughter of a British Royal Navy Captain, whose life became intertwined with efforts to end slavery in England. Mark Elliott, associate professor of History will lead a discussion after the film.

The series is free and open to the public. For more information on the film series or upcoming film showings, visit humanrightsresearchnetwork.weebly.com.

###
Library webinar series offers resources for campus community

UNCG Libraries has created a new webinar series, “Research and Applications,” for students, staff, faculty, instructors and librarians. The series runs throughout the Fall 2017 semester and cover topics on library resources and research tools. The 30-minute webinars will be recorded in the WebEx Meeting Center and made available on the UNCG Libraries website. To sign up for the webinars, visit workshops.uncg.edu/workshops-by-category.jsp?cat_id=77001727.

Innovation Commercialization’s new name: UNCG Innovation Partnership Services Office

On Aug. 1, 2017, the Office of Innovation Commercialization officially became the UNCG Innovation Partnership Services Office (IPSO). The name change reflects the office’s evolving role on campus and the valuable services it provides to faculty, staff, students and external partners.

As in the past, IPSO will offer patent, licensing and marketing evaluation services. The office will also continue to manage various agreements integral to scholarly partnerships, collaborations, and commercialization, such as confidentiality agreements (NDAs), material transfer agreements (MTAs) and intellectual property clauses in sponsored research agreements.

IPSO will also work to meet the campus’s needs more broadly by identifying and fostering relationships between faculty and external partners, by working alongside faculty on proposals that require or would benefit from commercialization plans, and by helping to craft sustainable models for UNCG centers. All scholars, even those unsure about their projects’ commercialization possibilities, are encouraged to reach out to IPSO for resources, guidance and support.

In a major step toward fulfilling its broader vision, IPSO, in conjunction with the North Carolina Entrepreneurship Center and NC A&T, has been named a National Science Foundation I-Corps Site. The NSF I-Corps program prepares scientists and engineers to extend their focus beyond the lab and accelerates the economic and societal benefits of research projects that are ready to move toward commercialization.

The UNCG NC A&T I-Corps Site, funded at $500,000 over five years, will provide faculty, staff, students and alumni with tools, training and funding to explore commercial markets and advance the commercial potential of their work. Thirty teams will be trained each year in three separate cohorts, with the first cohort training commencing in October 2017.

To learn more about the Innovation Partnership Services Office and services relevant to your work, visit innovate.uncg.edu or email ipso@uncg.edu.

Copy courtesy UNCG Research and Engagement

Big games launch fall season; free admission

Volleyball vs. Wake Forest

Volleyball vs. Wake Forest
Saturday, Aug. 26, 7:30 p.m.

UNCG Volleyball will host the Spartan-Demon Deacon Classic Friday, Aug. 25 and Saturday, Aug. 26.

Saturday night UNCG Volleyball will host Wake Forest at 7:30 p.m., where they will attempt to break the attendance record! The current record is 1,131, which was set in 2010. Bring your family and friends out to Fleming Gym Saturday night! Don't forget, it's FREE Admission!

Women's Soccer vs. Clemson

Sunday, Aug. 27, 6 p.m.

UNCG Women's Soccer will host ACC foe Clemson Sunday night, 6 p.m., at the UNCG Soccer Stadium. The game marks the return of legendary men's soccer alumnus and women's soccer head coach Eddie Radwanski to Greensboro, who is currently the head coach for Clemson. Radwanski led the Spartans for 10 seasons from 2001-10, amassing a 139-65-13 record and winning the Southern Conference regular season or tournament championship in eight of those 10 campaigns. Gates open at 5 p.m.

Men's Soccer Home Opener vs. High Point

Monday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m.

“Close the Caf Night”

Athletics has partnered with UNCG Dining to shut down the Caf on Monday night and set up the ULTIMATE tailgate experience at the UNCG Soccer Stadium. Students will be able to use their meal swipe to enjoy the tailgate, and the general public is also invited to attend.

Adults are $9, children (8 - 4 years) are $5 and children 3 years and younger are free. Cash and cards will be accepted (no checks).

The menu features marinated grilled chicken breasts, pulled Carolina pork BBQ, vegetable medley, macaroni salad and more! Vegetarian baked pasta will also be available.

Tailgate begins at 5 p.m. and kickoff is at 7 p.m.

Parking is free in the Walker Avenue Parking Deck during athletic events.

###

Dr. Victoria Coyle

Dr. Victoria Coyle (SERVE Center) received continuation of funding from Temple University for the project “SEADAP Evaluation/Planarians and the Pharmacology of addition: an in vivo model for K-12 education.”

The award from Temple is for the continued evaluation of a National Institutes of Health/National Institute on Drug Abuse sponsored program titled, “Science Education Against Drug Abuse Partnership” (SEADAP). The program is starting its fourth year and has been designed to use live flatworms (planarians) to develop and deliver an inquiry-based grade 4 - 12 program to teach the science of drug addiction, and the pharmacology of natural and drug rewards. The program is being provided to teachers in the northeast (Pennsylvania, Virginia, and New York, through Temple University) and in Eastern North Carolina (through Eastern Carolina University). The program provides professional development, including hands-on experiences with the planaria and lesson plans to the teachers who then incorporate the lessons into their curriculum. The flatworms and materials are all provided to the teachers through the project. The teachers come from diverse content areas, including math, science, physical education, and health.

###
Dr. Jacqueline Debrew

Dr. Jacqueline Debrew (School of Nursing) received new funding from North Carolina Area Health Education Center (NC AHEC) Program for the project "Proposal for RN to BSN Outreach Programs: 2017-2018."

The project will support five cohort programs for Registered Nurses seeking Bachelor of Science degrees. The five established cohorts are located on the North Carolina campuses of Davidson County Community College in Thomasville, Rowan-Cabarrus Community College on the NC Research Campus in Kannapolis, Gaston College in Dallas, Forsyth Technical Community College in Winston-Salem, and Piedmont Community College in Roxboro.

###

Chris Gregory


###

Dr. Anne Hershey

Dr. Anne Hershey (Biology) received new funding from NC State University’s North Carolina Sea Grant for the project "Distribution and Concentrations of Antibiotics in Rural Wells and Streams."

Funding for this project will be used in the sampling of rural wells and streams to measure concentrations of antibiotics in order to assess the potential for land use to influence environmental exposure to antibiotics.

###

Dr. Chris Payne
Dr. Chris Payne (The Center for Youth, Family and Community Partnerships), received new funding from Guilford Child Development for the project “Partnerships to Enhance Early Care and Education.”

UNCG’s Center for Youth, Family and Community Partnerships will serve as the Research/Implementation/Professional Development partner to Guilford Child Development (GCD) for its second EHS-CC Partnership grant to increase staff knowledge and skills, which support high-quality comprehensive child development services. Using an implementation model, the project will provide training, technical assistance, mentoring and quality improvement for EHS staff and home child care providers delivering expanded services in Guilford County.

GCD, in partnership with UNCG, will increase access to high-quality early childhood care through a two-pronged approach: (A) Direct provision of high-quality early childhood services through additional Early Head Start classrooms in Greensboro; and (B) Comprehensive training to increase the knowledge and skills of child care staff and heighten the quality of care in homes and classrooms. This two-pronged approach will help to meet the immediate need for high-quality child care while also building a broad base of early childhood professionals to continue to meet community needs.

Provision of high quality, comprehensive child care services in this area will provide families with a path to a better future for their children. By building on the strengths of existing community agencies and partners, and developing a strong cadre of early childhood professionals, we can make permanent gains in the availability of high-quality services and opportunities for children in poverty and their families.

###

Dr. Diane Ryndak

Dr. Diane Ryndak (Specialized Education Services) received new funding from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) for the project “Project LEAPS: Leadership in Extensive and Pervasive Support Needs.”

The Doctoral Program in Special Education at UNCG has a history of (a) graduating scholars who procure and maintain employment in teacher preparation programs nationally, and (b) conducting OSEP projects to prepare high-quality leaders. LEAPS builds on this history by collaborating with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, low-performing schools in North Carolina, self-advocates and parents of students with disabilities, and national experts to prepare leaders in research and the preparation of teachers to meet the needs of high-need students with disabilities who are far below grade level; at risk of not graduating with a regular high school diploma on time; or not on track to being college- or career-ready by graduation.

Specifically, LEAPS will focus on competencies for conducting research and preparing teachers to work with students historically labeled as having significant intellectual disabilities, autism, severe, or multiple disabilities, areas in which there has been a chronic critical shortage of qualified teachers nationally and in North Carolina.

LEAPS will extend UNCG’s existing doctoral program’s competencies for research, preservice teacher preparation, and service, and add competencies for evidence-based practices (EBP) to meet the needs of high-needs students with EPSN in low-performing schools. Scholars will learn competencies in inclusive practices, secondary and post-secondary education and transition, EBP and individualized supports (including assistive technology), advocacy, and academic and behavioral Multi-Tiered Systems of Support. This will be accomplished using technology during courses, when teaching, and in collaboration with schools, national experts, and other scholars nationally within the context of the existing doctoral program, additional one-hour seminars related to students with EPSN, authentic experiences with low-performing schools, and the use of resources and expertise of National Technical Assistance Projects. The intent is to improve outcomes for these students and their schools.

###
Looking Ahead: August 23, 2017

Women’s Soccer vs. Elon
Thursday, Aug. 24, 7 p.m., UNCG Soccer Stadium

Cram and Scram sale
Friday, Aug. 25, 8 a.m., EUC Cone Ballroom

Reframe Fall 2017 Learning Series
Friday, Aug. 25, noon, Faculty Center.

Spartan Cinema: Jurassic World
Friday, Aug. 25, 7 p.m., film at sunset, LeBauer Park

Volleyball vs. Wake Forest
Saturday, Aug. 26, 7:30 p.m., Fleming Gymnasium

Women’s Soccer vs. Clemson
Sunday, Aug. 27, 6 p.m., UNCG Soccer Stadium

Men’s Soccer vs. High Point
Monday, Aug. 28, 7 p.m., UNCG Soccer Stadium

###

Dick Gregory remembered

Dick Gregory, civil rights activist, social critic and comedian, died last weekend at age 84. He holds a special place in UNCG history as he was keynote speaker at UNCG's first MLK Celebration (see the listing on the UNCG Multicultural Engagement page.) He was followed by John Lewis and Ralph Abernathy in those first three years. Gregory is the only person to twice be the keynote speaker, as he spoke again in 2013.

###

Dr. Stephen Sills

Dr. Stephen Sills (Center for Housing and Community Studies) received new funding from the Greensboro Housing Coalition for the project "Evaluation of the Collaborative Cottage Grove BUILD 2.0 Health Challenge Project."

This project is supported by funds from the BUILD Health Challenge. UNCG’s Center for Housing and Community Studies will serve as the evaluator for the Greensboro Housing Coalition and the Collaborative Cottage Grove for their BUILD Health Challenge grant. The project will employ a contextually responsive, collaborative model of participatory research. The evaluators will work with the BUILD team and partners to ensure that evaluation is institutionalized throughout by developing data tracking and feedback mechanisms for accurate reporting. The evaluation design is responsive to the evolving project and that it provides data intended to: support program improvement, demonstrate initial outcomes, and reveal institutional changes resulting from the program.

The evaluation will be quasi-experimental, mixed-method, and include GIS mapping. Impact will be evaluated using multiple data sources.
Residents will be asked at three separate time points to provide assessments of: (1) community activities (gardens, health fairs, trainings) (2) physical improvements that promote activity (bike lanes, parks, sidewalks), and (3) self-reported health status and nutrition. Residents will also provide assessment of their health at the time of their participation and 90 days following. This will provide a means to identify the “contribution” that participation in a particular activity had on perceptions of health and engagement in behaviors associated with positive health. Attendance counts at health fairs and other events will help to determine overall community engagement. Observational counts of bike riding, walking, playground use, other activities use will be made.

The project focuses on measuring impact at the (1) individual, (2) health issue, and (3) community level. At the individual level the focus will be on changes in perceptions of health promotion and reported levels of engagement. At the health issue level, the focus will be on improvements on health issues and their consequences (reduction in emergency department visits, living in homes without asthma triggers, healthy eating, reduction of diabetes symptoms, more physical active). At the community level, the impact on community dynamics (collaborations and communication, support for promoting healthy environment), community economics, improvement to housing, and development of public areas will be examined. To determine the relative impact of BUILD, residents of a nearby community with comparable socio-demographics will be surveyed at the same times. The communities will be compared on health indicators relating to diabetes, asthma, and general health.

###