Welcome Reception Friday for Vice Chancellor Cathy Akens

The campus community is invited to a welcome reception for Dr. Cathy Akens, vice chancellor for student affairs. Light dessert will be served.

The reception will be held Friday, February 16, 2018 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Dail Room of the Elliott University Center.

###

Chase Holleman gets state award for impact on opioid recovery public policy

This week, Chase Holleman begins a new initiative. He will knock on doors and alter the course of lives. Joined by a sheriff, he will personally reach out to those in our county who recently overdosed on opioids, to see what can be done to help them.

The UNCG staff member was selected by the National Association of Social Workers North Carolina Chapter’s (NASW-NC) Legislative Committee as the 2018 Myrna Miller Wellons Advocate of the Year Award recipient. Holleman will receive the award in March.

The award is given annually to someone who has demonstrated a strong passion to advocate for the needs of the social work profession and has been a champion in impacting public policy both for the social work profession and clients served by social workers.

He is the Rapid Response Team Navigator for Guilford County, in the UNCG Center for Housing and Community Studies, which created the pilot program. The center, led by Dr. Stephen Sills, is located in the MHRA Building.

Holleman’s passion comes from his own life experience.

A one-time student at UNCW, he flunked out. But people did not give up on him, he explains. He went into substance abuse recovery in Greensboro. “I haven’t had to use drugs or alcohol since May 2013,” he adds.

He enrolled at UNCG, where social work instructor Jack Register inspired him to be a Social Work major. He earned his degree in 2016.
graduate, summa cum laude. He furthered his education by earning a master’s in Social Work in 2017 from UNC Chapel Hill.

While in graduate school, he continued to live in Greensboro and was hired in High Point at Caring Services to distribute Naloxone, which serves to revive a person from an overdose. He came to see the importance of rapid-response teams.

His passion has helped improve the lives of many in his community through his work and personal advocacy.

Holleman believes in impacting issues at the state and national level. He has been a leader in his community since his undergraduate career where he was a founding member of both the Spartan Recovery Program and the UNCG Student Recovery Alliance. He later founded the Guilford County Naloxone Task Force in December 2016; in addition to its educational mission, it distributed naloxone kits in the local community. He has also been active with the North Carolina Harm Reduction Coalition leading the High Point Syringe Exchange. Also, Holleman has been active in the Alzheimer’s Association for a number of years as a participate in the Ambassador Program and has met with state and congressional leaders about the impact of Alzheimer’s on communities, families and caregivers.

As the Rapid Response Team Navigator for Guilford County in the Sills-led center, he and an off-duty sheriff intend to visit anyone who overdosed from opioids the week before. They’ll see what can be done to help the individual - ranging from needle exchanges to arrangements for a detox program, from overdose prevention education to motivational interviewing and peer support. The intent is to promote a recovery oriented system of care, he explains.

“They have low resilience. We help give them a safety net,” he says.

He knows. Years ago, he was a heroin user, he explains. Several times, he had to be revived. “With the help of others, I was able to change my life around. I want others to have that opportunity.”

He’s doing the hands-on work of helping others. And he’s a tenacious advocate, looking to improve state policies to address the opioid epidemic, whether speaking with the Governor or Attorney General, state legislators, law enforcement, first responders, educators or everyday people.

“I’m very vocal about my own recovery.” And the great need for the many currently battling opioid addiction in our state.

His mother, a social worker who recently died from Alzheimer’s, inspired him to meet people where they are. “She always met me where I was. That’s a common expression among social workers.”

That’s what he intends to keep doing.

Holleman was previously honored with the NASW-NC Toby Brown Award for Bachelor of Social Work students in 2016. Last year, he received the Community Gamechanger Award from the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro. Attorney General Josh Stein recognized Chase with the North Carolina Dogwood Award in November.

*By Mike Harris, with some text from news release

*Photography of Holleman by Martin W. Kane

###

**Leadership and engagement series kicks off this week**

Affecting positive change in today’s global landscape is a challenge UNCG’s Office of Leadership and Service-Learning takes head on.
This week, Dr. Nicholas V. Longo headlines OLSL’s 2018 Spring Engagement series, part of OLSL’s initiative to propel UNCG’s momentum as a community-engaged university.

Longo is chair of public and community service studies and professor of global studies at Providence College in Rhode Island.

The series begins Thursday morning, Feb. 15, with workshops for students, faculty, staff and community members through Friday, Feb. 16. Speakers facilitate discussions on key aspects of engagement, including capacity development for engaged teaching, learning, research and creative activity; expansion of policies, structures and paradigms to support engagement; and alignment of institutional and community priorities through engagement.

Longo served as the director of the Harry T. Wilks Leadership Institute, an endowed civic leadership center at Miami University in Ohio. He also served as a program officer at the Charles F. Kettering Foundation in the area of civic education and directed Campus Compact’s national youth civic engagement initiative, Raise Your Voice. He is author of a number of books, articles, and reports on issues of youth civic education, community-based leadership, global citizenship and service-learning.

Along with OLSL, sponsors of the series include Institute for Community and Economic Engagement, International Programs, Office of Intercultural Engagement and the Lloyd International Honors College.

**Thursday, Feb. 15**

**Next Generation Engagement**
Staff and Faculty Workshop
8 - 10 a.m. | Plenary Breakfast in EUC MAPLE
Participants will discuss the future of engagement, exploring the landscape of public engagement strategies across higher education, and more specifically how UNCG can continue to be a leader in these efforts.

**Global Education through Local Engagement**
Faculty and Student Workshop
12:15 - 1:45 p.m. | Luncheon workshop in EUC MAPLE
This interactive workshop will examine the connections between local and international engagement towards educating global citizens.

**Leadership Thick vs. Leadership Thin**
Student Workshop
5 - 7 p.m. | Pizza Dinner in EUC DAIL
This student workshop will focus on how we might re-imagine leadership as something that shifts from command and control, towards community and relationships. The session will include conversations and skill-building activities to explore how leadership can be something we can all do, together.

**Friday, Feb. 16**

**Teaching Leadership through Civic Engagement**
Student Affairs Professionals
8:30 - 10 a.m. | Breakfast workshop in the Faculty Center
This breakfast conversation will engage practitioners in a conversation about the role of supporting and mentoring students to be active and engaged citizens, as well as successful students and future professionals.

**Community-Engaged Narrative Methodologies**
Staff and Faculty 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. | Luncheon in EUC Alexander
Join Dr. Nick Longo and UNCG representatives, including Dr. Bob Strack (PHE), for a lunch discussion about photovoice and other qualitative narrative methodologies. This session is useful for faculty and students who practice or study community-engaged research and teaching. The panel will share experiences and resources (e.g., photovoice toolkit) and engage the group in conversation about integrating community-engaged narrative methodologies in their work.


Questions? Email Emily M. Janke, Ph.D. at emjanke@uncg.edu.

*By Elizabeth L. Harrison*

*Photo courtesy of Dr. Nicholas V. Longo.*

###
Correction: Reservations needed for Three College Observatory shows

The UNCG Planetarium and the Three College Observatory offer winter and spring dates for viewings. Reservations are needed for shows at both locations - and both are fully booked for the next several months. The web page for reservations info for the Three College Observatory is [https://physics.uncg.edu/tco/public-nights/public-nights-at-the-three-college-observatory/](https://physics.uncg.edu/tco/public-nights/public-nights-at-the-three-college-observatory/). The web page for reservations for the UNCG Planetarium is [https://physics.uncg.edu/planetarium/upcoming-events/](https://physics.uncg.edu/planetarium/upcoming-events/).

Steps Towards Successful Submissions of Grant Proposals

Receive general guidance on preparing a competitive grant proposal based on sponsor guidelines, Feb. 27, 2018, 10-11:30 a.m., 2711 MHRA Building

Are you new to applying for external funding for your research/scholarly activities? Do you need a refresher session on applying for external funding? Come to the OSP workshop that will provide you with general guidance on preparing a competitive grant proposal based on sponsor guidelines. To register go to [https://workshops.uncg.edu/](https://workshops.uncg.edu/) and click on "Office of Sponsored Programs."

Alumna poetry reading Feb. 21

Lauren Moseley MFA ’08 will give a poetry reading Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 7 p.m. in the UNCG Faculty Center. Moseley is the author of “Big Windows,” recently published by Carnegie Mellon University Press and named one of “12 Most Anticipated Poetry Collections Hitting Bookstores in 2018” by Bustle. Moseley’s poems have appeared in the anthologies ‘Best New Poets’ and ‘Women Write Resistance;’ and in such magazines as FIELD, Narrative, Copper Nickel, West Branch Wired and Pleiades.

Techniques and activities to globalize your classroom

The workshop Teach “WISE-ly”: Classroom Activities From the 2018 Workshop on Intercultural Skills Enhancement will be held Friday, February 23, 2018, Noon-2 p.m. in the Faculty Center.

Would you like to learn about some new pedagogical techniques and activities to globalize your classroom? Come participate with creative intercultural learning tools such as photovoice, experiential group activities, digital storytelling, and reflective writing. UNCG Global Engagement Faculty Fellow Dr. Jody Natalie and other faculty who attended the 2018 WISE Conference will lead the workshop. They want to share them with anyone interested in making their classroom more globally engaged.

Who Should Attend: All faculty and university teaching staff at UNCG who have an interest in global engagement.

Boxed Lunch Provided. (Networking lunch starts at noon; workshop begins at 12:30 p.m. - participants who come at 12:30 are welcome to request a lunch)

*Sign-up is limited to 25 seats*

Training coordinator at Center for New North Carolinians will speak

The first International & Global Studies Program “Global Spotlight” of the spring semester will be Monday, February 19, at 5 p.m. in the Faculty Center.

Cynthia Mejia, the Training Coordinator at the Center for New North Carolinians, will talk about the refugee screening process and the work of the various actors involved including CNNC. All are welcome to attend.

The series is sponsored by IGS and the University Libraries. Light refreshments will be provided. For disability accommodations, contact Yvonne Matlosz at ylmatlos@uncg.edu.

###

University Libraries’ Undergraduate Research Award

University Libraries wants to recognize students' research skills. They are soliciting submissions for our Undergraduate Research Award, which is given in recognition of an outstanding original paper or project in any media. Successful submissions will demonstrate the ability to locate, select and synthesize information from scholarly resources. The winning entry will receive a $500 cash prize funded by University Libraries.

Students may be nominated by a UNCG teaching faculty member or submit his/her own project along with a letter from the supporting faculty member. Submissions are open to all undergraduate students. Papers or projects completed by an undergraduate student in the Spring, Summer or Fall semesters of 2017 are eligible. To participate, applicants must be currently enrolled in the Spring 2018 semester at UNCG.

If your student completed an eligible research assignment in 2017, nominate them for this award. Applications are due on March 23, 2018.

Visit http://library.uncg.edu/ura for more information and application materials.

###

Blood pressure checks for employees

HealthyUNCG staff are doing free blood pressure checks this month in two locations across campus.

Thursday, February 22nd, at 10:15 am to 11:15 m in the Campus Supply training room

Wednesday, February 28th, at 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm in the Ragsdale Mendenhall Lobby

###

‘Documenting Slavery and Freedom’ noon-time discussion

Next Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 12 noon, the Weatherspoon Art Museum will host ‘Noon-Time Talk: Documenting Slavery and Freedom’ with UNC Greensboro’s digital technology consultant Richard Cox and Guilford College archivist and librarian Gwen Gosney Erickson. Cox and Erickson will display material from their respective archives related to the subjects of slavery and freedom.
From UNCG’s side, the material is from the Digital Library on American Slavery, an extensive collection of documents focused on race and slavery in the American South. It’s the largest single index to slave-related public documents from the pre-Civil war era from the Southern states, and includes legislative and county court petitions, runaway slave ads, insurance registries, deeds and trade voyages. It is also the largest collection of names of African Americans from that period.

The DLAS collections, which began in 1991 through the work of professor emeritus Loren Schweninger, are not only valuable to the UNCG community, but to scholars and writers worldwide. Colson Whitehead, who recently visited UNCG, mentioned the DLAS in his acknowledgments of his Pulitzer Prize and National Book Award-winning novel, “The Underground Railroad.”

Although the current focus of DLAS is on sources associated with North Carolina, there is considerable data contained relating to all 15 slave states and Washington, D.C., including detailed personal information about slaves, slaveholders and free people of color.

From the special collections unit of Guilford College, Erickson will display and discuss anti-slavery related Quaker documents and letters, and reflect on Guilford College as part of the National Underground Railroad Network to Freedom.

The Noon-Time Talk is held in conjunction with the Sanford Biggers exhibition on view at the Weatherspoon through April 8.

University Libraries is hosting two other archival exhibits this spring:

- The Neo-Black Society exhibition is currently on view in Hodges Reading Room, and will be up through mid-March, as part of the 125th anniversary celebration, and honoring the Neo-Black Society’s 50th anniversary. The exhibit features information on the founding of the Neo-Black Society as well as the organization’s subgroups and special events.
- In mid-March in the Hodges Reading Room, there will be a new exhibit on student activism, highlighting key student activism work throughout the 125 years of the university.

**By Susan Kirby-Smith**

*Photograph of DLAS display by Susan Kirby-Smith*

###

**Celebrate healthy relationships this week**

Building healthy relationships isn’t rocket science, says Dr. Christine Murray, director of the Healthy Relationships Initiative. A partnership between the Phillips Foundation and UNCG, HRI celebrates its second-annual Healthy Relationships Week Feb. 10-17.

Murray encourages faculty, staff and students to take the week and connect with the important people in your life, learn ways to build and maintain healthy relationships, and celebrate the importance of healthy relationships in our lives and community.

Healthy relationships are within reach for virtually everyone, and they don’t require any specific equipment, extensive training or a lot of money.

“In fact, the basic ingredients for a healthy relationship are relatively simple concepts that most people learn by the time they enter kindergarten,” Murray said. “Healthy relationships rely on basic tools like listening, sharing and practicing kindness and forgiveness.”

And yet, although the basic building blocks of relationships are relatively simple, relationships are often one of the most complex areas of people’s lives. Modern society adds to the complexity of human relationships, in large part due to how busy everyone is and how much technology has taken over many aspects of our lives. In addition, many people lack role models of healthy relationships, especially if they
experienced challenging relationships in their family-of-origin.

If you’re interested in increasing the health of the relationships in your life, there are a few simple steps you can take. Although there are some differences in the ingredients that make for healthy relationships of different kinds – such as a romantic relationship, parenting relationships, friendships, workplace relationships, and neighbors – there are common elements that underlie all kinds of relationships. The tips below offer some steps you can take to begin working toward healthier relationships in all areas of your life.

Tips for Building Healthy Relationships

1. Be intentional: Commit the time, energy, and attention needed to make your relationships the best they can be.
2. Listen actively.
3. Understand each other’s communication styles
4. Avoid hurtful language.
5. Be willing to compromise
6. Show concern and respect for your partner’s feelings
7. Validate your partner’s feelings
8. Develop your communication and conflict management skills.
9. Reduce barriers to healthy relationships in your life: Untreated mental health or substance disorders, too much time on technology, poor work/life balance
10. Focus on what is in your power to change: Be the healthiest, best version of yourself.

Building healthy relationships takes time, effort, and a commitment to caring for the important people in your life. A few simple steps can lead to major improvements to your relationships. Learn more about the Healthy Relationships Initiative at www.guilfordhri.org.

By Christine Murray, director of the Healthy Relationships Initiative, and Elizabeth L. Harrison, University Communications

###

Dr. Laurie Gold

Dr. Laurie Gold (Kinesiology) received additional funding of $637,639 from the National Institutes of Health for the project "Pathways from Childhood Self-Regulation to Cardiovascular Risk in Adolescence."

"Cardiovascular risk factors (CVR)—including obesity, elevated lipids, altered glucose metabolism, hypertension, and elevated low-grade inflammation—are detectable, common and increasing during adolescence. However, the developmental origins of adolescent CVR and its increases are poorly understood. Research on adults suggests that CVR is concentrated among those who had poor self-regulation in childhood, including difficulties in regulating their behaviors (e.g., impulsivity), emotions (e.g., negative emotion) and/or physiology (e.g., heart rate variability) during situations of challenge.” Her team will test, among other things, whether trajectories of self-regulation extending from ages to 2 to 10 predict trajectories of CVR during adolescence (ages 16, 17, 18).

###

Dr. Lisa Goble named director for Office of Research Integrity
On Jan. 1, Dr. Lisa Goble was named director of the UNCG Office of Research Integrity (ORI).

Goble, who became interim director on April 1, 2017, is responsible for managing research compliance programs for research policy matters across campus as well as compliance with state and federal regulations, academic best practices and federal compliance program standards for research activities.

The ORI works with regulations on human subject research, animal subject research, the use of biologicals on campus, conflicts of interest, and export control. The ORI also provides training on responsible conduct of research.

In her prior role at UNCG, Goble was instrumental in developing intellectual property policy and building infrastructure to support a nascent technology transfer office, commercializing academic innovations spanning the IP spectrum from creative IP to science-based inventions. She has a broad interest in federal research policy and how the policies can intersect and influence the activities of research institutions.

Dr. Goble is a proud UNCG alumna. She is a summa cum laude graduate from the Bryan UNCG School of Business and Economics, with a B.S. in information systems and supply chain management and a minor in economics. She also has a Ph.D. in public policy from UNC Chapel Hill, which she obtained while directing the technology transfer office at UNCG.

See full post at UNCG Research site.

###

**Dr. Nadja Cech**

Dr. Nadja Cech (Chemistry and Biochemistry) received a continuation of funding from the National Institutes of Health for the project “Predoctoral Training: Innovative Technologies for Natural Products and CAM Research.”

The Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, in collaboration with investigators in Biology and Nutrition, is working on a multi-disciplinary research proposal to the National Institutes of Health (National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine) to support predoctoral research training in the biological sciences. Funds from this proposal would support stipends, benefits and 60 percent of tuition for five predoctoral students pursuing PhD degrees at UNCG. The duration of the award is five years (renewable indefinitely depending on performance). If funded, this would be the first T32 award for UNCG.

###

**Dr. Omar Ali**
Dr. Omar Ali spoke at the United Nations on Feb. 8 on the global African Diaspora as part of “The Decade of People of African Descent.” Opening remarks were offered by the Ambassador of Brazil. You may view the forum at U.N. web tv here. See the 17:40 mark in the clip, then 38:00 and 49:20.

Ali is dean of UNCG’s Lloyd International Honors College and professor of Global and Comparative African Diaspora History.

###

**Duo speak on disability rights**

Rud and Ann Turnbull, attorneys and parents of a child with a disability, will give a free seminar Wednesday, Feb. 21 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in the Virginia Dare Room at the Alumni House.

The Turnbulls are professors in the University of Kansas’ Department of Special Education and are known across the United States for their work on disability rights.

[Register here.](#)

###

**Effective online instruction’ presentation March 2**

The 17th Language Learning Series, with a focus on effective online instruction, will be held Friday, March 2, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. in MHRA Building 1214. Course design, instructor role, and student role will be discussed, with the goal of developing strategies to improve student engagement and increase teacher presence in online classes. The lead presenter will be Dr. Marsha Carr, Department Chair of the Educational Leadership department at UNCG. If interested, please email [megarcia@uncg.edu](mailto:megarcia@uncg.edu).

###

**Employee Benefit?s? Reminders for 2018**

*UNCG Human Relations has an update with timely benefits news and information:*

**NCFlex Benefits Changes**

Any benefit elections you made during annual enrollment for NCFlex programs went into effect January 1, 2018. Remember to review your
January paystub in UNCGenie to ensure that the programs you elected are reflected accurately. If you notice any issues, please notify the Benefits Staff as soon as possible.

State Health Plan Open Enrollment

Any benefit election you made during Open Enrollment for the State Health Plan went into effect on January 1, 2018. Remember to review your December paystub in UNCGenie to ensure that the plan you elected is reflected. Deductions for health care are withheld one month in advance (December deductions pay for January coverage).

New VISION Vendor

Beginning January 1, 2018, EyeMed Vision Care is our new vision plan administrator. If you are enrolled in vision coverage and have questions about your coverage or need to find the nearest eye doctor, visit www.ncflex.org or call EyeMed at 1-866-248-1939.

Retirement Plan Limits for 2018

- The limit on contributions to a 403(b)/401(k) plan for 2018 is $18,500, which is a combined limit. If you are over the age of 50 or will turn 50 by December 31, 2018, you are eligible for an additional $6,000 catch-up contribution.
- The limit on contributions to a 457(b) plan for 2018 is also $18,500. If you are over the age of 50 or will turn 50 by December 31, 2018, you are eligible for an additional $6,000 catch-up contribution.

Form 1095-C

Under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) you are required to indicate at the time you complete your tax return whether you have qualifying medical coverage. You will receive a Form 1095-C that includes information about the health coverage offered to you by the University. The form will be mailed to your home address by February 12th. There is not a requirement to attach or file your Form 1095-C with your 2017 Federal income tax return; however, you may need to use its information when you complete your tax return.

Questions?

If you have questions or need assistance with benefits issues, please contact Stephen Hale, Benefits Consultant, at sahale3@uncg.edu or (336) 334-4514.

First non-profit surplus sale Feb. 16

UNCG Facilities’ first non-profit surplus sale, aimed at local non-profits, begins at 9 a.m. and closes at 1 p.m. Feb. 16 at 2900 Oakland Ave. The sale is cash-only. Ross Rick, assistant director for facilities services, said they are hoping for large participation from local nonprofits.

“We hope this will shed a positive stewardship image on UNCG,” Rick said.

Questions? Email r_rick@uncg.edu.

German Day 2018

On Wednesday, March 14, 2018, the UNCG German Program, with support of the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures and the Kohler Fund, hosts the 18th annual North Carolina German Day 2018! This year’s German Day theme is “Lass uns reden – Let’s talk!” inspired by the album of Einschoch6, a German hip hop band whose first US tour included a stop in Raleigh, NC last fall. As always, students participating in skit performances, poster design, and the T-shirt contest must incorporate the theme into their work. The motto will also be part of an extemporaneous speaking prompt. The German Program expects to welcome over 500 high school students from more than 20 high schools across North Carolina together with their German teachers on campus. In addition to the competitions students will participate in a treasure hunt in order to explore the campus. So, on March 18, feel free to practice your German with our guests. For more information, please contact Dr. Rinner at s_rinner@uncg.edu.
Hot Topics Conference March 9

The Division of Student Affairs invites campus partners to attend the annual Hot Topics in Higher Ed Conference on Friday, March 9, 2018.

The Hot Topics Conference is open to anyone interested in learning more about equity, diversity, and inclusion. Hot Topics is an opportunity to network, share knowledge and resources, and get inspired. This conference is intended to engage participants in conversations in order to better understand ourselves and each other. The goal of this professional development opportunity is to encourage the evolution of knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to establish learning environments that are enriched with diverse views and people.

The conference keynote speaker will be UNCG Alumna Dr. Judy "JJ" Jackson, currently the Diversity and Inclusion Officer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). Prior to joining MIT, Dr. Jackson held high-level positions at several notable institutions.

To learn more about this conference, the keynote speaker, registration details and cost, visit: bit.ly/hottopics2018

Spartan Recovery Program update

The Spartan Recovery Program is a UNCG initiative that empowers students in all phases of recovery to succeed in academic and personal goals. The organization is committed to changing people’s lives for the better, which is in evidence in the resounding success of the program last semester. During Fall 2017, the 36 active SRP members had an average GPA of 3.47, with 14 students earning a 4.0. SRP members also boast a 100 percent retention from the previous semester.

This semester, SRP has welcomed 16 new members, bringing their active membership to 49. Moving forward, SRP will continue its commitment the creation of a community of empowerment, purpose, and inclusion, where UNCG students in all stages of recovery are able to flourish and achieve their goals. The SRP makes tangible changes in student wellness, and the overall health of the UNCG community.

Visit the SRP website at https://shs.uncg.edu/srp. For more information, contact Terri Spears at 336-334-4559 or t_spears@uncg.edu.

Two workshops by UNCG Office of Research Integrity

UNC System Hispanic / Latino Forum on Friday

The 5th annual UNC System Hispanic Latino Forum will be held this Friday (Feb. 16) from 9-4 p.m., in Virginia Dare Room, Alumni House. The forum, first held at NC State in 2012, will be held at UNCG for the first time.

This meeting, which rotates around the UNC System, is an opportunity for Hispanic faculty, administrators, and staff to come together to discuss the needs of Latino students, faculty and staff, and how they can work together on common problems and solutions. Prior meetings have focused on issues important to the Latino community such as professional advancement, campus initiatives, and leadership roles of Hispanic/Latino professionals in the UNC System.

Sessions this Friday will include best practices for Latino student success; DACA and immigration; networking, and more.

“To me, what is so impressive about this meeting are the shared principles among people across the campuses to create opportunities for Latino students to succeed,” said Dr. Julia Mendez Smith, Professor of Psychology and Chancellor’s Fellow for Campus Climate. “And we come together as professionals to network, share our ideas, and also support one another in our work.”

Event co-sponsors are ALIANZA, Office of the Chancellor, Graduate School, Office of Research and Engagement, Office of Intercultural
Engagement and Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures. Registration information is here. For more information, contact Estela Ratliff at eyratlif@uncg.edu or Julia Mendez Smith at jlmendez@uncg.edu.

###

**Voice, Activism, and Democracy symposium on Feb. 27**

UNCG Communication Studies and OLSL will sponsor a Voice, Activism, and Democracy symposium on Feb. 27.

Eleven speakers are confirmed, including government officials, community activists, and UNCG faculty and students.

Last year, UNCG hosted a Harriet Elliot Lecture Series of the same title. This year, organizers added local government leaders and community organizers to the mix to introduce students to how the city is organized and ways to get involved. Organizers expect to draw 40-80 folks to each panel.

Government officials will talk about the priorities of the city, how the city is organized (council role, city manager role, citizen roles), and how young people can prepare to participate in city programs as volunteers, citizens, and maybe even as future employees or elected officials one day.

Community organizers will talk about their organizations, how people have been involved, why young people might be interested in participating with them, and the goals of the community actions.

Select students and faculty will share how they put their academic training to use for the benefit of the community.

The symposium grows out of the recognition that for many students, learning the language and processes of how a community thrives requires more than classroom instruction, Jovanovic notes.

For more information, cottl.uncg.edu/news-events/democracy.

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