Campus Weekly schedule for Summer 2018

After today’s UNCG’s Campus Weekly (CW), it will begin its summer schedule of publishing every other week. It will resume weekly publication in early August. The publication dates for CW this summer are:

- May 2
- May 16
- May 30
- June 13
- June 27
- July 11
- July 25

On Aug. 8, Campus Weekly will have its first weekly posting of the new academic year.

###

Commencement will be held Friday at coliseum

UNCG is set to award more than 2,700 degrees to the university’s largest- ever graduating class on Friday, May 4, at the May Commencement ceremony.

The university will confer approximately 2,014 bachelor’s degrees, 627 master’s degrees, 87 doctoral degrees and 17 specialist in education degrees. Of the degrees awarded, 100 will be conferred to international students.

Friday’s university-wide ceremony will begin at 10 a.m. at the Greensboro Coliseum. A doctoral hooding ceremony will be held the day before, Thursday, May 3, at 3 p.m. in UNCG Auditorium.

Olympic speed skating gold medalist, NBC Winter Olympics commentator and humanitarian leader Joey Cheek will deliver the keynote address to the Class of 2018.

Senior political science major Prescillia Messa, who served as the secretary of academic affairs this year for the UNCG Student Government Association, is the student speaker.

Parking at the coliseum is free for all attendees, and parking permits are not required. For the doctoral hooding ceremony, parking is
available in the lot behind the Graham Building and Weatherspoon Art Museum.

Park & Ride buses will be available to transport volunteers, students, staff and faculty between campus and the coliseum. Buses will depart campus every 30 minutes beginning at 7 a.m., with the final shuttle returning to campus at 1 p.m. Passengers may board the bus on Stirling Street in front of the Elliott University Center.

For those who cannot attend Friday’s ceremony in person, a livestream of the event can be accessed here.

For more information, visit UNCG Commencement Central.

###

**Dr. Blair Wisco**

Dr. Blair Wisco (Psychology) received $436,500 in new funding from the National Institutes of Health for the project “Ambulatory Physiological Assessment of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder.” The abstracts states: Posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) affects 6.5 percent of the U.S. population, or about 21 million Americans, and tends to be chronic and impairing, representing a major public health problem. The Institute of Medicine identified exposure therapy as the front-line treatment, yet 40 percent of individuals still meet PTSD criteria following exposure therapy, indicating a need for more effective treatments. To date, PTSD treatment research has been constrained by the lack of objective measures of the theorized mechanism of action: extinction of conditioned fear to trauma cues. New assessment tools are necessary to measure this treatment target.

Conditioned fear to trauma cues is typically measured by self-report, but the UNCG team has found that self-report and physiological markers of fear responding differentially predict treatment outcome. Skin conductance (SC) is a commonly used physiological marker of fear (sympathetic arousal), but SC is not a reliable marker for a substantial minority of individuals; there is a need for new markers.

Two cardiovascular measures are particularly promising: a specific marker of sympathetic arousal (pre-ejection period, PEP), and a marker of parasympathetic withdrawal (respiratory sinus arrhythmia, RSA). The gold-standard assessment tool to measure conditioned fear in PTSD is script-driven imagery, but script-driven imagery only presents one trauma cue in one context, limiting its clinical relevance. Ambulatory physiological assessment, which measures physiological responses to events in participants' daily lives, can measure fear responding to multiple trauma cues across different contexts, but it has yet to be tested in individuals with PTSD. The specific aims of this R15 proposal are 1) to test PEP and RSA as markers of conditioned fear to trauma cues using gold-standard script-driven imagery, and 2) to validate ambulatory physiological assessment as an objective method of measuring fear responding to trauma cues in the daily lives of individuals with PTSD.

This project represents a significant advance over existing research, including 1) assessment of new physiological markers of fear responding, 2) assessment in real-world environments, and 3) examination of different trauma cues in different contexts. This project is innovative because it will examine two novel markers of fear responding to trauma cues (PEP and RSA), and because it will test ambulatory physiological assessment as a new technique to measure trauma reactivity in PTSD.

###

**Dr. Daniel Herr**

Lead PI Dr. Daniel Herr (Joint School for Nanoscience and Nanoengineering) with PIs Dr. Matina Kalcounis-Ruppell (Biology) and Dr. Lee Phillips (Undergraduate Research, Scholarship and Creativity Office) received new funding from the National Institutes of Health for the project “UNC Greensboro MARC U-STAR Engage, Sustain, and Prepare.” The UNCG MARC U-STAR will be a comprehensive undergraduate training program addressing the need to increase the diversity of students pursuing graduate studies in biomedical research and careers in the NIH-funded research workforce. The long-term goal is to increase the number of UNCG students from underrepresented (UR) and/or disadvantaged backgrounds successfully completing graduate training in biomedical or behavioral health sciences. To reach this goal the UNCG MARC U-STAR program will engage these fellows in a curriculum organized around enhancing comprehension of the scientific method, developing basic laboratory and evaluation skills, and the inclusion of modern genomic/evolutionary approaches and techniques in biomedical research. Students will also be required to conduct substantive independent research projects that include two summer research experiences, one at UNCG and one at an additional institution.

###
Dr. Janet Boseovski

Dr. Janet Boseovski (Psychology) has published a popular press article in “The Conversation.” The article summarizes over a decade of her research on children's over-optimism and it has been republished in Newsweek, The Chicago Tribune, and The Los Angeles Times. See this link.

###

Dr. Levi Baker

Dr. Levi Baker (Psychology) has been named associate editor of the academic journal Personal Relationships. An assistant professor, Baker studies social psychology, particularly the psychology of close relationships. In addition to teaching classes, he runs the Close Relationship Lab, which studies problem solving in close relationships. His work has been published in a number of journals, including Journal of Family Psychology, Journal of Experimental Psychology and Journal of Personality and Social Psychology.

###

Excellence in every way, on display

To begin the 2018 Faculty and Staff Excellence Awards Ceremony, UNCG Music students Detra Davis and Jacob Dishman presented Gershwin’s “Summertime.” And before the summertime begins, the university paused to recognize what Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr. called the “extraordinary contributions” of this year’s honorees.

"Today we recognize those who have put forth a sustained and innovative contribution to campus success," Chancellor Gilliam said.

The operative word is “sustained,” he explained. The honorees show excellence consistently, day in and day out.

Eleven awards were presented by Chancellor Gilliam and Provost Dana Dunn during the ceremony, which was hosted by Associate Vice Chancellor Michelle Lamb Moore and Senior Vice Provost Alan Boyette.

The honorees were:

**UNCG Online Award for Excellence in Online Learning**

Dr. Bonnie Canziani

**Mary Settle Sharp Award for Teaching Excellence**

Dr. Kimberly Petersen
James Y. Joyner Award for Teaching Excellence
Dr. Jiyoung Hwang

Anna Maria Gove Award for Teaching Excellence
Dr. Pam Kocher Brown

Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching
Dr. Michael Perko

O. Max Gardner Award nomination
Dr. Debra Wallace

Gladys Strawn Bullard Award
Dr. Jerry Walsh
Deborah Tollefson
Shameeka Wilson

Staff Excellence Award
Murphie Chappell, J.D.
Jane LaMarre

Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award
Professor Rachel Briley

Research Excellence Award
Dr. Mitchell Croatt
Professor Stuart Dischell

Student Learning Enhancement Award
Professor Amanda Cromartie - Accounting
Thomas Undergraduate Research Mentor Award

Dr. Joanne Murphy

The chancellor and provost also made note of Staff Stars throughout the year and recognized faculty and staff who’d reached 30, 35 and 40 years of service.

During the ceremony, the audience enjoyed films created by students in Dr. Michael Frierson’s advanced media practicum. The films highlighted the honorees’ areas of focus and their dedication to students.

See more information, including past years’ recipients and videos, here.

###

Faculty Senate meeting today (Wednesday, May 2)

The final faculty senate meeting of the academic year will be Wednesday, May 2, from 3-5 p.m., in Alumni House. On the agenda are two resolutions to be discussed and voted on: Resolution #FS05022018/1 - which supports the Faculty Assembly’s resolution on Diversity and Inclusion – and Resolution #FS05022018/2 - which approves elimination of the A+ grade option. This meeting will also feature the launch of the faculty senate website. Dr. Olav Rueppell will speak on the topic “Alignment of UNCG Endowment with Institutional Values.”

The senate meeting will close with faculty senate elections. The complete agenda packet can be found at http://facsen.uncg.edu/AgendaItems.asp.

###

Faculty/Staff discount for SoCon Softball Championship

UNCG Softball is hosting the 2018 SoCon Softball Championship from May 9-12 at the UNCG Softball Field. UNCG faculty and staff can enjoy discounted tickets to the championship by clicking the link below, then selecting which day you'd like to attend, then selecting Special Offers. Type 'UNCG' in the Promo Code box to receive $5 tickets. All tickets can be picked up the day of the event at the ticket booth at the entrance to the softball field. Click here to view the championship web page with game times and brackets. Seeding will be finalized after the final game of the regular season on May 6. Call the UNCG Ticket Office at 336.334.3250 for questions or to order over the phone.

Click here.

###

LEAP Summit: Prioritizing Indicators & Planning Next Steps

A summit will be held Friday, May 11, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. (8:30- a.m. Check-in and networking) at the UNCG School of Education Building.

RSVP to LEAP@uncg.edu for directions, parking and accommodations.

Refreshments & lunch will be provided.

A grant leadership team received funding from the Provost's Office a year ago with a goal for UNCG faculty, students and community stakeholders to collaboratively engage with a broad array of community-serving organizations to develop common goals and common measures, and to promote, evaluate, and implement best practices for improving Lifetime Eating and Physical Activity Practices in children
One of our culminating events is this summit for UNCG researchers, students and community agencies to come together for half of a day to discuss the data we have collected thus far as well as the next steps in our plan to improve the health of Guilford County residents. This event will highlight the academic-community partnerships established and maintained through this work.

What is the goal of LEAP? To improve the Lifetime Eating and physical Activity Practices of individuals and families in Guilford County. What is LEAP doing? Working with you and others to measure healthy eating and physical activity in Guilford County so that we can better understand opportunities for improvement. Why worry about indicators and measures? “You can’t change what you don’t know about.” Guilford County is program rich, yet challenged by data gaps related to timely, detailed, and accurate information about the health of our residents. Good data helps us set goals and track progress. Why is UNCG involved? UNCG seeks to transform health and wellness and involve university students and researchers in building more vibrant communities. Building on a series of community meetings co-hosted with Cone Health, a team of UNCG researchers received funds from UNCG to help advance these goals.

Full information is at https://communityengagement.uncg.edu/leap/

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**Life Design Catalyst Coach Training Program**

From Tuesday, May 15 to Friday, May 18, 2018, the School of Health and Human Sciences will host the 9th Life Design Catalyst Coach Training Program at UNCG. See details at https://lifedesigncatalyst.wordpress.com/training/.

Over the course of four days, attendees will be intensely engaged in activities and conversations that empower students (and others) to write their story, find their path, and create a vision for their future - all through their own personal journey.

Attendees will leave with concrete tools and resources that can be immediately implemented in one-on-one meetings, with small groups, in a classroom setting, or as weekly workshops. They will learn and understand the strategies - through their own exploration of purpose and meaning. They will create a vision for life that allows them to take the necessary steps to become the best version of themselves and make the world a better place.

The UNCG Faculty/Staff rate is $99. Want more information? Click this link: https://lifedesigncatalyst.wordpress.com/training/

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**Local Flavor: Wineries and Microbreweries**

Interested in the local wine and craft brew industry? Meet local producers and hear Bryan School professor Dr. Erick Byrd share details on how this industry impacts North Carolina. The event, Tuesday, May 22, at 5:30 p.m., will conclude with light refreshments and craft beverage and wine tasting. Space is limited, please RSVP. Find details at https://www.eventbrite.com/e/local-flavor-wineries-and-microbreweries-tickets-44597051983

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**Medeiros and Aldridge receive inaugural Advising Excellence Awards**

This year UNC Greensboro saw the establishment of a new set of awards:
the Advising Excellence Awards, which were presented by Provost Dana Dunn in a ceremony on Reading Day. Elena Medeiros was honored for advising excellence in the category of professional advisors and Kathryn Aldridge in the category of faculty advisors.

“In the past, advisors were unsung heroes,” said Dunn at the ceremony. “Their critical role in promoting student success has not always been fully recognized. That is no longer the case at UNCG.”

Dunn shared how during the nomination process, more than 100 student and colleague nominations identified more than 60 advisors for recognition, in enthusiastic terms.

“Our student nominators reinforced that good advisors help students make connections between their own goals, the academic programs that are available to them, and to the faculty and staff that are here to support them,” Dunn said.

Also recognized were the finalists in the two categories: Amanda Everhart, Adam Landreth, Caitlin Saraphis, Nic Sprinkle, Sarah Dunning, Ashleigh Gallagher, Tracey Howell and Brook Kreitinger.

Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management Bryan Terry offered his congratulations and closing remarks for the ceremony.

Read more about Advising Excellence Award honorees Medeiros and Aldridge and their thoughts on advising below:

Elena Medeiros is coordinator of academic outreach in the Students First Office, where she may work with upwards of 150 students each semester. She has been an advisor at UNCG for four years, with a focus on Exploratory students – those who have not yet selected a major. For those students, she plays an essential role in helping them find direction in college.

“Advising helps students to understand their new environment and how they fit within that context – I think it’s crucial to helping them approach their education with intention.

I’m the starting point where the seed gets planted. To stick with that metaphor, so much of my work is helping students do the messy work of digging around in the soil, figuring out what roots need to be adjusted, and planting the seed that will one day bloom. Often that seed takes root with the student outside the context of our meetings but occasionally, I get to be present when a student has their ‘a-ha’ moment in the room, when it clicks for them – it’s powerful to witness and it’s a gift to experience.

Many of my students make a point to check in with me prior to making significant academic decisions and they tell me it’s helpful to have validation in their choices. Sometimes, students just need to hear from a knowledgeable ‘other’ that they are on the right track, to feel confident in their own decision making.”
Kathryn Aldridge is assistant professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Studies and coordinator of the Birth through Kindergarten Undergraduate Online Program. She has been an advisor for six years in her current department, and previously she was an advisor for the School of Education for five years, advising students earning a dual teaching license and degree in birth through kindergarten and professions in deafness.

“Through advising students gain clear path to graduation, someone who knows course sequence, which courses go together, a sense that there’s somebody invested in you and pulling for you. Getting the right courses and getting to graduation is ultimately on the students because they’re adults, but I think that it’s a path best traveled with someone else who may know some nuances and some things that you don’t know. So, I like that, and I think students benefit from that aspect of someone guiding them and making suggestions that they can take or not about what courses go together and how many hours to day – I think that supports success.

You have to meld the roles of coach and advisor, and the proportions are different for different students, and creating a balance gives the best student success.

Graduation is one of the most exciting parts. Advisors go through so many things with students – seeing them check things off on their long-range plan of study – and then it all pays off in the end and it’s so exciting.”

Advising Excellence Award finalists

By Susan Kirby-Smith
Photography by Martin W. Kane

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See/hear: May 2, 2018

Watch what happens when UNCG staff recovered a time capsule from the cornerstone of the McIver Building in April 2018.

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Sheryl Oring (Art) will have a chapter in a book released this month that profiles the work done in her Fall 2015 "Introduction to Socially Engaged Art" class taught in the Lloyd International Honors College. The book, “Art as Social Action: An Introduction to the Principles and Practices of Teaching Social Practice Art,” is being published by Allworth Press.

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Terrance Stewart named SoCon Men’s Golf Coach of the Year

The UNCG men’s golf team won its first-ever Southern Conference Championship last week. Spartan coach Terrance Stewart was named the SoCon Coach of the Year.

Stewart is the first coach in program history to win the award from the conference. He has been at the helm since August, 2001.

UNCG freshman Nick Lyerly won the SoCon Individual Championship, with the only sub-par score in the field. He also won the Freshman of the Year Award; a Spartan has won the freshman award five of the past six years.

A league-best three Spartan golfers - Bryce Hendrix, Nick Lyerly and Josh Stockwell - were named to the all-conference team. The three all-conference selections matches last year as the most in program history.

“There was a maturity level that was a little bit higher this year. It was very evident,” Stewart said. He has seen his players mature as students in the classroom, as golfers in practice, in the matches. He noted senior Josh Stockwell, who grew up in Pinehurst and returned to Pinehurst for his final SoCon Tournament. He was so focused.

“It was a storybook end to his regular season,” Stewart said - as the team now heads to the NCAA regionals. And it’s the result of a continual building process many years in the making.

“Our guys have practiced hard,” he explained. They’ve put a lot of effort into their academics. They’ve made good choices off the golf course, he continued. It all allows them to compete at high levels.

“It’s a sign of doing the right things.”

Stewart noted that their winning the title is a university effort - from the players, the professors and staff, the chancellor and administration, alumni, donors. “It takes the entire university.”

The Spartans had posted three straight second-place finishes at the SoCon Championships before taking the title this season. They’ve had 9
UNCG breaks ground on new Nursing and Instructional Building

UNCG brought out the hardhats and golden shovels last Friday at a ceremony to celebrate the official groundbreaking of the new Nursing and Instructional Building. The 180,000-square-foot facility was made possible thanks to state funds from the Connect NC Bond, which was passed by North Carolina voters in the spring of 2016. The $105 million building is slated to open in the summer of 2020.

“The groundbreaking of the Nursing and Instructional Building is a Giant Step – it’s a long-awaited moment not just for the campus community, but for the state,” said Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr. “What happens inside this building will impact the health and wellness of communities across the state.”

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

The building will house 39 labs, 14 classrooms, nine research suites and a community engagement center.

“Because of this additional, state-of-the-art space, UNCG will be able to graduate more nurses, scientists, health care professionals and researchers,” Gilliam said. “These are the people who will provide care for our families and shape our communities.”

North Carolina Senate President Pro Tempore Phil Berger and several representatives from the North Carolina legislature were on hand for the event. Berger lauded the Connect NC Bond for providing a building that will better prepare students in the nursing and STEM fields. Speaking to students, he said:

“This building is about you.”

The Nursing and Instructional Building will be located on the former site of the McIver Building, which was demolished earlier this month.

“While we make way for the New Nursing and Instructional Building, we recognize that the learning, research and creative production that took place here will always remain an indelible part of our institution,” said Chancellor Gilliam.

Prior to the McIver Building’s demolition, a time capsule with UNCG commemorative items from 1908 and 1959 was removed from the building’s cornerstone. See a video of these items below and learn more at this link.

Visit thebigbuild.uncg.edu for more on the Nursing and Instructional Building and related construction projects.
UNCG Police Officer Taylor Trantham named UNC System Officer of the Year

The University of North Carolina System has named UNC Greensboro Police Department Officer Taylor Trantham as its 2018 Officer of the Year. Officer Trantham received the award during the UNC Chiefs of Police Conference held on April 25 at the Spangler Center.

During the past year, Officer Trantham responded to more than 500 calls for service as the primary officer. Among the more notable responses, he helped extinguish a fire that occurred in the UNCG Auditorium during a dress rehearsal on April 4, 2017. Thanks to the efforts of the stage crew and Officer Trantham, the fire was contained and no serious injuries occurred.

Officer Trantham has also demonstrated a remarkable commitment to the people in the community. He has led efforts to repair bikes for local children and regularly devotes his own time and money to ensure children in an adjacent neighborhood get to experience Halloween each year. Officer Trantham also collected donations in order to send a Hurricane Harvey Relief package for the officers and families of the Houston Police Department.

See full story at UNC Now site.

UNCG’s LISSA is 2018 Student Chapter of the Year

The New Members Round Table (NRMT) of the American Library Association Student Chapter of the Year Award Committee (SCOTYA) congratulates the UNC Greensboro’s Library and Information Studies Student Association (LISSA) as the winner of the 2018 ALA Student Chapter of the Year Award.

This is the first time UNCG Greensboro’s LISSA has received the award.

See full story here.