Dr. Shan Suthaharan

Dr. Shan Suthaharan (Computer Science) has been named a Distinguished Speaker of the ACM (Association for Computer Machinery). ACM stated in its award letter that "ACM’s Distinguished Speaker Program (DSP) is a highly visible way that ACM, through the appointment of leading researchers, engages with emerging professionals, students and, in some cases, the public on a range of topics in computing."

Suthaharan's research in data science, big data, and machine learning, and his recent book entitled "Machine Learning Models and Algorithms for Big Data Classification: Thinking with Examples for Effective Learning" - published by Springer - made significant contributions to the emerging interdisciplinary field of data science. His course - CSC 510 - Big Data and Machine Learning - at UNCG has been listed as a full semester course with the courses from Stanford, Purdue, MIT, and UC-Berkeley at http://www.soilhub.org/resources/learning-hub-main/. He is currently writing another book on data science - a highly suitable textbook for emerging data analysts and data scientists. Dr. Suthaharan's ACM's Distinguished Speaker profile can be found at: https://speakers.acm.org/speakers/suthaharan_9163.

###

Dr. Alwin Wagener

Dr. Alwin Wagener (Counseling and Educational Development) received new funding from the DreamScience Foundation for the project "A New Lens on Dreams and Nightmares: Differences in Dreams and Nightmares in Relation to Posttraumatic Stress Disorder and Insomnia among Survivors of Intimate Partner Violence."

The objective of this study is to understand whether the occurrence of repeating nightmares, non-repeating nightmares, and dreams among survivors of intimate partner violence is consistent with a view that these types of dream experiences are differentially related to PTSD and Insomnia as suggested by the AMPHAC/AND Neurocognitive Model and the Contemporary Theory of Dreaming.

###

Dr. Erick Byrd

Dr. Erick Byrd (Marketing, Entrepreneurship, Hospitality and Tourism) received new funding from the High Point Convention and Visitors Bureau for the project "High Point Furniture Attendance Shopping Tracker."

High Point, NC, is home to more than 50 furniture stores and outlets that are open to the public, the abstract notes. With High Point’s reputation as a home furnishings mecca (with stores, manufactures, designers and High Point Market) visitors from around the world visit the area to shop. Therefore, furniture shoppers are an important market for retail as well as the areas tourism and hospitality industries.

As an important market segment to High Point, there is a need to accurately track the volume of shoppers that visit the High Point area for planning and marketing purposes. While individual stores may track shoppers for their store, there needs to be a measure of the total traffic for planning, development, and marketing purposes. The proposed research study and tool will help in capturing these numbers, as well as,
develop a profile of the visitors that come to the High Point area.

###

**Dr. Jay Poole**

Dr. Jay Poole (Social Work) received new funding from Cone Health Foundation for the project "College Park Clinic." The College Park Clinic will provide harm reduction services to those who are using opiates and will include screening, assessment, brief intervention, referral, syringe exchange, and education. These services represent a community-based collaborative effort between GCSTOP, The Congregational Nursing Program, and The Congregational Social Work Education Initiative, along with a network of providers in the community. The UNCG Department of Social Work, Cone Health Systems, and The Center for Housing and Community Studies at UNCG are administrative partners in this project.

###

**Dr. Sarah Koerner**

Dr. Sarah Koerner (Biology) received new funding of $1,186,000 from the US Department of Agriculture for the project "Identifying Mechanisms of Rangeland Drought Resilience: Management Strategies for Sustainable Ecosystem Health."

###

**Dr. Kimberly Littlefield will be AVC for Research and Engagement**

*Dr. Terri Shelton announces the selection of Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement:*

After a competitive national search, the Office of Research and Engagement is pleased to announce that Dr. Kimberly Littlefield will join the office as the first AVC for Research and Engagement. Dr. Littlefield has a Ph.D. in Physiology and Biophysics from the University of Illinois and currently holds the position of Assistant Vice President for Research Communication, Development and Learning at the University of South Alabama where they have an average of $60 million in funded research annually. Prior to that she served in several leadership positions including Director of the Center for Cell Dynamics at the University of Washington Friday Harbor Laboratories. Dr. Littlefield will assist with the launch of a 5 year strategic planning process; will enhance support provided to faculty, particularly the mentoring of new faculty; and will work on identifying metrics that enhance the impact of our research, scholarship, and creative activity. Dr. Littlefield will join our team Fall 2018.
Dr. Mike Perko will receive BOG Teaching Excellence Award

The University of North Carolina Board of Governors has selected Dr. Mike Perko, professor of public health education, to receive a 2018 Award for Excellence in Teaching.

He will be recognized at the April 26 Excellence Awards ceremony at UNCG, and he will receive the award during the May 4 Commencement ceremony.

Perko is one of 17 award recipients, who represent all 16 of North Carolina’s public universities as well as the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics.

Perko describes his teaching philosophy using what he calls the “Seven C’s”: courage, community, conceptualization, creativity, collaboration, collegiality and compassion. He sees himself as a “hero for the underdog,” helping to support and encourage all students, no matter their background, throughout the learning process.

He says, “For me, teaching is the ultimate gift back to the professors and teachers who saw beyond my weaknesses to encourage my strengths. Every single class I teach is an opportunity to encourage personal and professional growth in my students. The greatest gift back to me is the celebration of graduating seniors year after year who acknowledge knowing something about themselves that they didn’t know before. I feel I owe it to all the students who have ever stood at the board with their back to the class needing just a little help because they really wanted to answer the question. I wake up every day and say, ‘I hope I get that chance today.’”

Outside of the classroom, Perko’s research is focused on worksite health promotion, as well as young athletes and their use of sport performance products.

To learn more about Perko and his teaching philosophy, click here.

April 21 is UNCG’s Cobras Night

It’s UNCG Night at the Cobras game, Saturday, April 21, 7 p.m., Greensboro Coliseum.

Spiro will be on hand, and the Bands of Sparta pep band will perform beforehand and during halftime.

Information about a coupon for a ticket discount will be in this space later in the week.

Note: This post was updated April 17, 3:40 p.m.

Bonus Leave Payout Program

An announcement from UNCG Human Resources:

At various times over the past 15 years, the North Carolina General Assembly has awarded bonus leave to the UNCG’s leave-earning
employees. UNCG is now offering eligible employees the opportunity to cash in bonus leave benefits by participating in a voluntary Bonus Leave Payout Program.

Program Details

Eligible employees may request to be paid out a minimum of five (5) hours and a maximum of twenty (20) hours of accrued bonus leave. Requests for a payout must be made using the electronic form embedded in the 2018 Bonus Leave Payout FAQs or via the following link: https://hrs.uncg.edu/Leave_Management/bonus_payout.php.

All requests must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, April 30, 2018.

Additional Program Provisions

- Participation in the program is strictly voluntary. Those who are eligible, but do not wish to cash in any eligible bonus leave are under no obligation to do so. Your bonus leave will remain in place.
- Bonus leave payments will be subject to retirement contributions and supplemental tax rates totaling 41.25% of the gross payment.
- Bonus leave payment amounts will be calculated based on the employee’s current annual salary.
- Bonus leave payments will be included in the May 2018 payroll.

How to Request a Payout

Employees who are interested in participating in the program should follow these instructions:

1. Review the Bonus Leave Payout FAQs (https://hrs.uncg.edu/Leave_Management/bonus_payout.php) to ensure understanding of all aspects of the program and to acknowledge reading the FAQs.
2. Click the “Request Bonus Leave Payout” box to be automatically directed to the Bonus Leave Request form. (This registers your review of the FAQs.)
3. Fill out the Bonus Leave Request and click the “Submit” button to submit details of your payout request and to complete the request form.

Once a Payout Request Form has been submitted, a request may be later reversed by submitting a formal email to Emily Foust, Benefits Manager, e_foust@uncg.edu. Reversal emails must be submitted by no later than noon on Monday, April 30, 2018.

If you are uncertain as to whether or not you have a bonus leave balance, are having difficulties completing the online form, or have questions regarding specific aspects of the program, please contact Emily Foust at e_foust@uncg.edu or (336) 256-0342.

###

Facilities events including Cram & Scram

Mark your calendars if you’re interested in these upcoming events. More on the Cram and Scram Sale will be in an upcoming CW:

- April 20 - Surplus Sale at 2900 Oakland Ave. Warehouse 8am-11am (cash only)
- May 25 - Annual Cram and Scram Rummage Sale at EUC Cone Ballroom 8am-1pm (cash only, 50 cents per item, not State Property, mostly clothing)
- June 8 - Annual Shred-A-Thon event

###

Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards on April 26
The 2018 Annual Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards Ceremony will be held on Reading Day, Thursday, April 26.

The ceremony in the Elliott University Center Auditorium begins at 10 a.m. The campus community is invited.

At this ceremony, the university will honor the exemplary service of faculty and staff who have dedicated years to creating the inclusive, learner-centered community we value at UNCG.

Please RSVP by April 23 to rsvp@uncg.edu.

###

**Feel more confident about your finances**

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Fidelity are presenting two educational workshops, where you'll learn strategies and tips to help you manage your financial future with confidence.

**Roth 401(k) and Roth 403(b)**

Do you want to potentially reduce income taxes and keep more of what you earn on your investments in your 401(k) or 403(b) plan? As UNCG offers Roth contributions in its retirement savings plan, you have the potential to earn income tax-free growth and take income tax-free withdrawals (provided certain requirements are met).

**DATE:** Friday, April 27th

**TIME:** 12:00pm to 1:00pm

**LOCATION:** Bryan School of Business, Room 113

**Fundamentals of Retirement Income Planning**

This workshop will help you learn why it's important to have a plan for generating income in retirement, factors to consider when transitioning your savings into retirement income and how to develop a retirement income plan.

**DATE:** Wednesday, May 30th

**TIME:** 12:00pm to 1:00pm

**LOCATION:** Bryan School of Business, Room 113

If you are interested in either of these workshops please register here.

###

**Impact through discoveries at the Graduate Research and Creativity Expo**
UNCG graduate student researchers play a multi-faceted role on campus.

Throughout the Graduate School’s many departments and disciplines, they not only do the crucial work of research assistance within their mentors’ labs, but also undertake entirely original, individualized research. They pursue projects from the idea phase to exploration to the point of a conference presentation, and often even beyond that, so that their work has a real-world impact on public policy, relevant literature or intervention programs.

Last week, more than 100 students presented work at the sixth annual Graduate Research and Creativity Expo, hosted by the Graduate School and the Office of Research and Engagement. Fifteen projects were selected as competition winners by 30 prominent community members.

Dr. Junius J. Gonzales, senior vice president for academic affairs for the UNC System, welcomed the participants, observers and judges to the expo with a quote by Nobel Prize-winning physiologist Albert Szent-Györgyi de Nagyrápolt: “Discovery is looking at the same thing as everyone else and discovering something different.”

“After looking at the posters here,” he continued, “It’s evident that students and faculty here are discovering something different.”

It wasn’t only the judges who took in the presentations, however. A steady stream of faculty, staff and students of various levels, including participants, made their way through the expo to see the projects.

“I enjoy seeing all the diverse research areas,” said expo participant and public health education student Sydney Zester. “You’ll see social justice and you’ll see myosin. It’s all-encompassing and it’s good to see how much is being done.”

Many of the presenters said they enjoyed presenting to community members and judges who were not experts or scholars in their field, because it prompted them to translate their research for wider comprehension. Many also said they appreciated the opportunity not only to compete at the expo, but to practice speaking in preparation for future conference presentations.

“It’s meaningful to me to take the work that we do in the lab to the public and for them to appreciate it,” said biology student Safeera Khan. “I also appreciate the work of others.”

See the 15 winners within seven categories below:

2018 Graduate Research and Creativity Expo Winners

**Humanities**

**Elizabeth Ellis** (History) *Branded as Cain: Jonathan Worth and the Unionist Legacy in Post-Civil War North Carolina*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Mark E. Elliott

**Jamie Watson** (English) *Talking to Himself: Teaching Autobiographical Frederick Douglass Works in the Early American Lit Survey*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Maria Carla Sanchez

**Creative Arts**

**Jessica M. Ocasio Adorno** (Interior Architecture), Mr. Travis Lee Hicks & Mr. Khoi Nguyen Vo, IRB# 17-0303, *Tiny House, Big Community: Catering to Millennials’ Needs*
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Maruja Torres-Antonini

**Professional Programs**

**Lillian Carden** (Library and Information Studies) *Green Screen in the Library? How Technology Can Help Kids Learn to Write!*
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Anne T. Akers

**Natural, Physical, and Mathematical Sciences**

**Sheeba Dawood** (Nanoscience) *Metal organic framework- The future of electronic devices*
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Hemali Priyanka Rathnayake

**Alla Letfullina** (Nanoscience), Dr. Jong Soo Cho, Mr. Pankaj Alaboina & Dr. Sungjin Cho *Investigation of Molecular Rotation Benefits within Hybrid Polymer Electrolytes*
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Dennis R. LaJeunesse

**Yener Ulus** (Biology) *How does seawater intrusion affect mercury cycling in our coastal plain wetlands?*
Faculty Mentors: Dr. Martin Tsz-Ki Tsui & Dr. Alex Chow

**Social Sciences**

**Amanda Barnes & Dana Conlin** (Human Development and Family Studies) *Supporting Refugee Families in Promoting their Preschooler's Literacy Development*
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Rachel Jepkemboi Boit

**Joy Kelly** (Counseling and Educational Development) *Developing an Intimate Partner Violence Recovery Measure: An Exploratory Factor Analysis Study*
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Christine Elizabeth Murray

**Yuki Sugimoto** (Kinesiology) *Stride-to-Stride Gait Variability in Individuals with Chronic Ankle Instability, Copers, and Healthy Controls*
Faculty Mentors: Dr. Scott Ross & Dr. Chris Rhea

**Health Sciences**

**Mariam Abdelaziz** (Communication Sciences and Disorders) *Morphological Knowledge in Third and Fifth Grade Students*
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Alan G. Kamhi

**Hannah Carter** (Nutrition) *Effects of Fortification and Storage Time on Pasteurized Donor Human Milk*
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Maryanne Tigchelaar Perrin

**Selena McCall & Kate McKenzie** (Community and Therapeutic Recreation), Sharon Williams *Huddle Up: Implementing and Evaluating Challenger Flag Football League*
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Leandra A. Bedini

**Lindsey Oakes** (Public Health Education), Dr. Benjamin D. Hickerson *Participants for Health: Innovative Methods to Engage College Students with Intellectual and/or Developmental Disabilities (IDD)*
Faculty Mentor: Dr. Jeffrey John Milroy
**Conner Wallace** (Nutrition), Cherie Barnes & Brielle Jacobowitz *Omega-3 treatment does not improve reductions in brain function caused by saturated fat*

Faculty Mentor: Dr. Steven C. Fordahl

*By Susan Kirby-Smith
Photography by Martin W. Kane*

###

**In May, Transforming Online Pedagogy and Practice Symposium**

UNCG will host Michelle Miller, author of Minds Online, on campus the week between spring and summer semesters to talk to UNCG faculty members about using psychology and neuroscience research to create compelling learning experiences as part of our TOPPS event - Transforming Online Pedagogy and Practice Symposium.

Seats are limited so UNCG faculty members are encouraged to register early to reserve a spot.

TOPPS is a series of events during the week May 7-11, 2018 aimed at UNCG faculty members who either teach online or use online resources for instruction.

Dr. Michelle D. Miller is Director of the First Year Learning Initiative, Professor of Psychological Sciences, and President’s Distinguished Teaching Fellow at Northern Arizona University. Dr. Miller’s academic background is in cognitive psychology; her research interests include memory, attention, and student success in the early college career.

She will lead a two-part workshop series on Tuesday and Wednesday with the theme of “Leveraging Psychology to Create Compelling Learning Experiences.”

**Part I: Attention and Memory**

Educators are all in the business of changing minds: We build new memories, guide students in developing new skills, and promote the development of values and mindsets. Attention, memory, and higher thought processes are three aspects of the mind that are particularly critical to learning, and all align particularly well with what instructional technology can do. Especially when these cognitive principles are coupled with research findings on the psychology of motivation, online learning can be a catalyst for creating compelling learning experiences.

In Part I of the workshop series, we will explore the ways in which attention and memory shape learning, and apply those principles to challenges we face in designing learning activities, particularly those that take place in fully online environments.

**Part II: Thinking and Motivation**

In Part II of the workshop series, we will explore the ways in which thinking skills develop and how that process can be accelerated using particular strategies for teaching and learning, with an emphasis on fully online learning activities. We will then transition into the psychology of motivation, exploring ways in which we can elicit the student effort that is the basis for academic success.

Learn more - and register - at [https://utlc.uncg.edu/teaching/topps](https://utlc.uncg.edu/teaching/topps).

###

**Jazz students arrange for, play with a master**
UNCG Campus Weekly
April 17, 2018

UNC Greensboro’s Miles Davis Jazz Studies Program isn’t just about playing swingin’ tunes. It’s also about learning composition skills that can define a jazz musician’s career.

On Friday, April 20, the UNCG Jazz Ensemble I, directed by Associate Professor of Music Chad Eby, will perform with visiting master guitarist Lage Lund for the Miles Davis Jazz Festival concert, and students have a hand, or an ear, in the compositions.

The selections from Lund’s music, originally written for three or four instruments, have been arranged for 15 instrumental parts by UNCG student composers. The writing opportunity, which is a capstone assignment, is highly unusual for a jazz education program.

During the 10 years that the festival has been taking place, UNCG jazz students have worked with musicians such as Dewey Redman, Lee Konitz and Peter Bernstein – big names in the contemporary jazz world. Often the visiting artists purchase the students’ musical arrangements to perform in the future, giving the Spartan composers their first professional writing credits.

“It was my first big band arrangement,” said sophomore pianist Julia Whalen, one of the students who arranged one of Lund’s pieces for the concert. “I went through four drafts, and I definitely learned a lot during that process about voicings, about rhythms, about what works together.”

“It’s really awesome to see a snapshot into his mind when you’re delving into his tunes,” said guitarist Logan Butler, who also arranged work for the concert. “And it’s a beautiful feeling when you hear it played by a live band for the first time.”

Lage Lund, who hails from Skien, Norway, has led bands at New York clubs such as Smalls and The Jazz Gallery, and at venues such as Jazz at Lincoln Center and the Kennedy Center. He attended Juilliard as the first electric guitarist in the school’s history. He has been awarded a grant from the Fulbright Foundation and took first place at the 2005 Thelonius Monk International Jazz Competition.

Before the concert, Lund will hold masterclasses with the Jazz Studies students, both those composing and those who will join him up on stage April 20.

The concert will be at UNCG Auditorium at 8 p.m. Tickets are available at the door for $12 for general admission or $6 for students.

Story by Susan Kirby-Smith
Photography by Jiyoung Park

Michael Frierson

Michael Frierson (Media Studies) recently published “Film and Video Editing Theory: How Editing Creates Meaning.” The book distills and illustrates the thinking of a diverse group of filmmakers and theorists who have written about how editing constructs filmic time/space, and how editing signifies in other ways.


###
Most beautiful part of spring: Concert Weeks at UNCG

As the weather warms up and the semester comes to an end, the UNCG College of Visual and Performing Arts will hold many concerts in the coming weeks. For lovers of music, it’s a highlight of the semester, with one large concert after another. These performances, ranging from Jazz Ensemble to Symphony Orchestra, will commence April 19. Most concerts are free admission and will take place at UNCG or nearby Greensboro churches. In the listing, click the event to see more about the performance. And enjoy the outstanding artistry.

University and Symphonic Bands
April 19 @ 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
UNCG Auditorium
Free Admission

Miles Davis Jazz Festival: Jazz Ensemble I with Lage Lund
April 20 @ 8:00 pm - 11:00 pm
UNCG Auditorium
Tickets $6-$12
See related story for full information.

Glee Clubs and Women’s Choir
April 21 @ 3:30 pm - 5:30 pm
Westminster Presbyterian Church, 3906 W Friendly Ave Greensboro
Free Admission

Wind Ensemble
April 22 @ 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
UNCG Auditorium
Free Admission

University Chorale and Chamber Singers
April 22 @ 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Ebenezer Lutheran Church, 310 S Tremont Dr, Greensboro
Free Admission

Symphony Orchestra and Sinfonia
April 24 @ 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
UNCG Auditorium
Free Admission

Indian Music Ensemble – Student Recital
April 27 @ 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm
Recital Hall
Free Admission
NC Writers Conference at UNCG this Saturday

The North Carolina Writers’ Network 2018 Spring Conference will be held Saturday, April 21, in the MHRA Building and Curry Auditorium. Register here.

The Spring Conference is a full day dedicated to learning about the craft and business of writing. 2018 North Carolina Literary Hall of Fame inductee Jill McCorkle will give the Keynote Address.

Emilia Philips, assistant professor in the MFA Writing Program and the Department of English, will lead the Master Class in Poetry.


Race, home, history and preservation, at ‘Clybourne Park’

Home is where the heart is, but it’s more complex than that.

This week, UNCG Theatre mounts “Clybourne Park,” a play by Bruce Norris that transports us to the late 1950s, and then to 2009, in both settings taking on issues of race, identity and home. The story concerns the ownership and sale of a Chicago family property and the surrounding neighborhood’s tensions.

Norris’ play is known as a response piece to Lorraine Hansberry’s “A Raisin in the Sun,” which Triad Stage produced in February, with several UNCG students in the production and an alumna and faculty playing important roles on the creative team. Although the two stories are not in perfect alignment, several characters and location details carry over to illustrate the potential future of the house and the families that live there.

“It was a perfect opportunity to present it in cooperation with Triad Stage’s production, so that those plays could talk to each other,” said director and graduate student Jennifer Lee Jellicorse. “A lot of our design process and certainly the manner in which we have approached ‘Clybourne Park’ is very much in response to ‘A Raisin in the Sun,’ and in response to that specific production.”

“Clybourne Park” is a final Master’s of Fine Arts thesis production for Jellicorse as well as for Neila K. Ettienne, who plays a 1959 maid, Francine and for the section set in 2009, the matriarch and neighborhood association head, Lena.

“Lena is fearless 21st-century African American professional,” explained Ettienne. “She is not afraid to defend her history and the integrity of the neighborhood where she grew up.”

Since Ettienne has spent the majority of her life in the Caribbean, the play required her to research American history, particularly race issues.

“The play has raised many questions for me,” she revealed. “Such as, how does my character show her strength, how does she deal with deferred dreams and how much is she willing to sacrifice for family?”

“The play is about the preservation of community,” added Jellicorse. “And it forces us to examine why and how we engage in that
“Clybourne Park” runs Wednesday, April 18 through Sunday, April 22, in Taylor Theatre. April 17 is a “pay what you can” preview. Tickets are available online through the Triad Stage Box Office or by calling (336) 272-0160.

By Susan Kirby-Smith
Photography by Martin W. Kane

Reception for Dean Celia Hooper, as she steps down

The UNCG campus is invited to a reception on May 1 honoring Dr. Celia Hooper, dean of the School of Health and Human Sciences, as she steps down as dean and returns to the Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders.

The reception will be from 3 p.m to 5 p.m. in the UNCG Alumni House.

Click here for more information and to learn how you can play a special part in this tribute. https://www.uncg.edu/hhs/hooper-reception-2018/

Starfish Updates: Summer 2018

With the spring semester coming to a close, the Students First Office would like to wish students, staff, and faculty a productive and restorative summer, As the University transitions out of the spring term, we would like to remind the campus community of important information about the Starfish features available over the summer.

Starfish Features: Summer 2018

- Starfish Flags & Kudos: NEW FOR SUMMER 2018, Starfish flags and kudos will be available for issue during Summer Session I and Summer Session II. The last day to issue Starfish flags and kudos for Spring 2018 courses will be Thursday, May 3. Spring 2018 flags and kudos will be cleared on May 4 by a Starfish administrator (these will remain viewable for historical reference).
- Starfish Referrals: Referrals will remain available for use over summer. Course instructors, advisors, and student support staff may use Starfish to refer students to the following resources: Academic Skills (Student Success Center), Tutoring (Student Success Center), Speaking Center, Writing Center, Career Services Center, and Math Help Center. Spring 2018 referrals will be cleared on May 4 by a Starfish administrator but will remain viewable for historical reference.
- Appointment Scheduling: Online appointment scheduling will remain available* over the summer to all instructors and staff who post availability in Starfish. Instructors and staff who will be away from campus during this time should remove all calendar availability prior to leaving. *Incoming students (new freshman, transfers, and readmitted students) will not be able to use Starfish for appointment scheduling until the Fall 2018 term starts.

Training Opportunities

If you are new to Starfish or would like to refresh your knowledge, please consider attending a Starfish 101 workshop. These workshops are designed to introduce instructors and advisors of undergraduate students to the basic Starfish features available to support and enhance their work with students. View available workshop times and sign up via workshops.uncg.edu. Summer workshop availability will be posted on May 4, 2018.

If you would like to request a departmental Starfish training, please email starfish@uncg.edu.

Starfish Technical Support

For assistance using Starfish, please email starfish@uncg.edu. Students, staff, and instructors are also encouraged to explore UNCG’s Starfish webpages at studentsfirst.uncg.edu/starfish for additional information about Starfish and available training guides.

###
Student Honors Convocation April 26

The entire university community is invited to celebrate the outstanding academic accomplishments of our students, at the 56th annual Student Honors Convocation on Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m. The event will be held in the Elliott University Center Auditorium.

Student recipients of the following will be recognized:

Graduate Student Scholarly and Teaching Awards, Carolyn and Norwood Thomas Undergraduate Research & Creativity Expo Awards, University Libraries Undergraduate Research Award, and Undergraduate Student Excellence Awards.

A reception will follow in the lobby adjacent to the auditorium. Please contact Lloyd International Honors College if you have any questions, at 334-5538, or askhonors@uncg.edu.

The Tax Cut and Jobs Act: What you need to know

Learn about the tax rate changes and more Monday, April 23, 6-7 pm, Bryan Building, Room 416.

It’s a free event, with free parking in the Walker Deck.

Discuss the impact of the new tax law on individuals and small businesses, including:

- Changes to the tax rates affecting both individuals and corporations.
- Changes to itemized deductions, exemptions and child credits for individuals
- Changes to deductions affecting partnerships, S Corporations, and Corporations

The presenter is Dr. Bill Harden, CPA, ChFC, is an Associate Professor at UNCG where he teaches tax courses on flow-through entities, individual and corporate tax, tax research, IRS practices, and ethics. He has over twenty years of experience in taxation. In addition to his university teaching, he consults on tax and financial planning issues. He has received numerous awards from the NCACPA and AICPA. He has also authored over 30 publications in tax accounting and financial planning journals.

Register at http://go.uncg.edu/tax_event

Tornado relief efforts this week

Areas in northern and eastern Greensboro were particularly hard hit by Sunday's storm. In recent days, the Campus Weekly staff has learned of UNCG departments and organizations on campus reaching out to help. Emergency Management is providing assistance. At least one department is having a food drive, and at least one campus ministry is providing meals. (As we learn more, we will update this post.)

What can you do? This UNCG Office of Leadership and Service-Learning web post (OLSL) web post is a great place to learn what you can do - as is the OLSL web page (https://www.facebook.com/UNCG.OLSL). And check back for more updates.

Update:

HHS is collecting items for community members impacted by the tornado Sunday evening. Donations will be taken to emergency shelters like Glenwood Recreation Center, and Interactive Resource Center. School items will be donated to the schools that are helping with displaced students.
Donation bins will be located in the following areas until Friday 4/20:

Stone Building - outside of Edward's Lounge

Coleman Building - 3rd floor entrance near Fleming Gym concessions.

###

UNCG Dance’s big 2018 BFA Thesis concert

The UNCG School of Dance announces “Symphysis,” the 2018 BFA Thesis concert. “Symphysis” features original choreographic work by 11 senior BFA Dance students presented in 2 programs on April 20 at 8 p.m., April 21 at 2 & 8 p.m., and April 22 at 2 p.m.

Program 1 will be performed on Friday, April 20 at 8 p.m., and Saturday, April 21 at 2 p.m., featuring: “Signaling,” by Hannah Long, an investigation of communication and how people use different methods to relate information to each other without necessarily using words. Inspired by research into Morse Code, Long examines what it is like to communicate through the sounds created by Tap Dance and Contemporary Dance gestures.

“Totality,” choreographed by Sarina Kurrimbukus, is a reflection of her experience witnessing the August 2017 total solar eclipse. This piece is an expression through movement of the amazement and wonder that she experienced witnessing the eclipse.

“Blue Boy,” created by Ariana Guzmán, focuses on the habits and coping mechanisms of a child living with Autism. The gestures and patterns she has observed serve as the inspiration for the movement in the piece.

Ashlee Dance’s “Conclude the Limbo” shows both the struggle of feeling stuck in a never-ending cycle of unhealthy relationships and the path of growth and realizations, as one separates themselves from toxicity.

“When I Get to Come Home,” by Kaykeel Dillard, explores the seven stages of Alzheimer’s Disease. The movement portrays the internal and external symptoms of the disease.

Program 2 will be presented on Saturday, April 21, at 8 pm and Sunday April 22, at 2 p.m., with:

“Simple Contentment,” choreographed by Aimee Butsch, demonstrates the simple state of peaceful happiness and contentment.

“(Evol)ve,” created by Meghan Hartnett, maintains that confidence is about believing in yourself and unconditionally accepting your abilities.

Jena Barton’s “Ipseity” explores how our individuality exists as an ephemeral definition since the human experience leaves us in constant flux. Exploring and accepting our own ephemeralality allows us to observe our existence in a way that fosters our understanding of the universe and our relationship to it.

“Write Me When You Get Home,” by Benja Newnam, utilizes the invention of a movement alphabet to explore the unavoidable eventuality of miscommunication. Consequences are demonstrated in the context of the golden record, which was a gold-plated disc shot into space on Voyager I and II with the intent of communicating with extraterrestrial life.

“Apathy,” choreographed by Lauren Vanessa Watson, examines the “Bystander Effect” as a social psychological phenomenon in which individuals are less likely to offer help to a victim when other people are present. The greater the number of bystanders, the less likely it is that any one of them will help.

Both programs will conclude with a performance of Jacquelyn Batten’s “afro-,” an ode to blackness, afrocentricity, and the culture that encompasses them. Dance and music are at the heart of africanist expression and emits a sensation that is not only seen, but felt.

Tickets for all performances are available from the Triad Stage Box Office at 336-272-0160, at [http://triadstage.org/tickets](http://triadstage.org/tickets) or through the UNCG School of Dance Box Office. The School of Dance Box Office opens two hours prior to teach show.

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UNCG first-year students' common read experience set for fall 2018.

The Keker First Year Common Read 2018 book will be "The Distance Between Us" by Reyna Grande.

The Keker First Year Common Read program is an opportunity for new students to begin their academic path prior to starting college by reading a book selected by members of the UNC Greensboro campus community. With the help of faculty and staff from across campus, the book is integrated throughout the students' curricular and co-curricular learning experiences and is aligned with UNCG's quality enhancement plan, Global Engagement.

About "The Distance Between Us":

From award-winning author Reyna Grande, an eye-opening memoir about life before and after illegally immigrating from Mexico to the United States.

Born in Mexico and raised by her grandparents after her parents left to find work in the U.S. at nine-years-old, Reyna enters the United States as an undocumented immigrant to live with her father. Filled with hope, she quickly realizes that life in America is far from perfect. Her father isn’t the man she dreamed about all those years in Mexico. His big dreams for his children are what gets them across the border, but his alcoholism and rage undermine all his hard work and good intentions.

Reyna finds solace from a violent home in books and writing, inspired by the Latina voices she reads. After an explosive altercation, Reyna breaks away, going on to become the first person in her family to obtain a higher education, earning a college degree and then an M.F.A. in Creative Writing.

The Keker First Year Common Read Author Visit

As part of the Keker First Year Common Read program, the Office of New Student Transitions and First Year Experience brings the author to campus each year to engage with first-year students for an entire day. The visiting author joins students, faculty, staff, and community members on campus for a luncheon, class visit, and then culminates in an evening presentation for first-year students. This year, author Reyna Grande will be visiting campus on October 10th, 2018.

Do you have an idea for a program related to "The Distance Between Us"? Apply for a Programming Grant.

We invite all members of the UNC Greensboro campus community to partake in the Keker First Year Common Read program – not only by reading the book and participating in our programs, but also by collaborating with the Keker First Year Common Read programming team to put on your own programs connected to the book! If you are interested, please see our website and submit the programming form. Chosen programs will be included on a master calendar of Keker First Year Common Read events and we will collaborate with you to support your programming efforts.

In addition to the programmatic support we can provide, we also have grant money available for program funding. If you are interested, you can apply on our website. The funds awarded to the chosen recipients will be state funds, which must be spent this fiscal year (by June 15, 2018). Funds can only be spent on allowed state expenses. Recipients of funds must provide receipts of purchases and complete an evaluation and assessment of the program. Please see our website and complete the required submissions by 11:59 pm on April 22, 2018, to apply for grant funding for your program. The form will remain open after this date, but only for program submission, not grant funding applications.

Thank you in advance for your interest and involvement in the Keker First Year Common Read program. Should you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Emily Wiersma, Assistant Director of New Student Transitions and First Year Experience, at e_wiersm@uncg.edu.

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