Book drive for Greensboro schools affected by tornado

As you may be aware, last week's tornado devastated three elementary schools in Guilford County. The structures of these schools were severely damaged and resources such as books left unusable. Working in partnership with the Guilford Education Alliance, the UNCG School of Education has organized a book drive for the UNCG community to provide these classrooms with much-needed books.

- How to Donate Used Books?

Donate gently-used books that you currently have that are appropriate for children in grades K-5. You can bring any such books to one of our drop-off locations: Jackson Library, the School of Education building lobby and the Office of Student Leadership.

- How to Donate Books from an Amazon Wish List?

There are particular books for which the classrooms will have high need, and we have established an Amazon wish list with these titles. LINK: [http://a.co/aHjvinE](http://a.co/aHjvinE)

Books purchased here can be shipped to the gift registry address, which is the School of Education's Teaching Resources Center.

UNCG Teaching Resources Center
1300 Spring Garden Street
310 School of Education Building
Greensboro, NC 27402

The schools need these books immediately so that students transitioning schools can enter classrooms having an inviting and engaging atmosphere for learning. Ordering and dropping off books in the coming days will have the greatest immediate impact. The book drive will conclude this Friday (April 27).

LEARN MORE: [soe.uncg.edu/unCG-gcs-book-drive](http://soe.uncg.edu/unCG-gcs-book-drive)

###

Dr. Martin Halbert
Dr. Martin Halbert (University Libraries) received new funding from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for the "Library Diversity Institutes Pilot Project." The University of North Carolina at Greensboro (UNCG, project lead), in collaboration with the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Diversity Alliance propose a two-year project to pilot a national Library Diversity Institute program that will address the needs of professionally underrepresented racial and ethnic groups and broadly advance diversity in U.S. academic libraries. The Library Diversity Institutes (LDI) pilot project will conduct two institutes for incoming ACRL diversity residents, as well as an ACRL diversity pre-conference for all interested parties. With guidance from a national committee of residency coordinators and experts on diversity issues, the project will design a program and curriculum to orient diversity residents to maximize their experiences as residents in the diverse organizations that make up the ACRL Diversity Alliance, as well as enabling a national network of colleagues comprising the relevant cohort of librarian residents for the institute year in which they participate. This pilot program will study and document the needs of new diversity residents who attend the institute, identify key elements that will accelerate success for these new librarians, and analyze options for long-term continuance and sustainability of this institute and workshop program. This project will take the form of a two-year continuing education project grant in the IMLS category of community anchors.

Halbert is dean of University Libraries.

###

**Dr. Tara T. Green**

Dr. Tara T. Green (African American & African Diaspora Studies) was presented with the inaugural Langston Hughes Society President's Award for being a "leader, scholar, and keeper of the Langston Hughes Tradition" at their annual luncheon, April 5, 2018. Green served as president of the organization for three years and spearheaded the successful search for the current Langston Hughes Review.

###

**Exhibition on Charles B. Aycock and commemoration, at auditorium**

UNCG Auditorium was named “Aycock Auditorium” until being renamed in 2016. This week, an exhibition opens inside UNCG Auditorium that explores the topic of commemoration and the legacy of Charles Brantley Aycock, North Carolina’s governor from 1901 to 1905.

The permanent exhibition is “Etched in Stone? Governor Charles Aycock and the Power of Commemoration.” It is located on the second floor foyer of UNCG Auditorium.

The UNCG History Department’s Museum Studies graduate program created the work.

The exhibition sheds light on Governor Aycock’s advancement of public education in North Carolina — and his support of white supremacy and his role in the disenfranchisement of black voters in the early 1900s.

“Etched in Stone?” is presented in five sections — three that focus on Aycock’s actions and their effects and two that center on the process of historical commemoration and public memory. Each section portrays Aycock in his own words whenever possible, incorporating primary sources to do so.
In the summer of 2016, the Board of Trustees charged UNCG’s History/Museum Studies program with creating a plan to interpret the history and legacy of Governor Aycock in the auditorium that formerly bore his name.

The program’s Museum Studies graduate students, class of 2018, have worked on this topic since Fall 2016, when they began studying the power of commemoration on campus.

Last year, they presented their work-to-date to Provost Dana Dunn; College of Visual and Performing Arts Dean Peter Alexander; and the UNCG Board of Trustees. Now, as their project is concluded, their work is shared with the campus community and the wider public.

Want to see this free exhibition? The permanent exhibition in UNCG Auditorium will be open for public visitation on these dates:

- April 25, 2-8 p.m.
- May 8, 2-8 p.m.
- May 10, 2-8 p.m.
- May 15, 2-8 p.m.

Going forward, the exhibition will be open during public events in the auditorium.

###

Food for thought: Lauren Shook receives departmental award for innovative pedagogy

Community-engaged teaching and learning is at the heart of the UNCG experience.

Recently, English instructor Lauren Shook ’15 PhD was honored by her department with the first Hephzibah Roskelly Pedagogical Innovation Award. The award was initiated this year in honor of the professor emerita and specifically to recognize innovation in first-year writing courses.

Shook has been incorporating projects related into food insecurity into her courses for several years, but this year she expanded the scope of the projects so that they shaped the academic material and the writing assignments of her two English 101 courses.

The students in her spring courses analyzed articles, interviews, and documentaries on food insecurity and how it affects college students. They also wrote argumentative essays proposing well-informed solutions to food insecurity, and as a final project, one class worked in small groups to create a cookbook that contains inexpensive, healthy, easily-prepared meals.

“Service-learning and community-engaged writing courses help students see that their writing and communication skills can facilitate change in the world,” said Shook. “The most gratifying moment was witnessing my students' developed investment in helping others. And with the
collaborative cookbook, they’re seeing that writers must be intentional with creating, composing and delivering a written or multi-modal text to a specified audience.”

After a class visit to the Spartan Open Pantry with directors Andrew Mails and Emily Saine, the students not only continued their reading and writing projects, but also initiated a food-drive and bake sale to raise funds and awareness for the campus resource. Those projects, in turn, put the focus on writing and audience awareness, because the second class group designed flyers and social media posts to promote the projects. The classes raised more than $300 and several wagons of food donations.

“I really enjoyed that this was not the traditional English class, said Shyann Sigmon. “I learned about writing, but I also learned about real-world circumstances. I loved that I was able to help someone out and expand my writing skills at the same time.”

“Dr. Shook’s English 101 course was an amazing surprise,” said Dontae Burnett. “The topics and projects exposed me to aspects of college campuses that I had no idea about, and the final goal of creating the cookbook was my favorite part. This class was fun, energetic and new. I was excited for this to be my eight o’clock class.”

Shook’s research in Renaissance literature combines her interests in food access, hospitality and civic democracy, and advocates for a service-learning approach to Shakespeare’s culinary worlds. She has studied twice at the Folger Institute, which helped her to amplify the material of her course, “Dining with Shakespeare,” and the scope of her research project, “A Place at Shakespeare’s Table.”

Story and photography by Susan Kirby-Smith

###

**Groundbreaking for new Nursing and Instructional Building set for Friday**

UNCG will bring out the shovels and hardhats to celebrate the official groundbreaking of its new $105 million Nursing and Instructional Building at a ceremony Friday, April 27, at 9 a.m. The event will take place on the far end of the property, facing Administration Drive, adjacent to the Foust Building.

The facility, located at the site of the recently deconstructed McIver Building, is made possible thanks to state funds from the Connect NC Bond, which was passed by North Carolina voters in the spring of 2016.

The School of Nursing, currently located in four buildings, will occupy approximately 50 percent of the building. In addition to more space for the School of Nursing, the facility will provide teaching and flexible laboratory research space for Biology, Chemistry and Health and Human Sciences, as well as classroom space.

The new building is slated to open in the summer of 2020.

Visit thebigbuild.uncg.edu for more information on the Nursing and Instructional Building and related construction projects.

By Elizabeth L. Harrison

Rendering courtesy of LS3P Associates Ltd.

###
Olympic champion Joey Cheek will speak at UNCG Commencement

Olympic Speed Skating Gold Medalist, NBC Winter Olympics commentator and humanitarian leader Joey Cheek will deliver the keynote address at the university’s May 4 Commencement at the Greensboro Coliseum.

A Greensboro native, Cheek won gold and silver medals at the Olympic Games in Torino, Italy, in 2006. He won his first ever international medal at the 2002 Olympics in Salt Lake City, a bronze in the 1000 meters, and has accumulated more than 25 World Cup and World Championship medals throughout the course of his career. Most recently, Cheek completed his first stint as a broadcaster covering speed skating for NBC at the 2018 Winter Olympics in Pyeongchang, South Korea.

Cheek was named to TIME’s 100 most influential people, the US Speedskating Hall of Fame, and the International Sports Humanitarians Hall of Fame. He even got to be on the Wheaties box.

“We are thrilled to have Joey address the class of 2018,” said Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr. “He exemplifies the values we work to instill in our Spartans – a tenacious work ethic and commitment to excellence that leads to real, meaningful impact on our world. As our graduates look to the next chapter of their lives, to what is possible, his story is inspirational and aspirational. His Olympic dream came true, but he did not stop there. He used that success as a springboard to achieve even greater things as a humanitarian. I am confident he will inspire our graduates to forge their path and take giant steps in every area of their lives.”

After winning gold in Torino, Cheek turned his talents to worthy charitable causes. He announced he’d donate his Olympic winnings, totaling $40,000, to Right to Play helping refugees driven from their homes in the Darfur crisis, in western Sudan. He then challenged others to donate as well. In total, Cheek raised $1.5 million in charitable donations to aid Right to Play. In 2006, Cheek cofounded Team Darfur, an international coalition of more than 500 athletes around the globe, to continue to advocate and fundraise for the people from that region.

Since ending his athletic career, Cheek has worked as a corporate speaker with dozens of Fortune 500 Companies, started a digital sports content company, and currently serves on the board of the US Olympic Museum and Hall of Fame.

###

President Spellings visits, highlights system’s achievements

UNC System President Margaret Spellings visited Greensboro last Wednesday for a special State of the University Address that highlighted the system’s four Triad area universities: UNCG, N.C. A&T State University, Winston-Salem State University and UNC School of the Arts.

The event, which took place at the Union Square Campus in downtown Greensboro, was the fifth of eight stops as part of Spellings’ spring State of the University Tour.
The tour serves as a “progress report” for the system, which includes 17 public institutions across the state.

Spellings highlighted the achievements of the system as a whole, including improved graduation rates, a $300 million increase in annual research funding and tuition rates that have remained flat or have decreased for students.

“We are getting stronger every day. But it’s no cause for complacency,” she said. “I like to say we're pleased, but not satisfied.”

Spellings discussed three key issues for the system: economic mobility, accountability and public good. The president praised UNCG for its contribution and commitment to these issues, including the new Moss Street Partnership School and the growing number of co-admission programs with regional community colleges.

The address concluded with a call to make a difference – to shape the region, the state and beyond.

“It’s up to us to show that public institutions are a great ally in the effort to make a better world,” Spellings said. “That public service is honorable and effective. That trust in our fellow citizens, and faith in the country that unites us, is vital to any real vision of progress.”

By Alyssa Bedrosian
Photography by Martin W. Kane

###

See/hear: April 25, 2018

Learn about Healthy UNCG, the university's health and wellness program for employees, and the university's involvement in the Guilford County Heart and Stroke Walk on May 19. Healthy UNCG Director Stefanie Milroy was interviewed on Triad Today recently about both of these.

###

Spartan Shop pops up at LeBauer Park

Now, you can buy UNCG gear at a brand new "pop up" shop in the heart of the city at LeBauer Park. The “Spartan Shop @ The Park,” which opened on April 23, is located in a kiosk at the entrance to the park and is expected to be open for 1-2 months this spring. UNCG supporters will be able to buy T-shirts, sweatshirts and more as the university continues to boost its presence downtown. Hours are tentatively set at Monday-Saturday 11-2 p.m.

The shop will be open additional hours to coincide with special events or programs in the park -- including UNCG's run of Movies in the Park, Friday nights this spring and summer, as well as several concert events the university is also presenting there.

###

Spartan student heads to the Tribeca Film Festival this week

Tumaini Johnson, senior and media studies major, has been selected as a grand prize winner in the Campus Movie Fest’s Tribeca Campus Docs Category for his short film, “41 Shots.”
It is a restorative justice film retelling the 1999 brutal police shooting of 22-year-old Guinea immigrant Amadou Diallo. His film, along with others submitted from around the country, will screen at the prestigious Tribeca Film Festival in New York City on April 28 at 3 p.m. in the Battery Park Regal Theater.

Only eight students were honored, from universities throughout the nation.

Johnson’s film was shot in three hours in one day, he tells Campus Weekly, and the editing process took around two to three days. The actors were all UNCG students, and three have graduated since it was shown at the 2017 Campus Movie Fest on the UNCG campus.

The idea for the film originated in his Fall 2017 African American & African Diaspora Studies class "Blacks in Society,” led by professor Armondo Collins. There, he had an assignment to research a victim of police brutality and create a restorative justice plan. Seeing a need for a short film telling the story, he created one.

What’s next for Johnson? He has recently finished producing a new short film called “Lunch Counter,” a retelling of the Feb. 1, 1960, sit-in at Greensboro’s Woolworth.

See his “41 Shots” film at https://youtu.be/Ybt9YVQ1kwQ.

By Ishan Davis

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