Kim Record named chair of NCAA DI Competition Oversight Committee

Director of Athletics Kim Record has been named chair of the NCAA Division I Competition Oversight Committee. Record began her tenure this summer and her term as chair will run until June, 2019. The committee consists of 19 members: 10 Division I council members, eight non-council members and one SAAC representative.

“It is an honor to serve as chair of the Competition Oversight Committee,” Record said. “Our goal is to be inclusive, responsive and transparent with the membership as we monitor, evaluate and enhance the student-athlete championship experience.”

Record has been an active member in NCAA national committees during her career. In addition to the chair of the Competition Oversight Committee, she is currently a member of the NCAA Division I Council as the representative for the Southern Conference. Also, she has been a member of the NCAA women’s soccer committee and championship cabinet.

The Competition Oversight Committee has oversight responsibility of regular season and championships administration in sports other than football and men’s and women’s basketball, including supervision of qualification and/or selection procedures for Division I and National Collegiate Championships. The committee prioritizes enhancement of the student-athlete's educational experience (academically and athletically) and, in doing so, promotes student-athletes’ personal growth and leadership development.

The Competition Oversight Committee reviews recommendations from sports committees and processes other issues related to the administration of those championships. The sports committees (other than football and men’s and women’s basketball) report directly to the Competition Oversight Committee.

Record is in her ninth year as director of athletics at UNCG.

She was named one of 28 Under Armour Athletic Director of the Year award recipients at the 2014 National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics Convention in Orlando in the NCAA Division I-AAA category.

###

Text me, Rosalind: Shakespeare in the cyber age
“As You Like It,” one of Shakespeare’s most beloved romantic comedies, will open this Friday at 7:30 p.m. in UNCG’s Taylor Theatre, and the production is far from traditional.

You won’t see any bustles or breeches in the costuming, for one thing. It’s business suits, ties and smartphones. The play’s first setting, the court of Duke Frederick, resembles an Apple store.

With the help of students in the Technical Production program, Professor of Theatre and Scenery Designer Randy McMullen created a sleek, modern rectilinear design for the court scenes, all in black and white.

“We want UNCG students to walk into Taylor Theatre, see that set and go ‘wait a second? this is not the Shakespeare I know,’” explained the production’s director, Associate Professor John Gulley.

In the play, when the setting shifts from the court to the Forest of Arden, the characters are out of a Wi-Fi connection and encounter nature for the first time. They gradually shed their ties and electronic devices as they adapt to the forest.

“The play begins with a very sleek business look and ends with a bohemian forest wedding, said Costume Studio Supervisor Amy Holroyd.

“Nature itself has a transformative effect on them,” added Gulley. “And that’s what has always drawn me to this play.”

Although the production’s outward appearance will be uniquely contemporary, the script is still Shakespeare’s “As You Like It,” in its original form. Gulley and Associate Professor Christine Morris, who serves as the production’s vocal coach, are in agreement that the work of Shakespeare is indispensable in theatre education and in campus and community life.

“For the student actors, it’s invigorating to convey what I call ‘the big stuff,’” said Morris. “We keep doing Shakespeare not because of some grand idea of history or poetry or an idea of what theatre should be, but because it’s full of ‘the big stuff.’ It’s love, it’s death, it’s loneliness, humor, fear and triumph? all of that. If a student can learn to unlock the acting clues that are in here, that’s something that’s going to serve them well.”

“University students need to hear language like this,” said Gulley, who can easily point to Shakespeare’s profound influence in George R.R. Martin and HBO’s hit series, “Game of Thrones.” “When it’s done right, an audience will get it, even if they don’t know iambic pentameter or the Elizabethan metaphors. Something different happens with elevated language – it drives you deeper into the psyche of a character, which helps out, because we’re all here to tell a story.”

The two main leads of the production are seniors Baraka Ongeri as Orlando and Katie Olson as Rosalind. The initial costume design was created by senior Lauren McCoy with the assistance of Amy Holroyd and junior Katelyn Wingerston.

Along with the 20 UNCG undergraduate actors, the cast includes graduate students James MacFarlane, Bryanna Vinge and Zach Vinge who, as Jaques, delivers the famous “all the world’s a stage” monologue. Assistant Professors of Theatre Jim Wren and Denise Gabriel serve as movement directors.

“As You Like It” opens on Sept. 22 and runs through Sept. 30, with a pay-what-you-can preview on Sept. 21. Tickets are available through the Triad Stage website, by phone at 336-272-0160 or the Brown Box Office (336-334-4392).

By Susan Kirby-Smith
Conceptual drawing of set courtesy UNCG Theatre.

See related story on Frame/Works.
Men’s basketball season-ticket discount for faculty/staff

The UNCG Athletics Department has set its sights on making season-ticket history in support of the men’s basketball team, and with a new discount, faculty and staff can help.

The new Spartan Pride Season Ticket Referral Program gives season-ticket holders cash incentives for season-ticket referrals. For each new season-ticket referral purchase, the current season ticket-holder will receive $10 cash back. If a current season-ticket holder gets 10 new season tickets, they receive one season ticket (account credit) for free. Anyone they refer, faculty/staff or not, would receive $99 season tickets for the first year.

The goal is 1,000 men’s basketball season tickets. Last season, UNCG sold 866 total season tickets to fans that watched the Spartans post a 13-4 home record – the most wins in program history, including a win at the Southern Conference regular season championship. Faculty and staff can purchase tickets for $99 in the lower level (as many as they like). Normally, season tickets in the lower level are $129. All season tickets come with a parking pass for these games at the Coliseum, a $65 value. They also come with several Buddy Passes so you can bring others to a few games, and the opportunity to receive complimentary women’s basketball season tickets. Payroll deduction is available for all faculty/staff – the payment is split evenly over four months.

To order tickets with the faculty/staff discount, to take advantage of the referral program or if you have any questions, contact the UNCG Athletics ticket office at 336-334-3250.

More information on the season-ticket referral program can be found at uncgspartans.com/referral.

Kaplan Center receives LEED Gold rating for sustainability

UNCG’s Leonard J. Kaplan Center for Wellness has received the LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold rating by the U.S. Green Building Council.

A leading benchmark in green building, LEED offers four rating levels: Certified, Silver, Gold and Platinum. UNCG has 17 LEED-certified buildings, including 10 that have attained the Gold rating.
“The Kaplan Center was designed with every aspect of sustainability in mind – from the raw materials used in construction to the light, airy design of the facility,” said Dr. Shanna Eller, sustainability coordinator for operations. “We’re proud that the Kaplan Center has surpassed our initial goal of LEED Silver, and we continue to find new solutions that will help make this state-of-the-art facility even more sustainable and energy efficient.”

Since its opening last August, the Kaplan Center has helped transform campus life at UNCG, with approximately 90 percent of all on-campus students accessing the facility at least once during the 2016-17 academic year.

In addition to promoting health and wellness across campus, the Kaplan Center has hosted numerous student events – such as the popular dive-in movie nights at the pool and this year’s “Convocation Craze” – as well as conferences and meetings for faculty and staff.

To learn more about LEED-certified buildings on campus and the university’s sustainability efforts, visit sustainability.uncg.edu. For more information about the Kaplan Center, click here.

By Alyssa Bedrosian

###

**Provost: Growing number of faculty boosts academic mission**

As newly minted chair Andrea Hunter remarked at the Faculty Senate’s inaugural meeting of the semester, it is time for Giant Steps.

At the Sept. 6 meeting, Provost Dana Dunn said there is much momentum at present, and laid out a few of the university’s key initiatives.

UNCG has over 600 tenure-stream faculty, and this year welcomed 39 new tenured faculty as well as many additional full-time faculty. In August, nine faculty received endowed professorship appointments, including two Patricia A. Sullivan Distinguished Professorships. (A listing of new faculty may be seen here.)

Dunn said 26 new expansion searches for tenure-stream faculty have been authorized and many key positions beyond faculty are being filled, such as dean searches for the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering and the School of Health and Human Sciences, vice chancellor for student affairs and associate vice chancellor for research.

Beyond faculty, Dunn spoke of enrollment – up 1.4 percent overall and 3.3 percent at the graduate level – and residential housing growth, with 5,400 students now living on campus.

Five new academic programs are currently in various stages of development: an undergraduate information studies cross-disciplinary degree, a master’s in data science, international business, a joint PhD in social work with NC A&T and a PhD in business offered online.

The university has intensified its research activity after exceeding its goal of 5 percent externally funded research.

Student success remains a major initiative for the university. UNCG was one of 31 institutions nationally chosen for the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation’s Frontier Set and one of five that will be profiled by the foundation.

The Banner 9 software upgrade was a topic at the meeting, and Dunn explained it related to UNCG’s focus on improving infrastructure. In addition, the university will be implementing CourseLeaf Academic Catalogue Management Software, which will revolutionize approvals and reviews of curriculum.

The university’s strategic planning is nearing finalization, with a new website (posting later this week) that will include framework for the strategic plan and goals for colleges and schools. There are plans to launch another strategic seed-funding program for faculty this year with $150,000 in grants tied to themes in the strategic plan.

Faculty will be key in working to move the institution forward, Dunn said.

By Elizabeth L. Harrison

###

**Liked “Cars,” “Brave,” “Monsters, Inc.”? Hear Pixar’s Tia Kratter Oct. 4.**
Tia Kratter has been a part of the artistry of Pixar films since the very first one, “Toy Story,” released in 1995. Before that, she contributed work to such Disney classics as “Beauty and the Beast,” “Aladdin” and “The Little Mermaid.”

The stories she can share are quite colorful - literally.

Tia Kratter will visit UNCG Wednesday, Oct. 4. She will give a public lecture at 6 p.m. in Bryan 160. The public is invited. (It’s recommended that you get there early.) In the morning she will speak to UNCG art students in Dr. Heather Holian’s “Art of Disney and Pixar” class.

After working at Disney Feature Animation for five years as a background painter, and later as a Disney freelance artist, Kratter joined the “Toy Story” art team at Pixar in 1993. Since her arrival at Pixar Tia has served as an art director on many of the studio’s films including “A Bug’s Life,” “Monsters, Inc.,” “Cars” and “Brave.”

Today, she is manager of Art & Film Education at Pixar University, the studio’s internal education program. She also has authored the illustrated new book “The Color of Pixar,” showcasing many film stills from the Pixar archives. (The campus bookstore will have that book available at the talk.)

“She has a tremendous amount of experience in the animation industry and at two of the medium's most important studios,” said Holian. “She has been at these studios during a seismic shift in the industry, from 2D animation to 3D or digital animation. This change has impacted her own work over the years, from the kinds of work she makes to the materials she uses.”

This talk, sponsored by UNCG School of Art, marks the sixth Pixar artist Holian has invited to speak at UNCG - a unique learning experience for her students and the public.

“This is a talk that is especially interesting because it will bear out the great importance of ideas, problem-solving and collaboration in animation, regardless of the technology making the film, or the media of her own pieces,” Holian said. “She also plans to talk about how she has adapted, grown and changed as an artist while at Pixar over the last 24 years.”

Holian emphasized Kratter’s breadth and talent as an artist.

“She is capable of working on the completely imagined world of ‘Monsters, Inc.,’ the racing world of ‘Cars’ and the lush, organic world of medieval Scotland. She often paints in watercolor when not at the studio, and for ‘Brave’ she made several watercolor studies of the Scottish landscape that are among some of the most evocative concept paintings made for that entire film.”

Kratter also is a gifted speaker. “She has a great sense of humor, which I imagine listeners will be treated to during her talk.”

Holian, associate professor of art history, is a specialist in Italian Renaissance art. Another key specialty is the art of the Pixar Animation Studios, and she is currently finishing a book on the topic.

Holian travels to Pixar regularly to interview artists and conduct research in the studio’s archives. Her essay “A Brave Collaboration: A Case Study of Collaborative Dynamics and Collective Imagination within the Pixar Art Department” is scheduled for publication next year, and her essay “New and Inherited Aesthetics: Designing for the ‘Toy Story’ Trilogy One Film at a Time” will appear in “‘Toy Story: Animation - Key Texts” this winter.

By Mike Harris
Photo courtesy Tia Kratter

###

UNCG volunteers recover 62 pounds of leftover food from Folk Festival
UNCG’s Food Recovery Network chapter collected 62 pounds of surplus food during the 2017 National Folk Festival Sept. 8-10. Student volunteers arrived around 9:30 p.m. on each day of the festival and spent the night collecting leftovers from the festival’s vendors. They gathered enough food to feed about 51 people, which was donated to Mary’s Table. Mary’s Table is a nonprofit that serves warm meals six days a week to those in need.

Founded in April 2015, the UNCG chapter of the national Food Recovery Network regularly recovers excess food from UNCG Dining Services, as well as from local events. Since its founding, volunteers have donated over 10,362 pounds of food, or over 8,635 meals, to feed people in Greensboro living with food insecurity. For more information on the UNCG FRN, like their Facebook Page or follow them on Twitter at frm_uncg and Instagram at foodrecoveryuncg.

By Avery Campbell
Photograph courtesy the UNCG FRN.

###

Apply for Giant Steps Research Development Grants

The Provost and the Office of Research and Engagement announce the release of funding for the Giant Steps Research Development Grants.

The goal of this program is to provide seed funding for projects that will enhance UNCG’s external visibility, encourage research as well as increase the opportunity to leverage preliminary results obtained with this funding to gain significant future federal and/or private funding.

Winning proposals are expected to define an integrated research effort distinguished by intellectual excellence and driven by a clear vision of fundamental advances, new discoveries or technological developments having state, national and global and societal impact aligned with the areas defined in the strategic plan (e.g., health and wellness, vibrant communities or global connections).

A requirement of the award is the submission of at least one research proposal to an external funding source by the end of the award period. The Provost and Office of Research and Engagement anticipates funding up to six proposals of up to $25,000 each.

Applications are due Nov. 6, 2017, with projects to begin Jan. 8, 2018, and work completed no later than June 30, 2019. For more information, contact Dr. Terri Shelton, shelton@uncg.edu.

###

Take advantage of HR’s Learning and Development offerings

UNCG Human Resources Learning and Development is pleased to offer a rich array of offerings reflecting the talent of faculty and staff. Courses provide the opportunity to explore new passions, strengthen skills and contribute further to building an inclusive and collaborative workplace.

Learning and Development workshops, including Professional, Personal and Organizational Development, are a benefit for all UNCG employees. Workshops focus on self-enhancement, work-life balance and workplace training. Some highlights this year include an active shooter training, conflict resolution, tours of Jackson library, thriving in the workplace and intercultural sensitivity awareness.
Full workshop descriptions are listed on the new HR website:

workshops.uncg.edu/workshops-by-category.jsp?cat_id=7700100

###

**Rud Turnbull, advocate for people with disabilities, to give lecture series**

Beginning tonight (Wednesday, Sept. 20), UNCG shines a light on the challenges that disability poses as a matter of law and policy by sponsoring three lectures by Rud Turnbull. Each lecture begins at 5:30 p.m. in the Virginia Dare Room at the UNCG Alumni House. The lectures are free and open to the public.

Turnbull, father of a son (1967-2009) with intellectual and emotional-behavioral disabilities, is a scholar of disability policy and an advocate for people with disabilities, especially those who have intellectual, developmental and mental health disabilities.

Sept. 20, 2017 Lecture 1: Nature and scope of discrimination against persons with disabilities and the law’s general approach in prohibiting such discrimination.

Oct. 11, 2017 Lecture 2: Legal issues that arise when a person with a disability is at the “edges of life,” whether as a newborn baby or an adult.

Feb. 21, 2018 Lecture 3: Legal issues that arise when a person may need the protection of guardianship and the conflict that guardianship presents to the person’s autonomy and decision-making.

The series is sponsored by UNCG Office of Research and Engagement, UNCG Community and Therapeutic Recreation and the UNCG Department of Specialized Education Services.

###

**‘Frame/Works’ for Shakespeare’s ‘As You Like It’ Sept. 28**

Conceived by Dr. Christine Woodworth, former UNCG Theatre faculty member, “Frame/Works” is a program designed to draw connections between scholarly examination and artistic practice.

The “Frame/Works” selection for the fall is UNCG Theatre’s production of “As You Like It,” and will take place on Thursday, Sept. 28. The presenting researchers are Dr. Jennifer Feather, Dr. Lauren Shook and Dr. Jennifer Park, from the English department, and their presentations are, respectively: “Restless Shakespeare: The Forest of Arden After Hurricane Harvey,” “Dining in Deserts: Understanding Food Scarcity in the Forest of Arden” and “Cosmetics of Color: Celia as Aliena in As You Like it.”

School of Theatre Director Dr. John Poole will moderate the discussion and Professor and Production Director John Gulley and selected performers and designers will also participate in the post-show Q&A discussion.

At 5 p.m., light refreshments will be served in the Slane Lobby of UNCG Auditorium, and the pre-show presentation of research will begin at 5:15 p.m. The presentation will be followed by a dinner break, and the 7:30 p.m. production of “As You Like” it at Taylor Theatre. The post-show responses and Q&A will begin at 9:40 p.m.

All “Frame/Works” participants may purchase tickets at a discounted rate of $12; UNCG student tickets are all $9.

The box office is located in 115 Brown Building and is open 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, 336-334-4392 – or guests may contact Triad Stage to secure “As You Like It” tickets at 336-272-0160. Online ticketing is here.
Sample recipes from across the state at Vintage Viands tasting Sept. 22

The Jackson Library is home to many loved collections, but one has recently come to the forefront. Hundreds of cookbooks were recently donated with recipes from across North Carolina.

The recipes are all the result of the work of Foy Allen Edelman, author, cookbook collector and cuisine aficionado. Edelman has traveled across nearly all counties in North Carolina to seek out dishes from it’s inhabitants. In doing this, she has captured the essence of the regions through the meals that make us feel at home.

These books have found a home of their own in the Special Collections of UNCG’s Jackson Library. Carolyn Shankle, the library’s Special Collections specialist, and her team have been working to inventory around 60 cartons worth of cookbooks, according to the featured article “A Delicious Collection” in Our State Magazine. This expansive donation adds to the depth of the culinary section in the university's library, which includes Home Economics Pamphlets and other historical cookbooks.

Callie Coward and Erica Rau, both UNCG graduates and Jackson Library technicians, grew interested in these pieces while scanning them. They had a vision for an event where recipes from the collections could be showcased and tasted by the public: thus Vintage Viands was born. The event began in 2015, when the focus was included all of the library’s cookbooks. This year’s Vintage Viands was inspired by Foy Edelman’s collection, and will center entirely on recipes from North Carolina.

While recipes from North Carolina have a wide spectrum of flavors, some may say they’re not particularly unique. “If I'm honest, there's really nothing more special pertaining to North Carolina recipes than anywhere else,” Coward tells Campus Weekly. “These recipes, just like anywhere else, spark memories or at least we hope they do. You can remember your grandmother's famous coconut cake or persimmon pudding. These recipes bring back the nostalgia from that time in your life; the good ol' days if you will. Foods and smells can trigger memories and that's what makes these recipes so special.”

This free taste-testing event will allow the public to experience their own nostalgia. Rau says that through Vintage Viands, she would like “to expose the students and larger UNCG community to a really cool resource that they may not know we even had. We'd like them to walk away from the event knowing that our special collections and archives aren't just some dusty old photos or letters from past university presidents,” she says. “Hopefully, students can walk away with a new or renewed passion for cooking, or maybe a fun idea for a project they'd like to research.”

Enjoy Vintage Viands: North Carolina Edition in the Reading Room on the First Floor of Jackson Library, from 12 - 2 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 22, 2017. All are invited.

By Ishan Davis
Photographer: Paula Damasceno De Oliveira

###
Fun Asian Autumn Festival Sept. 23

If you’re a fan of dazzling performances and delectable dishes, UNCG’s annual Asian Autumn Festival is right up your alley.

Join the International and Global Studies Program in celebrating the rich diversity of East and Southeast Asian cultures Saturday, Sept. 23, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Elliot University Center.

The festival serves as an opportunity to experience the mosaic of Asian cultures that are a part of the UNCG community. Festival-goers of all ages will enjoy performances ranging from tai chi demonstrations to K-Pop dances, food samples, games and raffles hosted by the university’s many Asian clubs.

Both admission and parking (available in Walker Avenue Parking Deck) are free and open to the public.

By Ishan Davis
Photography courtesy festival organizers

Sustainable and socially responsible investing

The UNCG Sustainability Council announces a series of Conversations on Sustainable and Socially Responsible Investing.

The first conversation, “What is Sustainable and Socially Responsible Investing and Why Is It Important?” will be Sept. 28 at 3:30 p.m. in the UNCG Faculty Center and will feature panelists Jill Hopke from DePaul University and Luis Hestres from the University of Texas at San Antonio. This conversation is hosted by Environmental & Sustainability Studies and Geography.

The second conversation, “The Business of Investing Responsibly” will be Nov. 16 at 8:30 a.m. in the UNCG Faculty Center and will feature Ebony Perkins of Self Help Credit Union, Christopher Demetropoulos of Trillium Asset Management and Chas Mansfield of Compass Financial Partners. This conversation is hosted by the Bryan School of Business and Economics.

Check the web page for more information on additional conversations.
###
HHS hosts speaker on chronic pain

Dr. Robert Gatchel will visit Sept. 29 to deliver the presentation “The Biopsychological Model of Chronic Pain: Past, Present and Future Clinical Directions.” The presentation is 11 a.m. in the EUC Maple Room. A reception and refreshments will follow the lecture.

Gatchel is professor of clinical health psychology and directs the Center of Excellence for the Study of Health and Chronic Illness at the University of Texas at Arlington. He was awarded the American Psychological Foundation’s 2017 Gold Medal Award for Life Achievement, one of the highest honors in psychology. His research explores the causes, assessment, and treatment of chronic pain behavior, including opioid overuse and misuse.

###

Interested in graduate school?

The Fall 2017 Graduate School Information Session will be Monday evening, Oct. 2, 6 - 8:30 p.m. in the EUC.

Information Sessions are designed for individuals who are exploring graduate programs at UNCG and include workshops on the application process, graduate student life on campus, professional development programs and an opportunity to meet with faculty representatives from academic departments.

To register, visit docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScbhV_YFiBRjWBRmRUNWUCYk8je0vDLfAm86bktcv_cwypdwx/viewform.

###

Forum addresses cultural diversity in the marketplace

“Diversity, Entrepreneurship, and Direct Selling” will be the topic of a forum Wednesday, Nov. 1, in Bryan 160. The panel will take place from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m., followed by a reception with catering provided by Dame’s Chicken & Waffles and A Sweet Success. The forum is free and open to the public.

Accomplished executives Connie Tang, president and CEO of Princess House, and Ursula Dudley Oglesby, president of Dudley Products, will speak on how their companies are making strides towards cultural diversity in the marketplace.

The occasion will be moderated by John T. Fleming, past board member of Direct Selling Educational Foundation.

The event is sponsored by the Entrepreneurship Cross-Disciplinary Program, the Bryan School of Business and Economics and the Direct Selling Educational Foundation.

###

Kara Baldwin
Kara Baldwin (Special Support Services) received continuation of funding from the U.S. Department of Education for the project “Student Support Services Program.”

There are a high number of students who enroll at UNCG who need and could qualify for the academic support available through a Student Support Services Program. Thus, the project proposes to sponsor a Student Support Services Program for a five-year period, 2015 through 2020.

The program will provide writing, reading, study skills coaching, mathematics and computer literacy instruction; individualized tutoring; academic coaching, career, personal and financial aid counseling; financial literacy instruction and training; graduate/professional school guidance; and some limited cultural, educational enrichment, and academic award activities.

The university will identify and provide educational support services to 200 freshmen, upper-class, transfers, returning adults and students with disabilities for a five-year period who are first-generation, low-income and disabled students. The primary goal is to increase the rate of educational success for these students so they will earn a bachelor’s degree and/or prepare to enroll in a graduate or professional school or a doctoral degree program.

Both the commitment from UNCG and the funding from the grant itself will allow the university to begin services for first-generation, low-income and students with disabilities nearly as soon as notification of funding is received.

The program staff, participants and the university (Office of Institutional Research) will conduct an evaluation to measure both student and program success based upon the standardized and process objectives annually.

###

**Dr. John Kiss**

Dr. John Kiss (Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences) received new funding from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for the project “Novel explorations into the interactions between light and gravity sensing in plants.”

The Seedling Growth (SG) series of plant biology experiments is part of a barter agreement between NASA and ESA. The major goals are: (1) to determine how gravity and light responses influence each other in plants; (2) to better understand the cellular signaling and response mechanisms of phototropism and of light stimulation; and (3) to study the factors affecting the proliferation and growth of meristematic cells in order to analyze in how auxin (i.e., a plant hormone) transport and perception act in the regulation of these cellular functions.

###

**Dr. Paul Knapp**

Dr. Paul Knapp (Geography) received continued funding from the National Science Foundation for the project “A multi-century reconstruction of tropical cyclone rainfall magnitude and variability derived from longleaf pine in the U.S. southeast Atlantic coastal...”
region.”

The project is designed to provide a multi-century perspective regarding the variability of rainfall derived from landfalling tropical cyclones (TCs; tropical depressions, tropical storms and hurricanes) in the Atlantic southeast coastal region (ASCR) of the southeastern United States by examining the instrumental climate record and the development and application of multiple proxy tree-ring records.

Latewood growth of longleaf pine within the ASCR principally occurs from mid-June through mid-October (tropical-cyclone season) and has strong statistical power when used to reconstruct TC precipitation (TCP). TCP is a critical component of the ASCR hydroclimate, as it influences summer/autumn recharge to groundwater supplies, can abruptly end severe drought conditions and serves an important ecological role. Conversely, TCs and their associated flooding impose substantial societal costs including human mortality and economic losses.

To place the effects of TCP in a historical context, this study will: 1) extend the TCP record to the 17th century to document spatio-temporal variability prior to historic records; 2) determine if actual and reconstructed TCP values significantly correspond with changes in tree-ring oxygen-18 isotopes; and, 3) examine variability of TCP and determine the sensitivity of TCP to the North Atlantic, Atlantic Multidecadal, and El Niño Southern Oscillations.

###

**Dr. Arthur Murphy**

Dr. Arthur Murphy (Anthropology) received a competitive renewal of funding in the amount of $676,578 from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) for the project “Recipe for Success. The project is supported by funds from the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Recipe for Success, in collaboration with public and private entities in Guilford, Randolph, and Rockingham counties in North Carolina, provides direct and indirect nutrition and obesity-prevention education to individuals and households who are either recipients of the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or SNAP-eligible.

There are three primary target audiences: 1) Individuals over the age of 18 from a variety of socioeconomic groups who participate in programs hosted by mental health associations, veteran’s associations, faith-based organizations, etc.; 2) Children under age 18 who attend Title 1 schools and their associated after-school and summer recreational program; and 3) households with children under the age of 18 through eight direct-mail lessons in cooperation with county DHHS offices.

###

**Dr. Louisa Raisbeck**

Dr. Louisa Raisbeck (Kinesiology) received new funding from the National Institutes of Health for the project “Merging attentional focus and balance training to reduce fall risk in older adults.”

Approximately 15 million older adults fall every year in the United States and fall-prevention programs have only been moderately successful in arresting fall rate. This project uses motor-learning principles derived from the attentional focus literature to determine whether training someone where to focus their attention during a balance task enhances balance control and reduces fall risk.

###

**See/hear: Oct. 20, 2017**

A 20 percent discount on "South Pacific" tickets is available to UNCG faculty and staff. Triad Stage and UNCG Theatre have partnered to bring the grand Rodgers and Hammerstein musical to the Triad. More than twenty Spartan students, faculty and alumni are involved in the production, along with stellar guest artists. Receive a 20 percent discount by using the code “BALIHAI” when you place your order.
Additionally, The White and Wood downtown offers a discount on tickets. Questions about ticket discounts? Call (336) 272-0160 or visit the Triad Stage box office.

###

**UNCG Trustees approve design for new Nursing and Instructional Building**

The UNCG Board of Trustees approved the external design for UNCG's new Nursing and Instructional Building on Friday at the September board meeting.

The approved renderings showcase a five-story, 180,000-square-foot building with an atrium that connects the two sides of the building.

The Nursing and Instructional Building is slated to open in the summer of 2020. The building will be built at the same site as the current McIver Building, which will be demolished next summer.

The new facility is made possible thanks to $105 million in state funds from the Connect NC Bond, which was passed by North Carolina voters in the spring of 2016.


###

**Looking Ahead: Sept. 20, 2017**

Strategic Plan website launches
Wednesday, Sept. 20

General Education Program Assessment Forum
Wednesday, Sept. 20, 10 a.m. and Thursday, Sept. 21, noon, Room 140, McIver Building

General Faculty Meeting & Convocation
Sept. 20, 3 p.m., Alumni House

Vintage Viands: North Carolina Edition
Friday, Sept. 22, 12 p.m., Jackson Library Reading Room, main level

‘As You Like It,’ directed by John Gulley
Friday, Sept. 22, 7:30 p.m., Taylor Theatre

‘Comanche: Hero Complexities’
Friday, Sept. 22, 7 p.m., UNCG Auditorium

Guest Artist Recital: Ko Eun Lee, piano
Friday, Sept. 22, 7:30 p.m., Recital Hall
Asian Autumn Festival
Saturday, Sept. 23, 11 a.m., EUC

Men’s Soccer vs. Appalachian State
Saturday, Sept. 23, 7 p.m.

###