CARS turns 100!

CARS’s Consumer, Apparel and Retail Studies (CARS) program is small, but mighty, according to Dr. Nancy Hodges, CARS Burlington Industries Professor and department head – and it’s been going strong for 100 years.

CARS kicked off its centennial year on Aug. 28 with a 100th birthday party for students and a panel discussion featuring alumni who landed careers at one of the biggest jeans makers in the world: VF Corporation. The Alumni Industry Speaker Series will take place monthly and highlight alumni who are working in a variety of apparel and textile-related positions across the country and abroad. The series is free and open to the public.

“The point of the speaker series is role modeling,” Hodges said. “To show students, this is what you can do with your career.”

The celebration continues Friday, Sept. 29, with a two-day research symposium at 10 a.m. in the Alumni House and a Gala Alumni Celebration at Revolution Mill Events Center in the evening.

At the symposium, a panel of invited CARS PhD alumni will discuss the future of higher education in apparel and textiles, alongside 30 peer-reviewed research presentations given by current students and alumni of the CARS PhD program. As part of the centennial, the CARS doctoral program is celebrating a 50-year history as one of the earliest PhD programs established at UNCG.

The gala includes dinner, silent auction and a fashion show featuring designs by current students, faculty, and alumni.

The fashion show features designs inspired by 10 decades of history of the program and will be salon-style, Hodges said, with professional models walking around the tables of guests rather than a runway. The 25 styles were chosen by faculty out of 45 submissions.

CARS is one of the oldest academic programs on campus and consistently ranks among the nation’s top fashion programs. In 2017, CARS was No. 4 in Fashion-Schools.org’s Top 10 Fashion Design Schools and Colleges in the South.

Hodges said many of the program’s students seek out UNCG for CARS.

“Most of our students have been interested in a career in fashion since junior high,” Hodges said.

The clothing and textiles program at UNCG was officially named the Department of Clothing and Textiles and Housing in 1917. Later the department changed to a simpler designation, Clothing and Textiles, until the early 1990s, when it became the Department of Textile Products Design and Marketing. The department name was changed to Consumer, Apparel, and Retail Studies in 2005 and has been a part of the Bryan School of Business & Economics since 2011.

Now, with just eight faculty, CARS offers bachelor’s, master’s and PhD degrees. This fall, the program enrolled 300 students across the
three program levels. The BS and MS programs produce graduates who understand designing, manufacturing, marketing, and retailing fashion and apparel-related products. PhD graduates go on to hold faculty positions in similar programs at universities all over the country.

All undergraduate students complete an internship to gain hands-on professional experience in the industry. Close partnerships with industry leaders through the CARS Industry Advisory Board allow students to snag internships from North Carolina to New York with brands such as Polo Ralph Lauren, Saks, Inc., Belk Stores, JC Penney and VF Corporation (The North Face, Wrangler, Tommy Hilfiger, Nautica). CARS majors also have a chance to interact with industry professionals through the Internship Poster Competition and the annual CARS Industry Summit.

The student-run THREADS gives CARS students an opportunity for leadership through organizing guest speakers and field trips. The organization also produces an annual fashion show showcasing student design work and a retailing case study competition.

“This year, we are pulling out all the stops to celebrate the CARS department’s legacy as an integral part of UNCG’s history,” said Hodges. “We are proud of the accomplishments of our department and alumni over the past 100 years, and we look forward to an even more impactful future.”

To learn more about the CARS Centennial, upcoming events and how you can participate, visit bryan.uncg.edu/cars/centennial.

By Elizabeth L. Harrison

###

UNCG chosen for NSF-supported undergraduate research project

UNCG has been selected, among only 12 institutions nationally, to participate in the National Science Foundation-supported Council of Undergraduate Research (CUR) Transformations Project.

CUR Transformations is a four-year project that will support the development of undergraduate research in courses across the biology and chemistry curricula. As a result of the project, students in introductory through advanced courses will gain authentic scientific experience, and many of them will use the UNCG Wetlands as a living laboratory.

“UNCG is really leading a lot of efforts in student success, and this is another one of those efforts,” said Professor and Head of Biology Dr. Matina Kalcounis-Rüppell. “We’re adjusting our curriculum, using biology and chemistry and biochemistry as partner departments, so that more of our students have that experiential learning that we know makes a big difference in how successful they’re going to be.”

“It’s not just about creating a course,” explained lead investigator for the project, Dr. Iglika Pavlova, “but the way we see the curriculum.”

The UNCG Wetlands were installed in March of this year, restoring two areas on campus to a more natural and ecosystem-friendly state. As the habitats gain traction and attract wildlife and other forms of biodiversity, they are also becoming a nexus of biology and chemistry research.

Biology courses that will benefit from the CUR Transformations Project include introductory- to advanced-level courses that examine biodiversity in the wetlands, and courses in biogeochemistry. Among other projects, students will perform field measurements of mercury and devise approaches of lowering mercury levels in restored wetlands. Assistant Professors of Biology Dr. Martin Tsz-Ki Tsui and Dr.
Zhenquan Jia also received a mini-grant from UNC GA to create an ecotoxicology research course for undergraduates.

Chemistry courses in the CUR Transformations Project include those in quantitative analysis, which will allow students to perform regular analysis of products of the natural environment.

“In the department’s chemical research, harvesting materials is common, but a research experiment in the living system is unique,” said Professor and Associate Department Head of Chemistry and Biochemistry Dr. Jerry Walsh. “Undergraduate research is something that’s very important for both of our departments. This project will open up the research experience to a wider range of students.”

Joint biology and chemistry projects will collect and analyze fungi that produce medicinal compounds from the wetlands and Peabody Park.

“Ultimately we’re using the strength of our research faculty,” said Pavlova. “At UNCG, we have highly successful researchers who are very involved in undergraduate education and research. And our graduates will represent the scientifically educated population of the future. With authentic scientific experiences, we’re exposing them to the kind of challenge and process it takes to do science and to discover how our world works.”

For information about the UNCG wetlands, contact Dr. Malcolm Schug at mdschug@uncg.edu.

By Susan Kirby-Smith

###

Faculty Biennial exhibition opens at Weatherspoon

Sixteen of UNCG’s studio art faculty members will show their work in the 2017 Faculty Biennial exhibition, opening Sept. 2 in the Weatherspoon Art Museum. The exhibition is a chance for UNCG students and the community to become acquainted with faculty art work, and a chance for faculty to display new pieces or those that have not been exhibited widely or ever before.

Organized by Curator of Exhibitions Dr. Emily Stamey, the collection includes painting, drawing, sculpture, photography, ceramics, video installations and more.

Patricia Wasserboehr, who has shown work in the biennial exhibition since she came to UNCG in 1982, will give her sculpture “Plumb” its Greensboro debut. Leah Sobsey’s recent “Collections” photographs display specimens from national parks and Sheryl Oring’s “Travel Desk Drawings” feature travel stories from participants in performances at the San Diego International Airport. Michael Ananian’s self portrait “Communitas” shows the artist playing an antebellum-era gourd banjo that he built himself.

Mariam Aziza Stephan, Jennifer Meanley, Barbara Campbell Thomas and Christopher Thomas will show work that Stamey says displays connections to their pieces in the recent “Art on Paper” exhibition.

“There are distinct similarities, but you’ll get to see interesting shifts in how they approach their style and subject matter,” Stamey said.

Along with the work of many returning faculty, the exhibition features pieces by new studio art faculty Rachele Riley and Dane Winkler.

The opening reception for the Faculty Biennial is Sept. 7 at 5:30 p.m. Stamey has also organized a series of talks by the art history faculty throughout the semester (listed below; includes new faculty member Andrew Wasserman).
How are states measuring up when it comes to the health and safety of their high school athletes? That’s a question Dr. William Adams answers in a study set to be published in the Orthopedic Journal of Sports Medicine in September.

The good news is that North Carolina ranks No. 1 in having the most comprehensive state-level policies for preventing and managing the leading causes of sudden death and catastrophic injury in sport, but Adams, who co-led the study at the University of Connecticut’s Korey Stringer Institute (named for the late NFL player who died from complications of heat stroke during a Vikings practice in 2001) found that other states should be doing more.

“States need to fill the gap and focus their energy on training and minimizing risk,” said Adams, a newly minted assistant professor in UNCG’s Department of Kinesiology and associate director of Athletic Training Education.

The national study on high school sports safety lays out what states are, or are not doing to protect athletes from concussions, heat stroke and sudden cardiac arrest. Adams found that policies vary from state to state and some states are not doing enough to protect athletes from concussions, as well as other life-threatening injuries.

From 1982 to 2015, there were 735 fatalities and 626 catastrophic injuries related to high school sports, according to The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s National Center for Catastrophic Sport Research. Sudden cardiac arrest, traumatic head injury, exertional heat stroke and exertional sickling are the culprits of 90 percent of deaths in sport, Adams said.

State-level policies would ensure athletes at all schools - public and private - would be protected.

Adams and colleagues developed a grading rubric that assessed current best practices for not only preventing, but also managing those leading causes of death.
States ranking in the top five were Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Jersey and South Dakota – with North Carolina at No. 1. States scored higher for having return-to-play strategies and athletic trainers on site to carry out emergency action plans and medical care. They also had policies in place that were focused on all of the leading causes of death in sport.

In 2003, NCAA mandated heat acclimatization - the phasing in of an activity over the course of two weeks - dictating when football teams practice and how long equipment can be worn. Prior to the policy, Adams said, teams were seeing one to two exertional heat stroke deaths per year. In the last 14 years, there have only been two deaths during the first two weeks of practice.

“If you extrapolate that data from then to now, that’s in theory saved roughly 30 athletes or so from dying of heat stroke just having one simple policy of no cost,” Adams said.

He estimated that having site- and sport-specific emergency plans at every high school (heat acclimatization policy, environmental monitoring policy, adequate AEDs on site, trained personnel, proper cooling modalities, etc.) would cost less than $5,000 per school.

Adams said he hopes the study will serve as a catalyst for states to reach out to one another and figure out ways they can all improve policies to protect young athletes. North Carolina’s ranking is a response to prior catastrophic injuries that led to fatalities, and the state was proactive following those events.

“Our culture is reactive - we wait for something bad to happen before we change things,” Adams said. “If there is a scientific way to show these policies are successful, just do it, especially if it’s minimal cost.”

By Elizabeth L. Harrison

###

JSNN founding dean plans to step down after decade of service

After a decade of service to the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering, founding dean Dr. James Ryan is stepping down.

In a memorandum, Ryan announced his plan to leave at the conclusion of the 2017-18 academic year, take a year of transition leave during the 2018-19 year and return to North Carolina A&T State University and UNCG as a professor of nanoscience.

Ryan was appointed to deanship of the Joint School in 2008. Since then, four degree programs have been established, including a master of science and a PhD. in nanoeengineering and a professional science master’s and PhD in nanoscience. Under Ryan’s leadership, JSNN has become a site in the National Science Foundation’s National Nanotechnology Coordinated Infrastructure program, developed a core lab model to aid NC A&T and UNCG researchers and provided technical outreach to various companies in the Piedmont Triad region.

Prior to his appointment at JSNN, Ryan served as the vice president of technology at Albany Nanotech and the associate vice president of technology and professor of nanoscience at the College of Nanoscale Science and Engineering at the University at Albany, now the State University of New York Polytechnic. Prior to that, he had a 25-year career as an innovator and executive with IBM.

A national search for the next dean will begin this academic year. Details to be announced later this fall.

###

Rathnayake uses nanomaterials to develop affordable, efficient solar panels
Imagine charging your cell phone outside using only a tiny sticker on the back – no cord or pad needed. Thanks in part to UNCG’s Dr. Hemali Rathnayake, solar-powered cell phones could be the wave of the future.

Alongside collaborators from University of Louisville, Rathnayake is developing smaller, more energy-efficient, environmentally-friendly, inexpensive solar panels. Her research has received $1.5 million in grant support from NASA, the National Science Foundation and other funders.

“Our goal is for you to be able to go to Walmart, buy your solar panel, pull off the sticker and put it on your window,” says Rathnayake, an associate professor in UNCG’s Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering. “That’s the dream. It needs to be plug and play.”

To meet this goal, she’s using carbon-based nanoparticles, roughly one-millionth of a millimeter in size, to build flexible solar panels. They’re bendable, making them useful in more places than existing rigid silicon panels. The unique structure of the particles, which incorporate many void spaces, also makes the panels lightweight.

In addition to being small – roughly 4 centimeters by 8 centimeters – they use less sunlight energy to create the same amount of electricity as a silicon panel, she says. They produce voltage equivalent to a small battery, and, while they don’t outlast silicon panels, they do cut production costs by 25 percent. Carbon-based panels are also more environmentally friendly because they don’t include heavy metals that become toxic when processed.

Ultimately, she envisions being able to use a spray can, much like an airbrush used to paint a car, to coat the carbon solar cell solution on any surface.

Rathnayake is also interested in harnessing waste energy – energy produced, but not captured – for electricity production. In particular, she’s investigating thermoelectrics, the direct conversion of temperature differences into electric voltages.

She’s working on a device that uses body heat to power electronic devices. For example, the body heat you produce while jogging could be used to run – and recharge – the mp3 player playing your music.

Overall, she says, the impetus behind her research is bringing electricity to the public in a more effective, affordable form.

“I come from a country where sunlight is abundant, but electricity isn’t,” she says. “Electricity isn’t affordable for all families. That’s the reason we’re thinking about doing this in an environmentally-friendly, cheaper way.”

This post was adapted from a UNCG Research Magazine story written by Whitney J. Palmer. To read the full story and more, click here.

###

**Volunteer for UNCG’s outreach at National Folk Festival**

UNCG will have a role at the National Folk Festival like never before. Next week’s Campus Weekly will detail that community outreach and the festival itself.

Spartan volunteers are needed. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the National Folk Festival with fellow Spartans as we infuse downtown Greensboro with Spartan Spirit. Be sure to wear blue and gold.

UNCG University Communications seeks faculty, staff and all members of the campus community to help. Volunteers will hand out give-away items.
Volunteer shift options are in two-hour increments within the following time spans:

Friday, Sept. 8, 6-10 p.m.
Saturday, Sept. 9, 12-9 p.m.
Sunday, Sept. 10, 12-9 p.m.

Register to volunteer here.

###

**Ashby Dialogue Series 2017-2018: ‘The Universe Story and the University: Education for Justice and Sacred Earth’**

As part of this Ashby Dialogue Series, Dr. Jeff Titon (emeritus professor of ethnomusicology at Brown University) will speak about "Sustainability and A Sound Ecology" Sept. 7, 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. in the Virginia Dare Room of the Alumni House. Aaron Allen, associate professor and director of the Environmental & Sustainability Studies program, will facilitate.

“The problem of sustainability is not only a problem of science and engineering, but it is also a problem of ethics and epistemology,” Titon said. “Sound-worlds offer an opportunity to experience a connection among beings missing when experience is directed at texts or objects. A sound connection offers an opportunity to think through a sound epistemology that may lead to sound economies, sustainable communities and a sound ecology that foregrounds the interdependence of all beings.”

Questions? Contact Etsuko Kinefuchi, Communication Studies, e_kinefu@uncg.edu.

###

**Red Cross blood drive Sept. 12**

The Elliott University Center will host its first Red Cross Blood Drive of the 2017-2018 academic year on Tuesday, Sept. 12, 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. in Cone Ballroom. Schedule your donation appointment today and help the EUC reach its 300-pint goal!

For those wishing to make a Power Red donation, the Red Cross is currently accepting only blood types A negative, B negative, O positive and O negative.

The American Red Cross has issued an emergency call for blood and platelet donations because of the critical shortage they are experiencing, and they need your help! Be sure to come prepared when giving blood. Have a light meal and plenty to drink. Bring your Red Cross donor card (optional), driver’s license or two other forms of identification and the names of any medications you are currently taking.

For more information on giving blood, and to schedule your donation appointment, visit euc.uncg.edu/mission/blood-drive/. Appointments will be given priority. Walk-ins are welcome.

###

**Email notifications begin for Cloud storage files that may contain sensitive data**

Protecting University data is important. For increased data protection, UNCG uses CloudLock, a cloud security service operated by Information Technology Services (ITS).

CloudLock scans cloud storage services like Google Drive and Box to guard against inadvertent exposures and ensure data security.

These scans check data patterns and file permissions to determine if there might be a security risk. (Note: This is an automated process; ITS
When CloudLock identifies a file that may contain sensitive data, such as Social Security numbers or credit card data, it generates an alert. In the coming weeks, ITS will begin sending email notifications to faculty or staff who own files that trigger alerts.

What to do if you receive notification of a CloudLock alert?

If you receive one of these messages, please consider the following:

- Do you need to keep the file in cloud storage?
- Is the file shared with only the necessary individuals?
- Please use UNCG’s Box service for Moderate and High Risk data.

Business, academic and research data are subject to the university’s Data Classification Policy, which defines four categories of data with respect to risk: High, Moderate, Low and Minimal. Storage requirements have been established for each category of data. It is important to properly classify data and to only store it in services that meet these requirements.

Learn more

- University Data Storage Requirements
- Data Classification Policy

If you have questions or need more information, please contact 6-TECH at (336) 256-TECH (8324) or 6-TECH@uncg.edu.

“Hangouts” highlight housing-related issues

“Hangouts” are monthly informal gatherings with students, faculty, researchers, community agencies and governmental representatives from local, regional and state agencies. Discussions are the first Friday of the month from noon to 2 p.m. in the Moore Humanities and Research building - light refreshments are served. Hangouts are organized by the UNCG Center for Housing and Community Studies.

2017-2018 Housing Hangouts

Sept. 8* - Veterans Housing, RM 1607

Oct. 6 - Homebuying 101, RM 1607

Nov. 3 - Housing Innovations, RM 1607

Dec. 1 - Public Housing and Section 8, RM 1607

Jan. - No Housing Hangout

Feb. 2 - Regional and Local Consolidated Planning, RM 2711

March 2 - Prison Re-entry, Work and Housing, RM 2711

April 6 - Fair Housing, RM 2711

May 4 - School Catchment Areas and Housing Choice, RM 1607

*Second Friday due to Labor Day weekend

Andrea Hunter chair of Faculty Senate, as it marks 25th year
When speaking about her new role as chair of the UNCG Faculty Senate, Dr. Andrea Hunter’s enthusiasm and positivity are infectious.

“I just see so many possibilities for us as a faculty in this moment,” Hunter said.

Hunter succeeds Dr. Anne Wallace and is the second Faculty Senate chair to serve under the revised rules providing for two-year terms for each chair.

Strengthening partnerships, increasing faculty’s commitment to diversity and elevating the senate’s voice and visibility on campus are among Hunter’s ambitions as chair during the Faculty Senate’s 25th anniversary year.

Hunter came to UNCG in Fall 1999 after working as an associate professor in the School of Social Work at the University of Michigan. She received a bachelor of arts in Psychology and Child Development from Spelman College, and a master of science and PhD in Human Development and Family Studies at Cornell University. At UNCG, she is the associate professor of Human Development and Family Studies in the School of Health and Human Sciences.

She said UNCG was a good fit. She appreciated the emphasis on direct contact, advising and building relationships with students, and the strong commitment to research and creative activity.

In her 17 years at the university, she said she’s seen a ton of growth as UNCG distinguishes itself as a diverse and minority-serving institution with strong teaching excellence, a world-class faculty, and by its engagement in cutting-edge research.

“UNCG has the benefit of a smaller university, a very student-centered mission and a mission to work with a diverse student body, and we also have highly ranked programs and a stellar faculty. We are teacher-scholars, and this is very rewarding,” Hunter said.

Hunter has a long history of service throughout her career. At UNCG, in addition to the faculty senate and other roles in faculty governance, she served on the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusive Excellence and was director of the School of Health and Human Sciences Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

“I’ve always been interested in working in those capacities,” she said. “In my very nature, I’m a team player.”

She added that working at different levels in the university system gives people a richer perspective.

“I think faculty governance really opens that up for you and informs the other work you do, and certainly informs the way you engage with students,” Hunter said.

As Faculty Senate chair, Hunter has a vision for both programmatic and organizational improvements. She’s interested in continuing the internal self-study started under Wallace and figuring out how to operate as a stronger organization.

“How would we like to see ourselves and what are the structures and processes we need in place?” Hunter said. “Some of that has to do with communication and transparency.”

She said it’s critical to strengthen the ways faculty connect and communicate across units and divisions such as student affairs and academic and business affairs as we develop a shared sense of identity and common fate.

Hunter would also like greater recognition and value of the breadth of the faculty government structure and work.

“It’s really important for Faculty Senate to be engaged and empowered partners where there’s mutual respect across those divisions and we have the opportunity for dialogue and connection,” Hunter said. “A lot of our role is advisory and consultative, but we also make recommendations and review and approve policies in areas central to instruction and student learning, as well as faculty welfare and development. Faculty have an important and unique perspective to bring.”

She said building relationships and mutual trust is key to increasing communication, particularly during a time of change and transformation.
An ongoing part of Hunter’s work is being a part of the institutional effort to move forward student and faculty diversity and success, which is a passion she is eager to bring to the Faculty Senate table.

“As a university, we’ve done really excellent work being able to attract, retain and graduate a diverse student body,” Hunter said. “The chancellor has said that diversity should be part of our DNA. As part of our DNA, the Faculty Senate is one place we can express that because we have the opportunity to live that out, raise issues, make recommendations in light of those issues...I think we can be leaders in that effort.”

Faculty Senate meetings are open to the public, and Hunter encouraged faculty to take advantage of the opportunity to engage at this level.

Meetings are monthly – the first is Sept. 6 at 3 p.m. in the Virginia Dare Room, Alumni House – and the schedule is available on the Faculty Senate website. The senate also holds frequent forums around issues relevant to faculty.

She suggested faculty get to know their senators, ask questions and talk with them about issues. Not only is the Faculty Senate the voice of the faculty, she said, but the liaison between faculty and the administration.

“I’m quite excited about this moment where we are taking giant steps, which I think means a lot of different things for us,” Hunter said. “It’s a good moment to be here, I think, as faculty members, students, staff as well, and a good moment to be chair of the Faculty Senate.”

By Elizabeth L. Harrison

###

Dr. George Hancock

Dr. George Hancock (SERVE Center) received over $1 million in continued funding from the U.S. Department of Education for the National Center on Homeless Education (NCHE).

NCHE is housed at UNCG's SERVE center and operates USED’s technical assistance center for the federal Education for Homeless Children and Youth program. NCHE has developed long-standing collaborations that foster a comprehensive and interagency approach to serving homeless children and youth at the national, state and local levels. The NCHE staff bring not only experience and expertise in homeless education and/or working with at-risk youth, but commitment and passion for the work. Key focus areas of NCHE’s work include building the capacity of state- and local-level program administrators to implement effective programs and activities that are compliant with federal legislation, providing expert advice and assistance to address challenging and emerging issues, building connections among constituents and outside agencies, and providing resources that enable constituents to carry out their responsibilities effectively.

Thus, NCHE provides resources that are accurate in content, relevant to constituent needs, and immediately applicable to their work in support of the more than 1.3 million homeless children and youth enrolled in our schools nationally.

Funding will continue to provide the assistance and support to all stakeholders, including parents and families experiencing homelessness, to help homeless students succeed in school and overcome the devastating effects of lacking a stable place to live.

###

Dr. Holly Sienkiewicz

Dr. Holly Sienkiewicz (Center for New North Carolinians) received new funding from the North Carolina Commission on
Volunteerism and Community Service for the project "AmeriCorps ACCESS Project."

The purpose of this project is to help immigrants gain access to human services, build bridges with mainstream society and assist immigrants with acculturation leading to self-sufficiency. Services to be provided include: 1. Employment Readiness and Placement, Disaster Preparedness, Volunteer Recruitment and Management, and related services to immigrant and refugees resulting in greater self-sufficiency; 2. Provide leadership development training to AmeriCorps staff; and 3. Provide community development training to community and faith-based partner organizations to help them achieve sustainability.

###

Holly Goddard Jones

Holly Goddard Jones (English, Creative Writing) will give a reading this Thursday, Aug. 31, at 7 p.m. at Scuppernong Books in downtown Greensboro. The event will celebrate the release of Jones' latest novel, “The Salt Line,” published by Penguin Random House. The event is free and open to the public, and will be followed by a book signing. Jones is also the author of “The Next Time You See Me” and “Girl Trouble.” Her work has appeared in “The Best American Mystery Stories,” “New Stories from the South,” Tin House magazine and elsewhere. She was a recipient of the Fellowship of Southern Writers' Hillsdale Prize for Excellence in Fiction and of a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award.

###

Dr. Iris Wagstaff

Dr. Iris Wagstaff (Chemistry and Biochemistry) is a UNCG graduate and adjunct associate professor. She will receive the K-12 Promotion of Education Award by the Women of Color Magazine and Women of Color STEM Conference. A subsidiary of Career Communications Group, INC, Women of Color magazine's annual Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) Conference is the forum of choice for recognizing the significant contributions by women in STEM fields. Wagstaff will be presented the award at the 22nd Annual Women of Color STEM Conference in Detroit, Michigan, on Oct. 7.

Wagstaff is a STEM Program Director in the Education and Human Resources Department of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). Most recently she served as 2015-2017 AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow at the National Institute of Justice in the Office of Investigative and Forensic Sciences. She has over 20 years of STEM outreach and advocacy in the community developing informal science programs, mentoring STEM majors, equipping parents with tools and resources to encourage their children in STEM, and providing culturally relevant science education pedagogy to teachers.

###

Looking ahead: Aug. 30, 2017

Panel discussion: ‘Race and the University’
Thursday, Aug. 31, noon, Alexander Room, EUC

First Look: ‘South Pacific’ with Bob Gatten
Thursday, Aug. 31, 6 p.m., Weatherspoon Art Museum

Faculty Reading: Holly Goddard Jones (Creative Writing)
Thursday, Aug. 31, 7 p.m., Scuppernong Books

Volleyball vs. Presbyterian (Spartan-Aggie Invitational)
Friday, Sept. 1, 7 p.m., Fleming Gymnasium
Men’s Soccer vs. UNC Chapel Hill  
Monday, Sept. 4, 7 p.m., UNCG Soccer Stadium  

Lecture on German election, Dr. Peter Pfeiffer (Georgetown)  
Friday, Sept. 8, 10 a.m., Bryan 172

###

**UNCG and Rockingham County Schools bring innovative “Lab School” to Reidsville**

UNCG and Rockingham County Schools today unveiled a proposal for an innovative new partnership school in Rockingham County. The school – also called a “Lab School” – will bring the latest concepts in experiential learning and cutting edge teaching techniques to Moss Street Elementary School beginning in the fall of 2018. The proposed school will occupy the existing Moss Street facility and serve approximately 400 students in kindergarten through 5th grade. The proposal was presented at a Rockingham County Schools Board of Education work session Monday night.

Under the provisions of recently passed North Carolina state legislation and as part of a University of North Carolina system initiative to foster engagement between North Carolina universities and state elementary schools, the new partnership school will feature innovative approaches in terms of curriculum, hands-on teaching and learning, and professional development opportunities for area educators. The school will develop student skills and interest in the highly-desired “STEAM” subjects – science, technology, engineering, arts and math – as well as providing other services including counseling, nutrition and additional support for students and families. It will be one of nine such schools expected to be established over the next two years under the legislation.

“At UNCG, we recognize our responsibility to provide both academic opportunity and excellence to students across the region – in terms of innovative teaching, relevant subject matter and meaningful academic experiences,” said UNCG Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr. “With Rockingham County, we can forge a deep partnership – transforming not just an entire building but by extension a community. We will open up new doors and create new life chances for students who may have otherwise been underserved. With our world-class School of Education and proven track record of producing outstanding educators, UNCG is well equipped to deliver on the vision for this kind of powerful collaboration, and we are excited about the future of this initiative in Rockingham County.”

Added Rodney Shotwell, superintendent of Rockingham County Schools, “We are proud to partner with UNCG in a way that directly benefits the students, families and teachers of Rockingham County. This will create a wave of new opportunity, usher in new ideas and techniques and introduce new resources to our community.”

###

**Weight Watchers open house**

UNCG Weight Watchers @ Work’s next open house is Wednesday, September 6, 2017, at noon in MHRA 3501.

Interested in joining the UNCG Weight Watchers at Work Program? Come to the Open House. Attending provides you an opportunity to see how a meeting is conducted, meet current participants and have your questions answered by group leader Donna Sexton.

The Weight Watchers at Work program consists of a 12 week series of informative and motivational group meetings. Meeting time ranges from 45 minutes to one-hour weekly on Wednesdays in MHRA 3501 from 12:15-1 p.m. These meetings are open to the entire UNCG community including faculty, staff and students.

For more information, contact Elizabeth L’Eplattenier at 256-1091 or email ebleplat@uncg.edu.
See/hear: Aug. 30, 2017

Tickets are on sale for “South Pacific” Sept. 17 - Oct. 15 at Triad Stage at The Pyrle Theater in Downtown Greensboro. In this video, the production’s music director, Justin P. Cowan (UNCG Music), leads the orchestra through their first rehearsal of “South Pacific,” including "Bali Hai'i," "There's Nothing Like A Dame" and "Some Enchanted Evening."

###