

## Welcome to Campus Weekly



UNCG

CAMPUSWEEKLY

### Jeanne Madorin on board as HR associate vice chancellor



Jeanne Madorin's first day at UNCG was Feb. 6.

Campus Weekly asked the new Chief Human Resources Officer and Associate Vice Chancellor of Human Resources her impressions of UNCG so far. What stands out? "The people - from the first interviews on. They've been very welcoming. Everyone is so great."

She is impressed with the campus. "The campus is beautiful - a lot of history. It's so nice to see historical buildings and the newer ones."

And she has enjoyed speaking with students. "They're so active and engaged."

Jeanne (two syllables, by the way) Madorin comes to UNCG from UNC Charlotte, where she served as the Executive Director of Human Resources. She had served in the UNC Charlotte Human Resources Office for the past 26 years - serving as Executive Director since 2014, Director of Employee Relations, Training and Compliance and Title IX Coordinator 2002-14, and Assistant Director of Human Resources and Staff Employment 1992-2002. Earlier, she was Employment Coordinator at The Methodist Home in Charlotte, and before that, she held human resource positions in St. Louis, Missouri.

She holds a bachelor's of science degree in management from Maryville University in St. Louis, Missouri.

Her first objectives, in her initial weeks here? “To learn about UNCG, the campus. And to build relationships. To learn how things are done here. And I want to understand how the HR department can help the University achieve its goals.”

“I’m new. And very interested in how things are done here.”

And she’ll begin to assess her department. “How are we doing? The areas where HR is strong? And what are areas for improvement?”

She is inspired by “being a part of the solution” and a resource for people, she said. “Whether helping a person or a department with benefits, or with hiring, [in human resources] you’re a helpful part of the process from day one.”

She shared a bit about her background and family. “My husband and I have two sons. One is a high school teacher. The other is a firefighter. My daughter-in-law works with K-12 children as a Deaf educator. She is an alum from here. And she is an adjunct instructor here at the School of Education.”

She wants to get to know you. She has a request for UNCG staff and faculty: “Say Hi and introduce yourself. And tell me what you do and about your area.”

*By Mike Harris*

*Photograph by Martin W. Kane*

## **Piney Lake Spring Opening celebration**



UNCG’s Piney Lake, the more than 40-acre property once called “Country Club of Woman’s College,” opens for weekend recreation Saturday, March 16, with a spring opening celebration, hosted by the Department of Recreation and Wellness and Campus Activities and Programs.

The event begins at 11 a.m., and the first 200 guests receive complimentary food from Bojangles.

In addition to water and land activities, there will be giveaways, and music by DJ Roxci.

Visitors can enjoy kayaks, canoes, paddleboats, stand up paddleboards, 18-hole disc golf course, hiking trails, volleyball, cornhole, badminton, and more.

The event is open to all UNCG community members and up to 4 guests who attend with a UNCG student, faculty member, or staff member. Free Spartan Chariots will run every half hour from 10:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. from the EUC circle. Parking is limited.

Piney Lake is open March through October, Saturdays and Sundays from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and open free of charge to students, Kaplan Center for Wellness members, and up to four of their guests. Non-members may purchase weekend passes [here](#).

The lake offers swimming, boating activities and catch and release fishing. Picnic areas with charcoal grills and grilling tools are also available. The property also offers a lakeside lodge, which is available to rent at a low cost for UNCG departments seeking space for meetings and workshops.

Team QUEST, the experiential education program also located at Piney Lake, offers custom programs for teams and groups. Learn more about Team QUEST here: [recwell.uncg.edu/teamquest/](http://recwell.uncg.edu/teamquest/)

## Spartans initiate new N.C. wildlife license plate design



The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission has unveiled a newly designed wildlife conservation license plate, which features a drawing of a Pine Barrens treefrog along with the agency's "Wildlife" logo.

UNCG faculty members and alumni are the initiators behind the design.

In 2014, biology lecturer Ann Somers and Professor Emeritus Catherine Matthews guided two UNCG students-now-alumni, Rachel Carico-Bair and Amy Gonsalves, in hosting an art competition for the design. The competition was their leadership project for an honors class. They received more than 35 entries. Five designs were selected as finalists and the winning image was chosen by members of the Nongame Wildlife Advisory Committee (NWAC), which advises the Commission regarding the conservation of nongame wildlife species and their habitats.

When the new license plate was released, Somers was recognized for 22 years of service to the NWAC.

“She was crucial to many of the ‘out of the box’ concepts that reached implementation over the last few years,” said Chief of the Commissions’ Habitat Conservation Division Shannon Deaton, who also mentioned how Somers accompanied herself and students to congressional offices to discuss the value of federal funding for wildlife diversity and the NC Wildlife Action Plan.

“Basically, she put her money where her mouth was. She didn’t just talk about it, she did things to put conservation in action. The agency is grateful for her professional candor and tireless efforts to take conservation to the next step without boundaries.”



According to the Commission, the Pine Barrens treefrog is “a medium-sized green treefrog with a white-bordered lavender stripe down each side of its body. The frog is found in the pine forests and sandhills of south-central North Carolina.”

The plate is available through the [N.C. Department of Motor Vehicles](#) and costs \$30, with \$20 from each plate going to the agency’s Nongame and Endangered Wildlife Fund. The new design replaces the cardinal and dogwood logo, which has been the symbol of the fund since 1983—the year the fund was first established by the North Carolina General Assembly. The fund supports projects and programs conducted by the [Wildlife Diversity Program](#).

By Susan Kirby-Smith

## UNC Greensboro Back to the Future: The Story of the 1960s

On Thursday, March 14, from noon until 1:30 pm, a drop-in open house will celebrate the opening of the exhibition “UNC Greensboro Back to the Future: The Story of the 1960s.” This exhibit is curated by one graduate and two undergraduate students, working in collaboration with SCUA and Grogan Residential College. The exhibit will combine campus history, including key events like co-education and the Tate Street protests of 1963, with reflections from current students on how that history is reflected today. Pop in any time between noon and 1:30 p.m. to chat with the student curators and see their work. More details: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1028269374047494/>

On Thursday, March 21st at 3:30 pm, Archives will host a talk by Dr. Heather Adams titled

“Imagining the Voices in Curry Cottage: Being Pregnant and Unmarried in the Era of ‘Free Love’.” Although the later 1960s is nostalgically considered a time of “free love,” the incalculable cost of being a young, unmarried, and pregnant woman cannot be denied and should not be forgotten. In this talk, Dr. Heather Adams, Assistant Professor of English at UNC Greensboro, draws from her oral history research with once-unwed mothers from the 1960s to explain the rhetorics of shame and the raced- and classed-practices of secret-keeping and hiding that led to unwed and pregnant women relinquishing not only a child for adoption but their very identity as mothers. Extrapolating from the stories she has gathered, Adams will use critical imagination to speculate as to Curry Cottage, a building once on the UNCG campus that, starting in 1968, was used to enable teenage and pregnant girls to continue their schooling. More details: <https://www.facebook.com/events/617211418717941/>

## **Nancy Rourke, Deaf artist and ARTivist, will visit campus**

As part of UNCG’s yearlong 1960s event series, the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures will host a special guest March 21-23, Nancy Rourke, a well-known and prolific Deaf artist.

March 21, she will be one of the panelists during the LLC Symposium: The Global ’60s.

March 22, she will teach a painting session with deaf and hard of hearing students from Guilford County Schools.

Saturday, March 23, Rourke will be a guest speaker in the EUC Auditorium from 10 a.m. to noon, with a presentation titled “The ’60s: Exploring a Marginalized Culture through Art.” The morning event is free and open to the public. Rourke will also conduct a painting session in the Kirkland Room from 2 to 5 p.m. (Lunch is provided to participants, and \$15 tickets are available [here](#).)

Students and student interns from Professions in Deafness will be on-hand to assist with events.

## **“The Global Sixties” symposium will explore worldwide social movements**

UNCG has been commemorating the 1960s with a series of events since last fall, and now the symposium “The Global Sixties” will be hosted by the Department of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. The symposium will explore the tradition of protest movements around the world and their impact on modern social movements. It will investigate how sixties-era concerns of civil rights and politics continue to shape social movements today.

The symposium will span two days and feature a variety of workshops and presentations on topics including “Representations of Protest and Dissent: The Ethics of Aesthetics,” “New Perspectives on Protest and Activism”, “The Sixties in Asia”, and “The Future of the Sixties.”

There will be a wide variety of presenters, including historian William P. Childers, artist Nancy Rourke, poet and professor of Spanish Verónica Grossi, MSU German Studies Coordinator Dr. Peter Schweppe, and many more.

There will also be a film screening, in concert with the Human Rights Research Network, of *The Edukators*, a crime drama about three anti-capitalist Berlin activists who break into upper-class homes and encounter a former radical activist who had been active during the 1960s.

The symposium is March 21-22 at the UNCG Alumni House.

Entrance is free and open to the public, but if you would like to join lunch on the 21st, contact Dr. Susanne Rinner at [s\\_rinner@uncg.edu](mailto:s_rinner@uncg.edu). For more information, or for disability accommodations, contact Rinner as well.

## Science Education Research panel March 25

RISE Network will host a networking lunch for Jenny Dauer, from the University of Nebraska, on Monday, March 25, from 11:45-1:30 p.m. in Eberhart 310.

Her presentation for lunch is titled “Navigating a Pathway from Teaching and Science to *Science Education Research*.”

Jenny Dauer is an Assistant Professor of Science Literacy in the School of Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska. Dauer’s research interests include developing and investigating science classroom models to support student decision-making practices and systems thinking. Dauer has a Ph.D. from Oregon State University in Forest Science, an M.S. in Ecology, and a B.S. in Secondary Education from Penn State University.

Please RSVP for lunch here: <https://goo.gl/forms/wbOLujK96QqybKrG2>

## Love and Compassion in Education

The second annual Diversity in Language and Culture Conference will focus on the theme of “Love and Compassion in Education”.

Educators consider how love and compassion is important in education, what it looks like,

and how it can make schools a better place.

This year, UNCG will welcome Dr. Laura Rendón as the keynote speaker. She is professor emerita at the University of Texas-San Antonio, and author of the book *Sentipensante (Sensing/Thinking Pedagogy): Education for Wholeness, Social Justice, and Liberation*. Focusing on ensuring student success, especially for low income and first generation students, Rendón developed the asset-based student success framework “validation theory”, which has been employed in studies and programs in two- and four-year colleges and universities.

The conference will be May 4, 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. in the School of Education Building. See [here](#) for the full schedule. Go [here](#) to register. Early bird registration is \$20 and includes lunch, while on-site registration the day of the conference is \$25.

## Join CFRN for a “Lunch and Learn”

A CFRN lunch-and-learn will be held Tuesday, March 12, 11:30-1 p.m. in the EUC’s Alexander Room.

The topic is “Follow me: Social media and scholarship.”

Hear from UNCG Communications and ORE Communications and Media to learn new skills to increase your social media presence

11:30 Lunch and Networking

12:00: Presentation and Discussion

RSVP to [CFRN@UNCG.edu](mailto:CFRN@UNCG.edu)

## Fun at Faculty and Staff Alumni Network



Last week, the Alumni Association hosted the kickoff luncheon for the Faculty and Staff Alumni Network. 107 were in attendance, receiving not only a catered lunch but swag bags and t-shirts.

And posing for fun photos, on the day before “Believe in the G.”

Former director of the Alumni Association and two-time alumnus Jeff Colbert, who has taught at UNCG for 32 years, gave welcoming remarks.

The Network will host more events in the future, directed by the interests of those who join. A survey was available during the lunch, but any faculty/staff alumni may contact Dorian Thompson at [Drthomp2@uncg.edu](mailto:Drthomp2@uncg.edu) to join the Network or to offer suggestions.

## Newsmakers: Kiss, Cech, Lilly, Giddens, Castaldo, and more

Whether researchers with timely insights or students with outstanding stories, members of the UNCG community appear in print, web and broadcast media every day. Here is a sampling of UNCG-related stories in the news and media over the week:

- Dean John Z. Kiss and Dr. Nadja Cech will be among the presenters at the upcoming Greensboro TedX forum, as featured in the News & Record. [The article.](#)
- Dean Castaldo, associate director of alumni engagement, was included in the Triad Business Journal’s 40 under 40 list. [The list.](#)
- Professor Janet Lilly’s dance workshop at Parul University, Vadodara, India, was highlighted in The Daily Excelsior, a widely-read Indian newspaper. [The article.](#)
- UNCG alumna Rhiannon Giddens was profiled in Smithsonian Mag, in connection with her new album. [The feature.](#)
- WFMY News 2 published a feature on UNCG’s 10th year being recognized by Tree

Campus USA, with comment from Assistant Director of Grounds Andrew Currin. [The piece.](#)

- Spectrum News featured UNCG's Health Impact Team, a group of 15 students who worked with the City of Greensboro to reduce lead exposure in city housing. [The article.](#)

## Vegetables? Flowers? Come garden.

Did you know that UNCG has a Campus Garden available to employees and students?

UNCG Campus Garden consists of 50 raised beds available to our UNCG community. Plots are priced at \$10 for a semester, or \$20 for the spring, summer and fall. They may be purchased by a team of individuals or as a department/ office.

What a great wellness opportunity to do with your department, office or group of friends.

A variety of annual vegetables, fruits and flowers can be planted. Shovels, trowels, watering cans, compost, and water are provided. You provide your own gloves, seeds or plants. Workshops will also be provided throughout the growing season!

Plots sell out fast.

To reserve your spot:

1. Visit the campus garden website.
2. Click on the Garden Application on the left side bar.
3. Send the application and check via interoffice mail to Susan Andreatta, Anthropology, 433 Graham Building.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Andreatta at [s\\_andrea@uncg.edu](mailto:s_andrea@uncg.edu).

## Archives, Archiving, and Community Engagement Discussion Group

Join in on Friday, March 15, at 2pm for a kick off event for the campus-wide Archives, Archiving, and Community Engagement discussion group. This group will be led by UNCG University Archivist Erin Lawrimore and is sponsored by UNC Greensboro's Institute for Community and Economic Engagement (ICEE) Faculty Fellows Program.

The event is March 15th, 2-3pm, Hodges Reading Room (Jackson Library).

Meet to chat about how we can collaborate to ensure that artifacts of community-engaged

scholarship as well as the archives of our partner communities are preserved in a sustainable, accessible way.

Everyone – faculty, staff, administrators, students, and community members – is welcome to join us and help guide the direction of the group’s discussions throughout 2019. For more information, please see:

<https://communityengagement.uncg.edu/archives-archiving-and-community/>.

## New Information Studies degree program this fall

UNCG has announced a new [bachelor of science in information studies](#) – the second degree program of its kind in North Carolina – set to launch in the fall of 2019.

This new, multidisciplinary program blends coursework from library and information studies, computer science, geography, information systems/supply chain management, and education research methodology to prepare students to work for a variety of organizations that handle data and information systems and need to leverage this information for decision making.

The program consists of three focus areas: management, maintenance, and design of information systems; training, development, and user education; and geographic information systems.

See full story at [UNCG Now](#).

## Get involved: Celebrate international community at I-Fest April 6



The International Programs Center (IPC) of UNCG coordinates and develops the University’s international activities to help ensure that the University achieves its international goals.

IPC announces the 37th annual International Festival (I-Fest) on the University’s campus Kaplan Commons (Elliott University Center Lawn) on April 6 from noon to 5 pm. I-Fest is one

of UNCG's largest and longest running events that brings together the campus and surrounding communities for a celebration of culture and global learning.

"This event is the perfect way to celebrate our international community in Greensboro" says Maria Perdomo, UNCG alumnus. "Diversity has always been one of the things that I enjoy the most about Greensboro and UNCG's campus. I-Fest is a way to celebrate this and bring our diverse communities together."

I-Fest includes cultural booths of around 50 countries, global learning, musical performances and international food trucks. By combining the different components of culture, visitors can interact and learn from people from all over the world without leaving Greensboro. The festival serves as a safe space for our different cultures to interact and learn from one another through dialogue, food samples, and musical and visual performances.

Open and free to the public.

Want to get involved? Here's what you can do:

- [Sign up to volunteer](#) (all-day volunteers will receive a FREE I-Fest t-Shirt) [Volunteer Sign Up Link](#)
- [Host a booth or a performance](#) (UNCG groups/individuals can request reimbursements up to \$50 for materials).
- Spread the word about I-Fest by sharing the [Facebook](#) or [Eventbrite](#) page. And follow us on Instagram at [@uncg\\_ipc](#) and use the hashtag [#uncgifest2019](#)

To learn more about I-Fest, view our [2018 I-Fest Video](#) or our [interactive slideshow](#).

Questions? Reach out to the festival coordinator, Stephanie Guzman ([ipcproco@uncg.edu](mailto:ipcproco@uncg.edu)) at any time.

## Campus Movie Fest comes to UNCG

The 2018-2019 Campus Movie Fest (CMF) at UNCG begins March 13 and runs through March 19. During that week, students will be provided the equipment, training, and opportunity to share their stories on film. The resulting five-minute student films will be rated by CMF judges, with the best 16 films being screened at a red-carpet premiere on March 23.

Participation is completely free for students.

The top four films will win the Jury Award, which means they will move on to compete on the national level at the CMF Grand Finale in June. Jury Award winners will also receive a one-year subscription to both Adobe Creative Cloud and Prime Student, the chance to apply for the CMF at Cannes Program, and the possibility of seeing their film on Prime Video. To celebrate the achievements of UNCG's most outstanding filmmakers, Silver Tripod Awards will be given in specific categories, including directing, editing, performance, and more. Students can also compete in the Elfenworks Hope in Social Justice category, which highlights injustice and inspires change, with the national winner taking home \$10,000.

More than one million students have participated in CMF since it began in 2001.

Students can sign up for free at <http://campusmoviefest.com/uncg>.

## Grants for curriculum in online direct sales

UNCG's Entrepreneurship Cross-Disciplinary Program (ECDP) has multiple grants available to add one week's worth of course content on direct selling to any cross-listed ENT course. There are five grants of \$2,000 for face-to-face courses, five grants of \$3,000 for online courses, and one of \$6,000 for a new course in direct selling.

These grants are complementary to the Retail Revival Program, a partnership between eBay and the city of Greensboro. The program provides mentoring and a free eBay store subscription for a year to 100 business.

Local entrepreneurs interested in the Retail Revival program are encouraged to learn more and apply at [ebayinc.com/Greensboro](http://ebayinc.com/Greensboro). The application deadline is March 8.

Applications for the grants, which come from the Direct Selling Educational Foundation, are due to Dianne Welsh ([dhwelsh@uncg.edu](mailto:dhwelsh@uncg.edu)) by April 1 at 5 p.m. No late applications will be accepted.

## Mark Morris Dance Group at UCLS

The Mark Morris Dance Group, called one "the preeminent modern dance organization of our time" by Yo-Yo-Ma, merges its boundary-pushing modern dance with live music and community engagement. Founded in 1980 by artistic director and choreographer Mark Morris, the group tours internationally with its own music ensemble while providing educational opportunities in dance and music to people of all ages and abilities through its Access/MMDG program. The group performs modern choreography to a wide variety of music, ranging from 17th century compositions to contemporary classical works.

On February 27, at 8 p.m., the group will perform at the UNCG Auditorium as part of the 2019-19 University Concert and Lecture Series. To see prices and purchase tickets, see the entry on the CVPA site [here](#).

## Open forums: Candidates for Dean of College of Visual & Performing Arts



The CVPA Dean Search Committee and the provost have selected four finalists to visit campus.

Participate in the interview process by attending the open forums and receptions. The finalists will provide a 15-20 minute presentation on their leadership background, why they are interested in this position, and their vision for the College of Visual and Performing Arts (CVPA), followed by a question and answer session.

The open forums are scheduled in Jarrell Lecture Hall, in the lower level of Jackson Library, as follows:

Candidate 1: Tuesday, March 12th from 2:30-3:45 pm

Candidate 2: Thursday, March 14th from 2:30-3:45 pm

Candidate 3: Tuesday, March 19th from 2:30-3:45 pm

Candidate 4: Tuesday, March 26th from 2:30-3:45 pm

A brief reception will be held immediately after each open forum.

Finalists names and CVs will be made available three days before each visit. A video recording and survey will also be posted after each open forum. All information can be accessed at <https://sites.google.com/a/uncg.edu/cvpa-dean-search>.

## Nominate outstanding students for UNCG's Golden Chain Honor Society

Faculty and staff are invited to nominate outstanding juniors and seniors for UNCG's Golden Chain Honor Society, which was organized in 1948 to recognize students who have made significant and meaningful contributions to the university community.

"Golden" denotes excellence and rarity, and "chain" signifies linkage - a binding together of past generations of students who served the University with students of today and those generations yet to come. The organization is unique to the UNC Greensboro campus. Members embody the characteristics of: leadership, scholarship, service, tolerance, judgement, magnanimity and character.

Golden Chain is now accepting applications for Spring 2017 inductions. Candidates must be juniors or seniors with a minimum 3.25 GPA. The nomination form and instructions can be found at <http://sa.uncg.edu/golden-chain-3/> and should be returned to Coretta Walker at [crwalke5@uncg.edu](mailto:crwalke5@uncg.edu) by March 15, 2017. Nominations may be submitted by faculty, staff, Golden Chain alumni, and honorary members. *(Please note that accepted students must pay a \$20 induction fee).*

## UNCG hosts mentoring event for women



On Monday, Feb. 25, UNC Greensboro hosted the Triad Business Journal's annual "Bizwomen Mentoring Monday" networking event for the third consecutive year.



Bizwomen Mentoring Monday is a nationwide initiative organized by American City Business Journals. Forty-four cities and more than 10,000 women participated in this year’s program. Approximately 170 students and professionals participated in the event on UNCG’s campus.

Seasoned professionals working in industries across the Triad served as mentors and shared their own stories and career advice in one-on-one, “speed dating” style mentoring sessions. Additionally, there were several round table sessions on key topics related to women in the workplace.



Provost Dana Dunn attended the event and provided opening remarks. UNCG mentors who participated in the event were Dr. Cathy Akens, vice chancellor for student affairs; Dr. Terri Shelton, vice chancellor for research and engagement; Beth Fischer, vice chancellor for advancement; Kim Record, director of athletics; Eden Bloss, senior director of external communications; and Samaya Roary, Student

Government Association president.

*By Alyssa Bedrosian  
Photography by Martin W. Kane*

## In memoriam: Rebecca Holland Taylor

Rebecca Holland Taylor, former faculty member in the School of Nursing, died Feb. 6. She is remembered as a gracious mentor and welcoming colleague.

Taylor came to UNCG in 1970 and retired as Assistant Professor of Nursing in 1985. She taught in Community Health and helped to start the first nurse-managed clinic for UNCG's 35-year partnership with Housing and Urban Development. She continued to serve as a practicing nurse for home visits in the community and was president of the North Carolina Nurses Association from 1975-77.

"Rebecca was great at mentoring new faculty," remembered her colleague Linda McNeal '76 '77 MSN. "I didn't mind going to her with any questions. She was always so welcoming and kind and always did what she needed to do to support her colleagues and her students. "

"Everyone thought the world of her," said another former faculty member Sue Beeson '73 MSN '77, who, like McNeal, was both a student and colleague of Taylor. "She was such a good teacher. She was so receptive and so good with students. It was a real pleasure to be her student and her colleague."

A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, March 9, at Peace United Church of Christ, 2714 W. Market St., Greensboro, NC 27403.

## In Memoriam: Malinda Richbourg

Malinda Richbourg, an employee with the ITS Enterprise Applications - Data Warehousing, Analytics and Visualization group, died Feb. 17.

Richbourg graduated from UNCG in 1973 with a Bachelor of Science degree in home economics. She began work at UNCG in 1974 in Undergraduate Admissions, and in 2008, she retired as the associate director for operations. She returned to UNCG as a part-time employee with ITS in 2009, assisting in duplicate PIDM resolution as part of the Data Management group.

Vice Chancellor of Information Technology Services Donna Heath remembers about her:

"Malinda was both a people person and a data person, a rare combination of skills.

Everywhere she went, she either already knew someone, or through conversation quickly made a new friend. Her eye for process and attention to detail helped UNCG admissions grow from the pre-computing era through to our Banner world today. UNCG is most fortunate to have had her to faithfully serve her alma mater for 45 years,”

There are no current plans for a memorial service, but there will be a campus-based gathering at a later date. Memorial contributions may be made to the Malinda B. & David L. Richbourg Endowed Athletic Scholarship at UNCG.

## **Dr. Ignacio López Alemany**

Dr. Ignacio López Alemany, associate professor of Spanish in the Dept. of Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, has been awarded a prestigious “Biruté Cipliauskaitė” research fellowship from the Institute for Research in the Humanities (IRH) at the University of Wisconsin-Madison for the 2019-20 academic year. There, he will be working on his next book project, “Vihuelists and Courtly Performance of Poetry in Early Modern Spain,” while collaborating with other distinguished IRH fellows and faculty at UW-M and participating in various scholarly presentations on Spanish literature of the Golden Age and beyond.

López Alemany’s project aims to provide a comprehensive explanation of the cultural success of Italian meters in Spanish Renaissance poetry within the broader context of court performances. The study of this “new poetry,” as contemporaries labeled it, cannot be approached merely as a change of meters, but as part of a larger phenomenon. A paradigmatic change that resulted from the emergence of the early modern court culture in Spain, the particularities of the political context of the Habsburg Empire, and the renovation and repurposing of traditional Spanish poetry. The early modern vihuelists – musicians who played the vihuela, a Spanish stringed instrument – selected, modified, and musicalized many of those poems. They also modeled and wrote instructions on how to perform them within the aulic context, serving as active catalysts in the definition of the modern courtier and the role of poetry in the early modern period.

## **Dr. Gurpreet Dhillon**

Dr. Gurpreet Dhillon (Bryan School) earned an Honorary Doctorate degree from Örebro University in Sweden, for his contributions to the cybersecurity field. The ceremonies were on Feb 9, 2019. Dhillon has had an association with Orebro for over 20 years. Dhillon is Professor and Department Head, Information Systems and Supply Chain Management, in the Bryan School of Business and Economics.

His research [is featured](#) in the most recent UNCG Research Magazine.

## Brad Johnson



Brad Johnson (TEHE) was recently recognized by the ACPA-College Student Educators International (ACPA) as a 2019 recipient of the Annuet Coeptis Senior Professional Award. The Annuet Coeptis Awards honors professionals at a dinner where there can be wide-ranging discussion and exchange about professional issues. These awards were created by ACPA to honor and celebrate the lives of three former colleagues who loved to challenge their contemporary and junior colleagues in the spirit of personal and professional sharing, good humor, and intellectual debate. Senior Professional Award recipients must show evidence of contributions to the field of Student Affairs with regard to administrative service or teaching, research and publication, professional association service, and demonstrated leadership. In addition, recipients must show evidence of their commitment to mentoring and encouraging young Student Affairs professionals. Johnson will formally receive this recognition in March at the annual ACPA Conference, which will be held in Boston.

## Tony Hamilton

Tony Hamilton (Facility Services) was a recipient of the Kindness Champion award, by the Healthy Relationships Initiative. The awards program is a part of their Random Acts of Kindness Week outreach.

He was nominated by three of his UNCG co-workers. They said he's deserving of being recognized for his kindness for the following reasons:

- "Every new semester, Tony plants himself at the front door of our building and directs students to where they need to be. He has done this year after year and it is appreciated by our student body. He does this on his own, just to help out students who have no idea where they are or where they're going. He is helpful and kind and will bend over backwards to help you with anything you've got going on. He has helped me move furniture on several occasions. He also strives to do his best to clean his area of the building and keep things looking good for all of us."
- Another one of his nominators added, "Tony genuinely cares about the well-being of faculty and staff, encouraging us to pay attention to our own self-care, rest and take breaks. When I had difficulty with the lock on the mail room door one day, he came right over. He conscientiously answers the call of duty, and goes beyond the call of duty. When my daughter came to work with me, he bought her a blueberry muffin, which she thoroughly enjoyed. That was a spontaneous act of kindness and generosity that really brightened her day."

For more on this year's HRI Kindness Champions in the Greensboro community, visit <http://www.guilfordhri.org/2019kindnesschampions>.

## **Dr. Randy Schmitz**

Dr. Randy Schmitz (Kinesiology) received new funding from the North Carolina Biotechnology Center for the project "ACL Research Retreat VIII." Dr. Sandra Shultz is co-principal investigator on the project.

The ACL Research Retreat VIII is a biennial meeting that examines both risk factors and prevention of significant acute injury to the anterior cruciate ligament (ACL) of the knee. According to the abstract, the meeting will continue to strengthen the foundation upon which quality research and clinical interventions can be advanced.

## **Dr. Sherri McFarland**

Dr. Sherri McFarland (Chemistry and Biochemistry) received new funding from the National Institutes of Health National Cancer Institute for the project "Immunomodulating Ruthenium Metal Complexes for Melanoma Photodynamic Therapy."

This proposal seeks to develop a novel class of ruthenium compounds that can be activated with therapeutic wavelengths of light to eliminate primary tumors, inhibit disseminated disease and prevent recurrence. It is hypothesized that light-responsive prodrugs with these capabilities will be of use in the development of photodynamic therapy (PDT) for treating melanoma. PDT is an underutilized, niche cancer treatment modality that combines light and a photosensitizer (PS) to create cytotoxic singlet oxygen for destroying tumors and tumor vasculature. Although commonly thought of as a local treatment, PDT has been known to stimulate anti-tumor immunity, which is crucial for controlling metastatic disease and subsequent tumor regrowth. PDT relies heavily on the presence of oxygen to exert its antitumor effects, and the PSs approved for PDT are generally organic compounds that are activated with red light. In order for PDT to be maximally effective toward melanoma, it would be advantageous to develop PSs that can function well in hypoxic tissue with wavelengths of light that are least attenuated by the melanin in pigmented melanomas (650-850 nm). If such agents could be incorporated into regimens that stimulate antitumor immunity, PDT might offer new treatment options for highly recurrent cancers such as melanoma, where chemotherapy and radiotherapy do not work. We previously developed very potent metal-based PSs that combine ruthenium (Ru) and p-expansive ligands to yield systems that create cytotoxic reactive oxygen species even at low oxygen tension due to their long excited state lifetimes and large bimolecular quenching rates.

Separately, they developed osmium (Os)-based PSs that absorb light at wavelengths longer than 800 nm and can generate a modest PDT effect with this low-energy light even in hypoxic tissue. This proposal will combine the best features of the Ru (potency) and Os (activation >800 nm) PSs to yield new Ru metal complexes that are designed to elicit a strong PDT effect with near-infrared light in hypoxic tissue using increasingly more sophisticated melanoma models. Coordination chemistry will be used to generate a library of modular 3D compounds that can be subsequently modified to produce structurally diverse families. The photophysical and photochemical properties of these new compounds will be fully explored, and they will be assessed for their diagnostic potential and PDT effects using 2D cell and 3D tumor spheroid melanoma models. Promising candidates will be selected for MTD determination and PDT studies in a mouse melanoma model. PSs that are PDT-active and nontoxic to mice will be probed for their abilities to induce antitumor immunity through tumor rechallenge experiments. Finally, the immunological aspects of favorable PDT responses in mice will be investigated using both in vitro and in vivo techniques, and the PDT regimen will be explored and optimized for maximizing both local tumor control and stimulating antitumor immunity. Completion of this project will introduce novel PSs for melanoma PDT and will expand fundamental knowledge of metal complex chemistry, photophysics, and therapeutic properties.

## Dr. Jianjun Wei



Dr. Jianjun Wei (Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering) received new funding from the North Carolina Biotechnology Center for the project “A chip-based nano-opto-fluidic biosensor for cardiac disease protein biomarkers.”

The project proposes a series of studies aimed at enhancing a chip-based biosensor technology for selective detection of protein biomarkers for cardiovascular disease in blood samples. Specific aims include:

- Developing a rapid nano-imprinting process for low cost, reproducible fabrication of a nanostructure chip and integration with a microfluidic network.
- Validating the new nanostructure chip for the demonstration of troponin detection in blood samples in the chip-based prototype.

## Dr. Paul Knapp



Dr. Paul Knapp (Geography and Environmental Sustainability) received new funding from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington for the project “A Fire History from Longleaf Pine at the Nichols Preserve, North Carolina.”

The research project will investigate fire history at the Nichols Preserve, a rare, old-growth Piedmont longleaf pine ecosystem undergoing restoration. Researchers will examine fire scars in remnant longleaf pine stumps in order to determine the historical fire frequency of the forest. The hope of the project is to inform management practices for the North Carolina Zoo and have broader impacts for longleaf pine growing throughout the region.

## Dr. Armondo Collins



Dr. Armondo Collins (Digital Media Commons) will lead a community discussion on Black Migration at 6 pm, Monday, March 4, at Central Library, 219 N. Church St. Using Zora Neale Hurston’s book, *Barracoon: The Story of the Last Black Cargo*, Collins will explore race and class in contemporary America. Collins is the head of Digital Media Commons at UNCG.

Beverly Burnett, NC Association of Black Storyteller president, will also be in attendance to perform an excerpt from *How it Feels to be Colored Me*. Burnett is the 2018 recipient of the Zora Neale Hurston Award.

Participants will have the opportunity to record their own migration story after the program. These recordings will be permanently archived at the Greensboro History Museum.