January updates on McIver demolition and construction projects

Soon, the area around McIver Building will look quite different.

A construction fence will surround the McIver Building in late January/early February, once it is vacated. The two-part construction project will result in a new Nursing and Instructional Building and a new chiller plant.

Demolition on McIver Building will begin in late April. In its place, a five-story, 180,000-square-foot Nursing and Instructional building will rise, with construction beginning in the fall and slated for completion in 2020.

The School of Nursing will occupy part of the building, with classrooms and laboratory space for biology, chemistry and other health and human sciences disciplines occupying the remaining space.

Construction on the South Chiller Plant will also begin in February, continuing until summer 2019. The plant will provide increased air conditioning capacity for the Nursing and Instructional Building and future buildings and enhance reliability of the entire campus’ chilled water system.

Let’s take a look at the most recent updates for both projects:

- In late January/early February, much of the parking lot that is the future site of the South Chiller Plant – at the corner of Oakland and Forest – will be closed through the duration of the project. Those in nearby buildings, such as the Moore HRA Building, will likely hear some construction-vehicle-associated noise while this plant is being constructed.
- In late January/early February, a construction fence will be erected around the McIver area – if the building is still occupied, there will be openings for several weeks to provide access for pedestrian pathways. No one will be allowed in McIver Building by that point aside from construction personnel.
- A gate will span Walker Ave. near McIver Building and will be closed in early February. Also, a gate will span Administration Drive and will be closed in early February (parking in front of Foust will not be blocked). Parking on College Ave.’s east side will close for the duration of the project. A stretch of College Ave. will change to two-way traffic, allowing drivers to drop visitors off at Foust Building, then turn around and leave via Spring Garden.
- In late April, McIver Building will start to come down.

For more information, including a list of FAQs, visit [https://facdc.uncg.edu/nursing](https://facdc.uncg.edu/nursing), or contact Facilities Design and Construction at 336-334-5269.

**IMPORTANT NOTE: On Feb. 1, UNCG will conduct one of the largest-ever law enforcement/mass casualty full-scale emergency exercises on a UNC system campus.** With funding from General Administration, the exercise will involve 300+ members of university staff and other personnel, along with federal, local, and state government, among others. The purpose of the exercise, which will take place in and around the UNCG McIver Building, is to test the university and community emergency response and recovery plans and capabilities. Please
be aware that temporary road closures, parking, noise and enhanced activity will occur primarily between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. For more information - or to register as a volunteer to serve as a role player in the exercise - visit the McIver Exercise Volunteer Registration Survey page.

Compiled by Elizabeth L. Harrison
Exterior rendering of the new Nursing and Instructional Building provided by LS3P Associates.

###

‘Barber of Seville’ at UNCG Auditorium Jan. 12, 14

“Figaro, Figaro, Figaro!”

It’s a line of opera that many know, perhaps from Saturday morning cartoons.

The classic line is from “Barber of Seville,” and this weekend, Greensboro Opera brings Rossini’s work to UNCG Auditorium for two shows, Jan. 12 and 14.

UNCG alumni, students and faculty are an integral part of the production. In this fast-paced boy-meets-girl story, the principal cast members will be joined by several UNCG alumni in supporting roles – Stephanie Foley Davis, Jacob Kato and Donald Hartmann, also a UNCG faculty member who first performed with Greensboro Opera in 1982. The chorus includes students Christian Blackburn, Ian DeSmit, Wesley McCleary-Small and Benjamin Ramsey.

The stage crew is comprised entirely of UNCG students, staff and alumni, and the orchestra includes 12 faculty members. Jim Bumgardner, UNCG alumnus and visiting voice professor, serves as chorus master.

Unlike the months-long rehearsal and production process that students experience in campus productions, Greensboro Opera performances come together quickly and give students exposure to the fast-paced professional world.

“It’s an experience that they couldn’t learn in a book – this is an opportunity for our students to share the stage with people at the highest level of their profession,” said David Holley, Greensboro Opera artistic director and UNCG director of opera.

The production serves as career preparation for students. It’s also an opportunity for the campus community and beyond to experience and enjoy opera, many for the very first time.

“My whole mission is to demystify opera. This is a stereotype smasher,” Holley said. “Often, people are scared of the word ‘opera.’ But this is not a stuffy, elite experience. You can come as you are.”

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit greensboroopera.org.

By Susan Kirby-Smith and Alyssa Bedrosian
Photograph by Martin W. Kane

###
UNCG’s Medicinal Chemistry Collaborative

Newly discovered molecules that could prove to be anti-cancer agents.

Plant-derived compounds that could give us new ammunition against deadly drug-resistant bacteria such as MRSA.

Nanoparticles that might one day help doctors focus cancer drugs more precisely on tumors.

New drug candidates to minimize damage to the brain after a stroke.

That’s a small sample of the research that UNCG’s Medicinal Chemistry Collaborative – MC² – is carrying out.

And there’s certainly more where that came from. That’s what happens when you combine a couple dozen chemists, biochemists, biologists and other scientists, plus their labs, students and millions of dollars in research grants, together in a single center.

MC² has been around, under different names, for about 10 years. But the new name is part of an effort to draw in a wider array of researchers and provide the UNCG scientists involved with more chances to learn from one another.

“The goal is to support each other, and to train students, and to engage with the greater scientific community and the community in general,” says Dr. Nadja Cech, who, along with Dr. Nick Oberlies, is co-director of MC².

Want to learn more about their findings? Click here to read the full story.

This post was adapted from a UNCG Research Magazine story written by Mark Tosczak. Photography is by Martin W. Kane.

###

‘Online Learning and Innovation’ webinar series starts Jan. 22

UNCG Libraries and the UNCG UTLC (University Teaching and Learning Commons) present the Spring 2018 webinar series on "Online Learning and Innovation." This UNCG webinar series is for UNCG faculty, instructors, librarians, graduate students, TAs, and staff interested in learning more about instructional technology and online learning at UNCG. Some of the topics included are online learning pedagogies, UNCG instructional technology tools (Canvas, Google, Box, etc), and more.

Sign up for any of the sessions that you are interested in attending! Organizers will record these 30-minute webinars in WebEx Meeting Center and make them available on the UTLC and UNCG Libraries websites.

Spring 2018 Sessions:

Monday, January 22, at 1 p.m.: “Academic Integrity: Canvas and Ways to Avoid Violations” by Amanda Schipman and Matt Libera, UNCG Information Technology (IT). This is a two-part webinar that will cover both parts in 1 hour.

Thursday, February 15, at 1 p.m.: “Using Rubrics” by Rob Owens, an Instructional Technology Consultant (ITC) for UNCG Bryan School.

Wednesday, March 14, at 1:30 p.m.: “Peer Review in Canvas” by Anita Warfford, Instructional Technology Consultant (ITC) for UNCG College of Arts and Sciences (CAS).
Monday, April 9 at 11 a.m.: “Streaming Media: From the Library and Beyond” by Samantha Harlow, Online Learning Librarian for UNCG University Libraries.

Sign up: [https://tinyurl.com/](https://tinyurl.com/)

(See Campus Weekly post on a related series.)

###

**Nominations are open for 2017-18 Staff Excellence Award**

The University Staff Excellence Award recognizes staff members who have demonstrated excellence in their contributions to the University this year.

The University Staff Excellence Award of $1,000 will be presented to up to two deserving permanent SHRA or EHRA Non-faculty employees who are in good standing and have been employed at UNCG for at least two years as of the nomination deadline. Staff, faculty, supervisors, administrators and/or students may make nominations for this award. Nominations should be based on one or more of the following criteria:

**Devotion to Duty**

The nominee has exhibited unselfish devotion to duty far and above the normal requirements and has contributed significantly to the advancement of service to the UNCG community and to the people of North Carolina.

**Innovation**

The nominee has successfully established new and outstanding work methods, practices and plans for his/her department that are consistent with the University Mission.

**Service**

The nominee has made outstanding contributions to the University through involvement on committees and/or representing the University in civic or professional organizations, etc.

**Human Relations**

The nominee has made outstanding contributions in the field of human relations or employee-management relations that foster a model working and and/or learning environment.

**Other Achievements**

The nominee has made outstanding contributions or service deserving recognition not described in the categories above. This could include, but is not limited to, acts that demonstrate safety and heroism or other examples beyond the call of duty.

Nomination form is [here](https://example.com/nomination).

Nomination deadline is Feb. 2, 2018.

###

**‘PRIDE! Of the Community: Documenting LGBTQ+ History in the Triad’**

UNCG University Libraries has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Common Heritage Grant to document the LGBTQ+ history in North Carolina’s Triad region. The grant will enable University Libraries to collaborate with Guilford Green Foundation to organize outreach opportunities for the LGBTQ+ community where participants can submit personal items for digitization and description, creating digital content chronicling the history of the population.

“PRIDE! Of the Community: Documenting LGBTQ+ History in the Triad” will be the first large-scale initiative to document the LGBTQ+
history. With more than 20 institutions of higher education in the area, there will be documents and artifacts relating to LGBTQ+ student groups, including representation from three HBCUs. Additionally, the archival materials will reflect political themes.

Programming will include both a historical lecture and a panel discussion given by members of the LGBTQ+ community. These events will be open to the public and will provide an educational opportunity for the Greensboro community to learn about and understand another aspect of the local history.

The grant will also cover the purchase of equipment to be used in the digitization lab at UNCG, scanners, computers, public programming and a student coordinator position. Digitized content will be placed into UNCG’s open-access digital collections repository and the Digital Public Library of America.

Upon completion of the project in Spring 2019, the equipment will be made available to community partners, such as local libraries, museums and community groups on a checkout basis for their own events.

By Hollie Stevenson-Parrish, University Libraries

See full release.

###

**Faculty Senate agenda**

The first Faculty Senate meeting of the spring semester will be held today (Wednesday), 3 p.m. in the Alumni Hoise.

Dr. Andrea Hunter, Faculty Senate Chair, and Provost Dana Dunn will provide remarks.

Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam Jr. will speak and have an “Ask the Chancellor” session.

Resolutions will be discussed. And at 4 p.m. Dr. Anna Marshall-Baker, Lead Delegate to the NC Faculty Assembly, will speak.

Upcoming events:

Faculty Forum: UNCG Narrative and Visual Identity, Wednesday, January 24, 2018 3-5 p.m., Alumni House,


###

**Mindful Mondays at Weatherspoon to continue in January 2018**

?Free ?Drop-In Meditation, every Monday, 12:30-1 p.m. resuming Jan. 8 - April 30 (with the exception of MLK Holiday, Jan. 15), Dillard Room, Weatherspoon Art Museum at UNCG.

Join us for weekly silent meditation at UNCG ?resuming Jan. 8? through? April 30. The 30-minute ?program is? voluntarily led by ?UNCG faculty and staff. All are welcome!?

Clinical research studies have documented various physical, cognitive and psychological benefits of meditation. Meditation practices promote health and well-being.

No experience ?or reservations ?necessary and no special postures or special clothing required. This program is free and open to the public.

Limited free parking ?during Mindful Mondays ?is available behind the museum at 500 Tate Street, Greensboro, NC 27403.

Questions: 336-334-5770 or weatherspoon@uncg.edu.

For more ways to learn about mindfulness in education, the 2018 Conference for Contemplative Practices for 21st Century Higher Education will take place at UNC, March 9-10.
Starfish News & Reminders for Jan. 2018

The Starfish technology is now available to all instructors, academic support staff, and students for the spring semester. Starfish is an early-alert system that allows UNCG to take a more holistic approach to student success. Starfish allows instructors, advisors, and other staff members to track student progress and remain in the loop about their shared students. Users can log into Starfish at STARFISH.UNCG.EDU.

Spring 2018 Updates, Reminders, & Training Opportunities:

- **NEW Log-In Method for Starfish:** UNCG users may now access Starfish by logging into STARFISH.UNCG.EDU with their usernames and passwords. This update improves Starfish screen readability and allows users to view Canvas and Starfish concurrently if desired.
- **Starfish Referrals:** Starfish offers instructors and academic support staff several referral options for directing students to helpful campus resources. Raising a referral will simultaneously alert the student to take action and notify the service provider of the referral.
- **Starfish Training for Faculty and Staff:** Starfish 101 workshops are available throughout the semester to help new users learn how to navigate Starfish features. Workshop details and sign-ups can be accessed at workshops.uncg.edu.

New to Starfish? Instructors and faculty use Starfish to:

- Raise alert flags for students with academic and personal concerns so that they can connect with the resources and people that may help them
- Give kudos to students who are performing well or showing improvement
- Issue referrals to connect students to campus resources that may help them
- Complete Academic Status Reports throughout the semester to flag many students at once. Instructors will receive email alerts on the following dates: January 30 & February 20
- Post office-hour availability and manage student meetings

Advisors & academic support staff use Starfish to:

- Stay in the loop on which advisees have been flagged for academic concerns and provide additional support
- Issue referrals to connect students to campus resources
- Post appointment availability and manage advising appointments
- Maintain appointment notes and outcomes
- Clear flags as concerns resolve

Students use Starfish to:

- Keep track of the feedback they get from their instructors
- Schedule appointments with their instructors and advisors who use Starfish for online scheduling
- Schedule an appointment with a Starfish Outreach Team member for help after being flagged

Instructors, staff, and students may refer to the Starfish website [https://studentsfirst.uncg.edu/starfish-overview](https://studentsfirst.uncg.edu/starfish-overview) for more information about Starfish. Technical support requests can be emailed to starfish@uncg.edu.

Nominations for Student Excellence Award

UNCG’s Lloyd International Honors College is now inviting nominations for the Student Excellence Award. These awards are given to seniors whose academic careers are outstanding both inside and outside the classroom. Each academic department and interdisciplinary program may nominate up to two students for the award. Nomination materials are located at http://honorscollege.uncg.edu/faculty/student-excellence-awards.htm

This is a wonderful opportunity for students to receive recognition for their exceptional accomplishments. The deadline for receiving
nominations is Friday, Feb. 2. Please direct questions to Lloyd International Honors College at 334-5538.

###

**Global Engagement: Spring 2018 faculty funding application deadlines**

For 2017-18, Global Engagement has up to $50,000 in Global Engagement Course Development Award funding available for faculty to create or revise courses incorporating the four Global Engagement SLOs. Awards range from $500 (revised course) to $1,000 (new course or series of courses). The Spring 2018 deadlines to apply are January 19 and March 16.

The goal? By supporting faculty as they incorporate more global themes into their courses, students will graduate from UNCG with the skills necessary to thrive in an increasingly global world.

Visit [globalqep.uncg.edu/faculty/grants.htm](http://globalqep.uncg.edu/faculty/grants.htm) for more details on available awards. Consultations for potential courses can be arranged; email uncgqep@uncg.edu.

###

**UNC System-Wide Undergraduate Research Development Summit**

Presentation proposals will be accepted Feb 1 – 26, 2018. Focus areas:

- Course-based Undergraduate Research Experiences (CUREs)
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Assessment

Please save the date for this exciting collaboration between UNCG and five other UNC schools (ECU, NC A&T State, NCSU, UNC CH, UNCP). (Major funding through UNC GA and UNCG’s Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creativity Office.)

All are welcome. However, space is limited and priority will be given to UNC System universities.

_copy provided by Joanne Murphy, Iglika Pavlova, and Lee Phillips (UNCG Host Committee)_

###

**2018 Peer Academic Leader Recruitment**

New Student Transitions and First Year Experience is looking for exceptional and driven student leaders to serve as Peer Academic Leaders for the 2018 cohort. Peer Academic Leaders or PALs, primarily serve first-year and transfer students as advocates, teaching assistants, and mentors for the Foundations for Learning (FFL) course. FFL is a first-year transition seminar course, which equips students with the necessary tools and resources to be successful in college. PALs have the distinct leadership opportunity to help students transition during their first year. A more comprehensive job description for the PAL position can be found [here](http://go.uncg.edu/pal18).

"We are currently accepting PAL applications at [http://go.uncg.edu/2018palapp](http://go.uncg.edu/2018palapp). We need your assistance to find UNCG’s best students to serve on the 2018 PAL cohort.

If you know of any students who you think would excel in this role, nominate them at [go.uncg.edu/palnomination18](http://go.uncg.edu/palnomination18)."
When you nominate a member, our staff will reach out to them about learning more and applying.

You can also share information about our upcoming interest sessions! These sessions are a great opportunity to hear from current PALs and learn more about what it’s like to assist first-year students during their transition.

Interest sessions will be taking place at the following times:

Wednesday, January 10th from 5:30 PM-6:30 PM in EUC Azlea

Thursday, January 18th from 5:30 PM-6:30 PM in EUC Azlea

The staff welcomes the opportunity to speak with students directly to discuss all of the benefits of being a PAL. If you’d like us to come visit to share this opportunity, please respond to this email with a date and time, so that a representative from our office can present to your students.

The application deadline is Wednesday, January 31, at 11:59 PM. For additional information, students can contact New Student Transitions and First Year Experience at 336.334.5231 or Shakinah Simeona-Lee at smsimeon@uncg.edu.

###

Collaborations to enjoy at downtown’s GPS

This Friday (Jan. 12) presents a great opportunity to enjoy UNCG Art’s Greensboro Project Space on Lewis Sreet. The GPS will have an interesting exhibition that is a collaboration between a School of Music MFA student and a School of Art MFA student: [http://www.greensboroprojectspace.com/projects/works-by-anna-wallace-lowell-fuchs](http://www.greensboroprojectspace.com/projects/works-by-anna-wallace-lowell-fuchs)

The performance starts at 6 p.m.

Later in the month, Associate Professor Miriam Stephen, Director of the MFA program, will have a solo exhibition. More information is at [http://www.greensboroprojectspace.com/projects/the-world-and-other-worlds](http://www.greensboroprojectspace.com/projects/the-world-and-other-worlds).

###

Dr. Matina Kalcounis-Rüppell

Dr. Matina Kalcounis-Rüppell (Biology) received new funding from the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission for the project "Acoustic Monitoring of Bats in North Carolina." Ten of the 17 bat species found in North Carolina are species of greatest conservation need. To monitor bat distributions and population trends in the mountains, the North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) implemented the North Carolina Bat Acoustic Monitoring Program (NCBAMP) in summer 2011. In 2015, the WRC in partnership with UNCG set up the North American Bat Monitoring Program (NABat) to expand the summer bat monitoring effort from the mountains to the entire state of North Carolina," the abstract states. “We will use data collected since 2015 to develop statistical models to describe statewide bat distributions and population trends. We will also analyze all NCBAMP data collected since 2011 and compare results from NCBAMP with results from NABat. Expected products include analyzed and archived NABat data (since 2015, except the 2018-2019 winter season), analyzed and archived NCBAMP data (2011-2018), and a research report that will summarize all distribution and population trend findings, and a comparison between NCBAMP and NABat that provides recommendations for continuing to run NABat into the future.”

###

George Hancock
George Hancock (SERVE Center) received new funding from Moore County Schools for the project “Moore County Schools Strategic Plan Development and Stakeholder Input Initiative.”

###

**Dr. Diane Ryndak**

Dr. Diane Ryndak (Specialized Education Services) received funding from University of Minnesota (Prime: U.S. Department of Education) for the project “The TIES Center: Increasing Time, Instructional Effectiveness, Engagement, and State Support for Inclusive Practices for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities.” This project is supported with funds from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP). “Federal requirements (e.g., ESSA, IDEA) clearly indicate all students, including students with significant cognitive disabilities (SWSCD), should have the opportunity to learn in the least restrictive environment to the maximum extent appropriate, and to learn the same standards-based content as their same-age peers. Yet, there is strong evidence that this often does not occur,” the abstract states. “The improvement in the quality of instruction in inclusive environments is a critical driver to successfully increase the quantity of time and the amount of educational engagement of SWSCD experience in inclusive classrooms. Successful inclusion in content as well as space creates a shared bond of common experiences and learning that results in natural peer acceptance in activities outside the classroom, in extracurricular activities and daily playground, lunchroom, and other common spaces. For this to occur, special education and general education teachers – and the school leaders and policymakers who support them - need to have the capacity to successfully instruct this population; they also need high-quality curriculum and instructional resources that can be used in inclusive settings.

The primary outcomes of Project TIES are to: 1) To improve the quality of instruction for SWSCD in inclusive environments through the use of existing curriculum and instructional materials (content; context; instruction; communicative competence); 2) To provide models and coaching to both general education and special education teachers to create more inclusive opportunities (professional development; technical assistance); 3) To support changes to inclusive practices and policies within partner state and local education agencies (sustainable systemic change).

###

**Dr. Jennifer Coffman**

Dr. Jennifer Coffman (Human Development and Family Studies) received new funding from the DOED Institute of Education Sciences for the project “Student Learning as a Function of Exposure to Teachers’ Use of Cognitive Processing Language During Instruction.”

“Given the importance of basic memory skills for success in school, it is essential that we understand the development of a range of component skills that (1) affect the acquisition of knowledge and strategy use and (2) emerge in the context of the classroom, (3) are transformed over time into the study skills that are needed for progress in school, and (4) are related to measures of academic achievement,” the abstract states. “To examine the developmental course of these skills and the factors that affect their development, we have carried out both longitudinal and experimental research on the key role of teachers’ Cognitive Processing Language (CPL). This language is rich in references to metacognition, cognitive processes, and requests for remembering, and is important for the development of memory strategies and later study skills. In this study, we will establish two cohorts of 100 children in North Carolina and track them longitudinally from Kindergarten through the beginning of Grade 2.”

###

**Dr. Olav Rueppell**
Dr. Olav Rueppell (Biology) received a continuation of funding from the Dept. of Defense DA Army Research Office for the project "Studies of the Plasticity of Stress Defense Induction in the Social Honey Bee Model."

###

**Shawn O'Neil**

Shawn O'Neil (Tutoring and Academic Skills Program) has been recently appointed the Coordinator for the College Reading and Learning Association's International Tutor Training Certification Review Board.

In this three-year term, O'Neil will maintain certification standards for the College Reading and Learning Association's ITTPC program, and manage a team of reviewers responsible for approving certification applications for 1,300+ tutoring programs across the United States and 6 other countries. As part of his responsibilities, he will also instruct a Summer Institute in St. Louis on developing effective and pedagogically sound tutor training programs.

O’Neil is assistant director for academic skills for the Tutoring and Academic Skills Program.

###

**Duane Cyrus teaches not only dance technique and choreography, but also career strategies**

Associate Professor Duane Cyrus has had the career that all aspiring professional dancers dream about.

He’s toured internationally with renowned modern dance companies like the Martha Graham Dance Company. He’s performed in musicals, including the original London production of Lion King. And he’s worked as an independent artist, performing, teaching and making his own work.

When asked about his success, Cyrus credits his entrepreneurial spirit – something he helps develop in his students.

Cyrus firmly believes that the arts can – and should – translate into successful, professional careers.

“I’ve always believed that there is no such thing as a ‘starving artist.’ That’s a myth, there’s no need for it,” he said. “A smart professional has a strong business acumen.”

In addition to the courses he teaches on dance technique and choreography, Cyrus teaches a career strategies course open to all students in UNCG’s College of Visual and Performing Arts.
“Students need to know how to launch a career, regardless of the discipline,” he said. “The class is about more than just teaching how to start a company – not everybody is going to do that. But everyone needs that kind of mindset and planning.”

Cyrus’ goal is to prepare well-rounded students in dance technique, choreography, dance education and professional practice. To do this, he often includes students in his own research and creative activity.

Cyrus worked with eight undergraduates, in addition to several recent graduates, on his research-based dance production “Hero Complexities” (formerly titled “Comanche: Hero Complexities”). The work, which premiered in September at UNCG Auditorium, explores themes of rescue, self-sacrifice and heroism when black male bodies are positioned in contemporary spaces.

The group will bring “Hero Complexities” back to the stage at the Collegium for African Diasporic Dance at Duke University and at UNCG’s Conference on African American and African Diasporic Cultures and Experience (CASE). Both events will take place in February.

In addition to his ongoing work with “Hero Complexities,” Cyrus is planning to revamp his 2010 piece “Middle Passage” in an effort to contribute to the discussion of the Atlantic slave trade in new ways. As part of the project, he is teaming up with Dr. Tara Green in the Department of African American and African Diaspora Studies and Dr. Colleen Kriger in the Department of History.

See full story at UNCG Now.

By Alyssa Bedrosian

###

Nursing is No. 11 online program in nation, says US News & World Report

The UNCG School of Nursing was awarded a $699,700 grant from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). The grant will prepare students in UNCG’s graduate nurse practitioner program to help rural residents gain access to specialized medical care.

Also, the UNCG School of Nursing was ranked #11 among the best online programs offering master’s degrees in Nursing, tied with Michigan State and the University of Cincinnati. The only program in the state ranked higher is Duke University (#9); ECU is ranked #34 and UNC Charlotte is #64.

“A great way to start the new year,” said School of Nursing Dean Dr. Robin Remsburg. “The DHHS/HRSA grant is critical to our work with medically underserved populations in North Carolina, where 80 out of 100 counties are rural. Having more highly trained nurse practitioners available in rural areas changes the culture of health.”

Remsburg noted that “the recognition from US News & World Report speaks to our student-centered approach; with curriculum adjustments that make the program more attractive and relevant to student needs, we’re seeing a dramatic rise in applications. Our faculty credentialing and training continues to accelerate, and we can offer students cutting-edge technology such as the nation’s first SimMom robot for birth simulation training.”

North Carolina has eight universities that offer nationally accredited graduate nurse practitioner programs, but only three – including UNCG – prepare NPs to specialize in adult gerontology primary care. The degree, a Post-BSN Adult/Gerontological Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Doctor of Nursing Practice (AGNP DNP), will help students address the needs of an aging population.

The project has designated three academic-practice partnerships: Novant Health systems, Davidson Medical Ministries Clinic and Cone Health Community Health & Wellness Center.

For the 2018 edition of the Best Online Graduate Nursing Programs rankings, US News & World Report ranked schools in five categories: student engagement; faculty credentials and training; peer reputation; admissions selectivity and student services and technology.

By Eden Bloss

###

Looking Ahead: Jan. 10, 2018
Faculty Senate meeting  
Wednesday, Jan. 10, 3 p.m., Alumni House  

Staff Senate meeting  
Thursday, Jan. 11, 10 a.m., Alumni House  

Women’s Basketball vs. Wofford  
Thursday, Jan. 11, 7 p.m., Fleming Gym  

Opera: Rossini’s ‘The Barber of Seville’  
Friday, Jan. 12, 7:30 p.m., UNCG Auditorium  

MLK Holiday. Classes dismissed; offices closed.  
Monday, Jan. 15  

MLK Celebration  
Wednesday, Jan. 17, Harrison Auditorium, NC A&T State  

###

**See/hear: Jan. 10, 2018**  

Duane Cyrus, associate professor of Dance, answers a few questions in this short clip geared to prospective and current students. Video is by Grant Gilliard.  

###