Welcome to Campus Weekly

At popular Collage concert: Bernstein at 100

UNCG School of Music’s 11th annual Collage performance, one of the most popular events each year, will grace the UNCG Auditorium stage – and many areas of the concert hall – September 8.

Collage is a unique event, put on by over 300 School of Music students and many of the school’s faculty.

The performance flow one into the other, non-stop, in various locations in the auditorium, presenting a great variety of works. No matter your preferred kind of performing arts, there’s sure to be something for you.

This year, Collage: Bernstein at 100 celebrates the work of one of the most iconic American musicians, Leonard Bernstein. From “West Side Story” to the New York Philharmonic, to the fall of the Berlin Wall, Bernstein touched nearly every aspect of 20th century life, in both America and worldwide. Join the School of Music as they host a tribute to his legacy.

Collage sells out every year, so make sure to secure your tickets in advance. All proceeds from the event go towards the funding of scholarships for the School of Music. For more information, see the page on the CVPA website here.
Enjoy nights of 1,000 stars (and some planets)

The stars will be on full display this semester in both the UNCG Planetarium and the Three College Observatory.

Reservations are needed to see shows in either location.

The UNCG Planetarium, operated by the Department of Physics and Astronomy, is in Room 310 of the Petty Science Building. The planetarium will be open for public viewing on the following dates at 7:30 p.m.:

Sept 28
Oct 26
Nov 16
Dec 14

The Three College Observatory, operated jointly by UNCG, North Carolina A&T State University and Guilford College, will have public viewings on the following dates and times:

Sept 21, 8:30 p.m.
Oct 13, 7:30 p.m.
Nov 9, 7 p.m.
Dec 8, 6:30 p.m.

For more information about the public nights and to reserve seats, visit the Physics Department website at physics.uncg.edu.
UNCG receives national STEM education award

UNC Greensboro has received the 2018 Inspiring Programs in STEM Award from INSIGHT Into Diversity magazine, the largest and oldest diversity and inclusion publication in higher education. The Inspiring Programs in STEM Award honors colleges and universities that encourage and assist students from underrepresented groups to enter the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Inspiriting Programs in STEM Award winners were selected by INSIGHT Into Diversity based on efforts to inspire and encourage a new generation of young people to consider careers in STEM through mentoring, teaching, research and successful programs and initiatives.

Read the full story here.

Dr. Steven Fordahl explores effects of high saturated fat diets

High saturated fat diets physically alter the way we think about food. They wreck the brain’s pleasure center, requiring ever more saturated fat to elicit the same level of enjoyment. Assistant professor Steven Fordahl is determining how and why that wreckage occurs.

Fordahl explores the flow of neurotransmitters in the brain to identify the causes of – and potentially treatments for – obesity. Obesity is one of the fastest growing public health concerns in America. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, it affects over one-third of our population.

To better understand obesity’s dominance over the brain, Fordahl measures real-time neurotransmission in response to food intake. The technique is typically used to map neural circuitry, but Fordahl, who joined UNC Greensboro’s Department of Nutrition last year, uses it to illustrate the profound effect that dietary choices have on normal brain function.

Fordahl’s work builds upon research conducted during his postdoc, which found that the brain responds differently to various types of dietary fat. He says an ideal diet limits saturated fat...
in favor of mono- and poly-unsaturated fats. The combination helps the brain control appetite, leading to less potential for overeating.

As we consume food, the brain releases the neurotransmitter dopamine as a messenger to the central nervous system. The dopamine activates specific neural circuits to tell us we are full and feel content. During his postdoc, Fordahl measured dopamine neurotransmission in response to diets high in saturated fat and found significant reductions in regular dopamine message delivery.

“Saturated fat highjacks the brain’s reward system in a way that may promote overeating, especially over time,” he says. “A diet that is high in saturated fat may change the way we perceive the foods we are eating.”

Over the past year Fordahl’s research group at UNCG has sought to further understand how saturated fat takes control of these normal brain functions. He is examining whether immune system proteins, called cytokines, change dopamine signaling in the brain as a result of a poor diet.

When fat tissue expands, it triggers the release of cytokines, which contributes to the development of insulin resistance and – if activation of the immune system is prolonged – diseases like diabetes. Fordahl wants to know if the same inflammatory immune response alters dopamine’s control over feelings of fullness, potentially accelerating obesity and other disease progression.

To get a clear picture of the relationship between food choice and immune response, Fordahl is measuring cytokine levels in dopamine-rich areas of the brain under different dietary
conditions.

“We ran a full suite of experiments to see how the neurons in the dopamine-rich regions of the brain are functioning in response to different diets,” says Fordahl. “The next step is to correlate that with cytokine levels, to measure the impact of inflammation on dopamine signaling.”

Fordahl’s results already have important implications for obesity prevention. As he digs deeper into how saturated fats reprogram the brain, he ultimately hopes to discover how to reverse the whole process and restore the body back to health.

This text originally appeared in the spring edition of UNCG Research Magazine.

By Rebecca Guenard
Composite image by Mike Dickens

Spartans out to the ball game this Friday

This Friday, August 24, is UNC Greensboro Fan Appreciation Night with the Greensboro Grasshoppers, with a lot in store for Spartans.

You’ll see UNCG coaches throwing out the first pitch, the Bands of Sparta pep band, plenty of Spartan giveaways, the UNCG Spartones singing the National Anthem and Chancellor Gilliam with “Take Me Out To the Ballgame” at the 7th inning stretch. Fireworks are scheduled immediately after the game.

Discounted tickets can be purchased by UNCG students, faculty and staff for $8. The discount is only honored via ticket orders on the website https://groupmatics.events/event/UNCGNight. The website will close at 5 p.m. on Aug. 24.

For more information about the Greensboro Grasshoppers and First National Bank Field, visit the website.

Food at First National Bank Field is now in-house and led by Bryan School alumnus Drew Gill
’96. Read more about his career path and his plans for the Grasshoppers’ stadium food here.

What’s new on campus this fall

As we begin the Fall 2018 semester, you’ll notice a lot of changes – and CW will have stories on some of these in coming weeks. Here’s a sampling:

- New undergraduate programs, including an online bachelor’s degree in integrated professional studies and new minors in arts in community and creative writing
- Studio 91, a themed housing community for students studying or interested in the arts
- A new, full-service Chick-fil-A on the bottom floor of the Elliott University Center, and four new restaurants – BUILD Pizza by Design, Burger 336, Create and nOma food & co – in the redesigned EUC Food Court
- A newly designed transition seminar – FYE 101: Succeed at the G – for first-year and transfer students
- New graduate programs, including a post-baccalaureate certificate in design and making in education, and new concentrations in the information systems and supply chain management program
- New dining and grocery options at the Shops at Spartan Village, including the highly anticipated Bestway Marketplace (opening soon)
- Lime Scooters – just $1 to unlock and 15 cents per minute to ride
- New name: The Department of Geography is now the Department of Geography, Environment and Sustainability (GES).

Have news from your department or school? Let us know.

See full story at UNCG Now.

Compiled by Alyssa Bedrosian.

Starfish News & Reminders Fall 2018

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

Updates, Reminders, & Training Opportunities

- **NEW Communication Plan for flagged students:** Students who are issued academic flags and/or kudos via Starfish will now receive email communication addressed from their course instructors. This change was implemented as a result of consistent feedback received from faculty and instructors at UNCG. This update to email communication will further personalize the correspondence that students receive and enhance engagement with their course instructors. Instructors may reference the Starfish for Faculty & Instructors webpage to see sample email templates. Previously, these emails were addressed from the Students First Office.

- **Starfish Referrals:** Starfish offers instructors and academic support staff several referral options for directing students to helpful campus resources. Raising a referral will simultaneously alert the student to take action and notify the service provider of the referral. New referral options are available this fall for the Students First Office (SFO) and International Student & Scholar Services (ISSS).

- **Starfish Training for Faculty and Staff:** Starfish 101 workshops are available throughout the semester to help new users learn how to navigate basic Starfish features. Workshop details and sign-ups can be accessed at workshops.uncg.edu.

New to Starfish? Here is some information on how UNCG currently uses this technology.

**Instructors and faculty** use Starfish to:

- Raise alert flags for your students with academic and personal concerns so that they can connect with the resources and people that may help them
- Give kudos to students who are performing well or showing improvement
- Issue referrals to connect students to campus resources that may help them
- Complete Academic Status Reports throughout the semester to flag many students at once. Instructors will receive email alerts on the following dates: September 3 & September 25
- Post office-hour availability and manage student meetings

**Advisors & academic support staff** use Starfish to:

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

*Students* use Starfish to:

- Keep track of the feedback they get from their instructors
- Schedule appointments with their instructors and advisors who use Starfish for online scheduling

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

**Aug 2018 General Education Program Assessment Results Forums**

UNCG’s General Education Council invites faculty, staff and students to participate in the General Education Program Assessment Results Forums scheduled to be held in the Faculty Center on Tuesday, August 28, from 10 am to noon, and in 2711 MHRA on Wednesday, August 29, from noon – 2:00 pm.

Council members will present and lead discussion of results from the fall 2018 assessment of the Historical Perspectives (GHP) and the Reasoning & Discourse (GRD) categories.

The General Education Program provides the foundation for the more specialized knowledge gained in a major. Because the program belongs to the entire university, everyone’s input is vital to its improvement.

Questions? Email [tebrumfi@uncg.edu](mailto:tebrumfi@uncg.edu).

**Make nominations for Alumni Teaching Excellence Awards by Aug. 29**

Provost Dunn and the Board of Governors/Alumni Teaching Excellence Awards Committee invite members of the UNCG community to nominate individuals for the 2018-2019 Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching, or for one of three Alumni Teaching Excellence Awards described below. Recipients of these awards receive an honorarium and university-wide or, in the case of the Board of Governors award, state-wide recognition. Self-nominations are encouraged. [Click here for the nomination form](http://nominationform). Eligible faculty members
who received a 2017-2018 teaching award from their School or College will be nominated automatically.

The nomination period closes Wednesday, August 29. Nominees will be reviewed to ensure basic criteria are met. Eligible nominees will be invited to submit dossiers. Completed dossiers are due by 5pm Monday, October 22, 2018. Award recipients will be notified in spring 2019. The dossier cover sheet and submission instructions are available at the BOG / ATEA Site.

UNC Board of Governors Excellence in Teaching Award (for Tenured Faculty) is open to tenured faculty members who have completed at least seven years of teaching at UNCG. The BOG Award is the highest post-secondary award in the state and carries the expectation that applicants will be exceptional teachers who have extended their pedagogical activities beyond the classroom. The award recognizes outstanding teaching (including online or blended instruction, mentorship and educational service) that has resulted in the advancement of the profession. The Board of Governors presents one faculty member from each UNC school with this award every year. The award brings statewide recognition.

Mary Settle Sharp Alumni Teaching Excellence Award (for Tenured Faculty) is open to tenured faculty members who have completed at least three years of teaching at UNCG. The award recognizes outstanding teaching (including online or blended instruction, and mentorship) at UNCG.

James Y. Joyner Alumni Teaching Excellence Award (for Untenured, Tenure-Track Faculty) is open to untenured, tenure-track faculty members who have completed at least three years of teaching at UNCG. The award recognizes outstanding teaching (including online or blended instruction, and mentorship) at UNCG.

Anna Maria Gove Alumni Teaching Excellence Award (for Non-Tenure-Track Faculty) is open to any full-time non-tenure-track faculty member (lecturer, academic professional, clinical faculty, etc.) who has completed at least three years of teaching at UNCG. The award recognizes outstanding teaching (including online or blended instruction) at UNCG.

Those with questions may contact: Marisa Gonzalez at (teach_xl@uncg.edu).

Faculty Funding application deadlines - September 14 and October 19

For 2018-19, the Global Engagement Office has up to $25,000 in Global Engagement Course Development Award funding available for faculty to create or revise courses incorporating the
four Global Engagement SLOs. Awards range from $500 (revised course) to $1,000 (new course or series of courses). The Fall 2019 deadlines to apply are September 14 and October 19.

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

Please visit globalqep.uncg.edu/faculty/grants.htm for more details on available awards.

Learning modules available for developing and teaching online courses

Interested in teaching online or improving your knowledge of online education?

Visit readytoteach.uncg.edu, a free resource developed by UNCG Online to help university level instructors and teaching assistants plan, develop, teach, and evaluate online courses. Ready to Teach reflects national best practices in instructional design, online teaching, and educational research.

Each of the four modules takes about 30 minutes to complete and begins with a video of experienced UNCG instructors sharing their insights for teaching online. Modules include evidence-based strategies, brief exercises, and downloadable templates. A quiz concludes each module, and a certificate can be earned by passing the cumulative exam.

To learn more, contact readytoteach@uncg.edu.

Dr. Pamela Williamson

Dr. Pamela Williamson (Specialized Education Services) received a continuation of funding from the US Department of Education’s Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) for the project “Project Teaching, Leading, and Collaborating (TLC): Serving Students with Significant Intellectual Disabilities, Including Autism.” Dr. Marcie Rock is co-principal investigator on the project.

According to the abstract, more than 50,000 students with disabilities need licensed teachers
prepared to support their diverse learning needs. The project is designed to address critical special education teacher shortages, as well as recruit, prepare, and retain master teacher leaders to facilitate delivery of research and evidence-based practices to improve outcomes for students with low-incidence disabilities in least restrictive environments (LRE). Outcomes include an increased supply of diverse, high quality, licensed special education teachers, improved learning and developmental student outcomes and increased teacher retention through development of leadership and collaborative skills.

Dr. Diane Ryndak

Dr. Diane Ryndak (Specialized Education Services) received a continuation of funding from the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Special Education Programs for the project “Project LEAPS: Leadership in Extensive and Pervasive Support Needs.” Dr. Christie Cavanaugh and Dr. Kara Holden are co-principal investigators on the project.

The program will focus on competencies for conducting research and preparing teachers to work with students historically labeled as having significant intellectual disabilities, autism, severe, or multiple disabilities, areas in which there has been a chronic critical shortage of qualified teachers nationally and in North Carolina. LEAPS will extend UNCG’s current competencies for research, preservice teacher preparation, and service, and add competencies for evidence-based practices (EBP) to meet the needs of high-needs students with extensive and pervasive support needs (EPSN) in low-performing schools. Scholars will learn competencies in inclusive practices, secondary and post-secondary education and transition, EBP and individualized supports (including assistive technology), advocacy, and academic and behavioral Multi-Tiered Systems of Support. The intent is to improve outcomes for these students and their schools.

Dr. Jane He

Dr. Jane He (Teacher Education and Higher Education) received a continuation of funding from the U.S. Department of Education for the project “Engaging and Advancing Community-centered Teacher Development (EnACTeD).” Dr. Jeannette Alarcon, Dr. Melody
Patterson Zoch and Dr. Jamie Schissel are co-principal investigators on the project. This project showcases a community-centered teacher development model through which teacher educators, teacher candidates, families and community partners are actively engaged in the communities of practice. Through this model, families’ cultural and linguistic assets are leveraged through their engagement in teacher professional development module development, participation in family literacy and technology activities, and support for teacher candidates’ bilingual language competency development. Inservice teachers are prepared to take on leadership roles in community engagement activities and teacher mentoring through their participation in the PD and add-on licensure program. Preservice teachers are intentionally recruited from elementary majors and paraprofessionals with bilingual backgrounds. They are offered opportunities to practice dual language instructional strategies and seek English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL)/dual language licensure.

Dr. Stephen Sills

Dr. Stephen Sills (Center for Housing and Community Studies) received new funding from the Hinton Center for the project “Consulting and Technical Assistance to Hinton Rural Life Center.”

The UNCG Center for Housing and Community Studies will provide consulting and technical assistance services to help in addressing the need for affordable and safe housing in rural southern Appalachia. Researchers will work with Hinton Rural Life Center staff and community members in Clay, Cherokee, and Towns Counties to develop a strategy to implement the findings and recommendation of the 2017 “Enhancing Quality of Life in Southern Appalachia An Asset Based Community Development Planning Report,” engage in community capacity building, develop strategic short/mid/long-term plans and explore economic models for sustaining the work of the Hinton Center.

Researchers will explore and identify affordable housing models tailored to rural areas, document and propose ways to address substandard housing conditions that lead to negative health outcomes, and develop new strategies to leverage local assets to address these health and housing issues. Their process will identify specific housing and health issues using local, regional and national data sources, identify resources that might be used to address these issues, and create an action plan to address the issues as well as develop evaluation metrics to assess change.
Dr. Terri Shelton

Dr. Terri Shelton (Office of Research and Engagement / Center for Youth, Family and Community Partnerships) received new funding from Guilford County for the project “Specialty Courts Staff Support.”

As part of the process initiated by the Guilford County Board of Commissioners in 2010, UNC Greensboro’s CYFCP was selected to provide one qualified FTE Juvenile Court Case Coordinator. The funding provided to the specialty courts has increased since 2010, and UNCG CYFCP presently provides two qualified FTE juvenile drug treatment court case coordinators, two qualified FTE drug treatment court case coordinators, two qualified FTE mental health court case coordinators and one qualified FTE specialty court manager.

Shelton is the vice chancellor of research and engagement and holds the Carol Jenkins Mattocks Distinguished Professorship here at UNC Greensboro. In that role, she oversees community and economic engagement efforts on campus, along with research administration and compliance, and 8 interdisciplinary research centers. Her experience includes over 70 publications, $20 million in grants and contracts, and over 25 years of clinical experience in pediatrics and psychiatry.

Dr. Claudia Pagliaro

Dr. Claudia Pagliaro (Specialized Education Services) received a continuation of funding from the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Special Education Programs for the project “Salus University subaward for student doctoral fellowship.”

The National Leadership Consortium in Sensory Disabilities (NLCSD) is a doctoral level professional preparation Cooperative Agreement funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs and is administered by Salus University. The consortium consists of 25 universities with doctoral programs that have an emphasis in one or more of the three sensory impairment areas: blind/visually impaired, deaf/hard of hearing, and deafblindness.

Fellowships including tuition and stipends are available to US citizens and permanent residents who must first be accepted into a doctoral program. Fellowships provide funding for
tuition and a stipend for four years of doctoral study. NLCSD Fellows participate together in a structured added-value enrichment program in addition to their individual universities’ doctoral programs of study in special education. The added-value NLCSD Research Based Conceptual Model supplements the research curriculum provided at the NLCSD parent universities. During the Fellows’ studies, there is an ongoing, on-line asynchronous, wiki based research forum which provides opportunities for Fellows to critically examine research issues in the field, engage in discussion with faculty and researchers across the country and engage collaboratively in designing, implementing and disseminating research.

Doctoral students in specialized education services with a specialization in deafness have been selected by NLCSD.

**Dr. Justin Harmon**

Dr. Justin Harmon (Community and Therapeutic Recreation) received new funding from the City of Greensboro for the project “Greensboro Parks and Recreation Student Assistantship.”

According to the abstract, the assistantship shall be offered following the schedule of the UNC Greensboro’s fall and spring academic calendar of the respective academic year. The UNCG graduate assistant assigned to the city program will accomplish the following during his assignment:

- Assist in the development of measurement tools to be used in evaluating existing and future recreation programs and facilities used for those programs.
- Assist in implementing those measurement tools in pre-program and post-program evaluations.
- Assist in the cataloging, data entry and analysis of those measurement outcomes in order to develop insights into best practices and future needs.
- Assist in the development of the healthy parks initiative which will include promotions and marketing of Greensboro parks and facilities to community members.
- Establish partnerships with other health and wellness providers in the city to promote the healthy parks initiative to combat health concerns including obesity, diabetes, depression, etc.
Looking ahead: Aug. 22, 2018

Grasshoppers + UNCG Night
Friday, Aug. 24, 7 p.m., First National Bank Field

Discussion: Creativity and collaboration
Wednesday, Aug. 29, 4 p.m., Weatherspoon

Faculty Senate Meeting
Wednesday, Sept. 5, 3 p.m.

Staff Senate Meeting
Thursday, Sept. 6, 10 a.m., Room B, Kaplan Wellness Center

UNCG Collage concert
Saturday, Sept. 8, 7:30 p.m., UNCG Auditorium