“Unlikely” documentary screenings and Q&A April 3-5

On April 3 and 4, UNC Greensboro will host screenings of the documentary “Unlikely.” This penetrating and personal new film investigates America’s college dropout crisis through the lives of five diverse students as they fight for a second chance at opportunity and highlights the innovators reimagining higher education for the 21st century.

After each screening, faculty will help facilitate discussion. Screening events will begin at 5:30 p.m. at the School of Education building, Room 114.

On Friday, April 5, award-winning filmmaker Adam Fenderson will visit campus and participate in a Q&A with students, faculty, and staff. The Q&A will be held at 10:15 a.m. in the Elliot University Center, Claxton Room.

A 2019 film selection for SXSW EDU, “Unlikely” includes interviews with LeBron James, Howard Shultz, university presidents, and other leading voices in education.

UNCG is the first university in the state to host a screening of the film and host this important conversation. The film has been critically acclaimed and featured at high profile events like South by Southwest in Austin as well as at screenings and events nationwide.

Faculty, staff, and students are invited to see the film, meet the filmmaker, and join the conversation. Faculty and staff are also encouraged to take advantage of the opportunity as they see fit – for example, by integrating the screenings and Friday’s Q&A into course plans, or by informally encouraging students to participate.

“We know that our faculty and staff are focused on addressing many of the challenges
presented in the documentary,” said Provost Dana Dunn in a memo earlier this month. “We believe this platform will help us share our innovative programs and success stories with the campus community and beyond.”

**Dr. Tom Martinek, O. Max Gardner nominee, uses sports to aid underserved kids**

Although he had already made important strides researching learned helplessness and the effect of the perception of teachers on children in physical education, Dr. Tom Martinek Sr. wanted to do more.

So, he made a change.

In the early 1990s, he started seeking work that would more directly impact the children he studied. He began to transition to more hands-on research and service, directly engaging with schools and communities to use sports to aid at-risk students.

This highly impactful work is being recognized with a high honor: He is UNCG’s nominee for the O. Max Gardner Award, which each year honors one faculty member in the UNC System who “has made the greatest contribution to the welfare of the human race.”

Martinek, a professor of kinesiology, is known for establishing Project Effort, a value-based program that uses sports to teach decision-making and responsibility to underserved children. The program has instilled leadership and responsibility in school-aged youth with personal and academic challenges for more than 25 years. He also helped establish the Middle College at UNCG, which partly functions as an important bridge for children who may otherwise struggle in mainstream high schools, and helps prepare them to be college, career, and life ready.

“Teaching personal and social responsibility has always been the centerpiece of my program,” Martinek said. “This is driven by a set of core values related to promoting human decency, a holistic approach to working with kids, a belief that kids will rise to the expectations you have for them, and an assurance that they can be positive contributors to their community.”
His work has had an international impact as well, including service trips to train leaders in Mexican towns – and his training of workers in Bandung and Jakarta, Indonesia, to provide support for children affected by an earthquake and a tsunami.

Martinek holds numerous honors: the Presidential Citation Award from the NC Alliance for Health, Physical Education, and Dance; a Youth Development Impact Award from the Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club; and a Champion Award from Communities in Schools of Greater Greensboro. The University of Puerto Rico Río Las Piedras adopted the Project Effort program, dedicating it in Martinek’s name.

Despite his international impact, Martinek is still deeply engaged with the Greensboro community. He can still be seen counseling students and working directly with the at-risk youth who have always been his focus.

“Providing positive experiences for kids who have social, economic, and academic challenges has always been energizing for me,” Martinek said. “It has also allowed me to connect my research to practice, and it has made me a better teacher and person. There are so many other faculty who are doing important community-based work. I am so grateful and honored that I can be a part of that family of practitioner-scholars.”

By Avery Campbell
Photograph by Mike Dickens

‘Game of Thrones’ fans have special UNCG blood drive

To celebrate the final season of “Game of Thrones,” HBO and the American Red Cross have partnered to ask fans and blood donors to #BleedForTheThrone this spring. UNCG’s last EUC Blood Drive of the semester will be one of 20 blood drives across the country to take part in this promotion.

The blood drive is scheduled for Tuesday, April 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Elliott University Center. As part of the partnership, participants who donate at UNCG Blood Drive on April 2 will receive a limited-edition Bleed For The Throne T-shirt and other items, while supplies last. Donors will also receive the new edition EUC Blood Drive t-shirt.

UNCG was selected by the American Red Cross to participate in the Bleed For The Throne
drive due in large part to its highly successful blood drives. According to the American Red Cross, UNCG hosted one of the top 100 single-day blood drives in the country in 2018, with more than 300 pints donated at last September’s drive.

For seven seasons, the characters of “Game of Thrones” have bled for the Iron Throne, and now the Red Cross is joining the battle for the living by asking all eligible individuals to help alleviate blood shortages in the real world.

To make an appointment to give at this Bleed For The Throne blood drive, visit https://euc.uncg.edu/blood-drive/.

Deborah Bell, ‘Falstaff,’ and the art of costume design

“Falstaff,” Verdi’s only comic opera, will open next Thursday, April 4, at UNCG Auditorium, and it’s not only the singing that will dazzle audiences. The production has offered an exciting design opportunity for Professor Deborah Bell and the campus costume design studio artisans and technologists.

At this very moment, an array of fanciful and carefully tailored outfits is receiving final stitches: bubble-adorned gossamer wings for fairies, petticoats and corsets for glamorous bats, and rippling china silk head coverings for Victorian goblins are only the beginning.

In Verdi’s story, the women who the boastful Falstaff believes he is wooing plan a grand prank in the form of a masquerade, which is the opera’s final scene. Bell’s design concept explores the Victorian quality of restraint and the act of cutting loose.
“We’re illustrating a Victorian masquerade that meets New Orleans Mardi Gras,” she says.

Bell has designed costumes for musicals, opera, and theater productions for more than three decades. Her off-campus designs have appeared at Triad Stage, Seaside Music Theatre, University of Alabama-Birmingham, TheatreFest, Western Stage, and Colorado Shakespeare Festival. She is the author of “Mask Makers and Their Craft: An Illustrated Worldwide Study” (McFarland, 2014, second edition), which explores the work of three dozen mask makers living on five continents, and she is also the editor of a collection of essays on global masquerade. Consequently, her exploration of masquerade elements for “Falstaff” holds special significance.

Bell began sewing when she was ten years old, making and selling Barbie clothes as she was learning, and she made her own clothes when she was in high school. But alongside her love of clothing was her love of theater.

“A costume by itself isn’t a work of art,” she says. “It’s only when the costume is on the performer - with the lights, the sound, the movement, the words and the music - that it has the potential to become an artistic expression. That’s when it transports you from one reality
to another, more intense reality.”

She says she also loves theater because each play teaches her something new about the world.

“Sometimes it’s history, sometimes it’s social challenges of the day, and sometimes it’s figuring out interesting visual ways to create an interesting stage picture. Sometimes it’s learning what a dancer needs to have full use of their body without a costume hindering them. And the fabrics and craft materials are always evolving.”

At UNCG Bell has taught a writing-intensive costume design class and says that the process of writing and costume design can be the same, in terms of careful editing.

“The best work isn’t overstuffed,” she says. “It’s so easy to add one more sequin, one more feather but, good design is all about telling that story in an elegant and concise enough way so that the audience maintains focus. Good writing and good design both require economy.”

Students who come through the design and production side of the UNCG School of Theatre are introduced to a range of areas related to costume production, such as millinery, pattern drafting, costume crafts, studio and wardrobe management, stage makeup and wig creation. Bell says her students are essential to the success of campus productions. They master many skills throughout their time working on UNCG productions, but beyond the sketching, cutting, sewing, shaping, dyeing, and styling, they learn about the distinct challenges of working collaboratively in the theater. For “Falstaff” graduate student Jonathan Wentz is serving as assistant costume designer and undergraduate Brandon Jarmasek is helping to create masks.
Costume design studio manager Amy Holroyd and supervisor of costume crafts Emily Helig are also guiding students in the work for “Falstaff.”

As Bell says, it takes an army, and everything is dependent on everything else – the stage, the actors, the time, the budget, and more.

“The final performance on stage makes the design come alive,” she says. “The ultimate challenge resides in discovering the most you can do with the design parameters that are given to you.”

For more information about “Falstaff” visit the UNCG Opera Theatre website. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. April 4 and 5 and at 2 p.m. April 7. Tickets are available from the UNCG Box Office: (336. 334.4392, 1 to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday), from Triad Stage online, by phone (336. 272.0160, 1 to 6 p.m. Monday-Friday and 2 to 6 p.m. Saturday) and at the door one hour before the performances at UNCG Auditorium.

By Susan Kirby-Smith
Drawings by Deborah Bell

Two TEDx events soon

TEDx is an opportunity for local institutions to organize TED Talk events, bringing speakers to share innovative thought and make deep connections.
Soon, Greensboro will host two TEDx events.

The first is TEDxGreensboro. This event will feature speakers from UNCG and the larger Greensboro community. The theme for the talk is “Keep it Simple,” which will explore the principle of simplicity in an increasingly complex world.

Speakers will include Dean John Z. Kiss on how we would live on Mars and Dr. Nadja Cech on how to change the world one conversation at a time.

The event is April 4, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at Triad Stage, with a reception 5:30-7:30 p.m. the day before. For more information, a complete listing of speakers, and to buy tickets, see the website.

The second event is TEDxUNCGreensboro. UNCG students, faculty, and staff will present a variety of talks over the course of the event.

Speaking will be:

- Elliot Kimball, Assistant Director of the Office of Intercultural Engagement, with “Permission to Unplug: A License to Exit the Heteronormative Matrix.”
- Lecturer Tiera Moore presenting “Higgler is the New Hustle: Lessons from Igbo Women Entrepreneurs.”
- Undergraduate student David Koehler on “Why We Need Magic Now More Than Ever.”
- Professor Nodia C. Mena with “Connecting With My Garifuna Culture.”
- Beyond Academics undergraduate student Brandon Baldwin with “How I Howl: A Poet’s Journey.”
- Graduate student Noor Ghazi with “Lost in my Home for 12 Years.”
- Dr. Nadja Cech presenting “We are all scientists.”
- Alumna Alexandra Arpajian with “There’s No Business Like Accessible Show Business.”
- Coordinator for Residence Life Christine E. Williams with “All I had to do was change.”

The event will be April 12 in the Weatherspoon Art Museum from 5-8 p.m. Entry is limited to UNCG faculty, staff, and students only. Tickets will be on sale today (Wednesday, March 27) starting at 12 noon in the EUC Commons. They are $10 each, cash or card, with a limit of two per person. Seating is limited.

For more information, see the website here.

Compiled by Avery Campbell
Register for Building Healthy Communities Through Better Housing symposium

Safe and affordable housing has a tremendous effect on mental and physical health. At the upcoming Building Healthy Communities Through Better Housing symposium, panelists and participants will consider ways to improve community health by investing in better housing.

The keynote will be given by Terry Akin, Chief Executive Officer of Cone Health System. There will be a wide variety of speakers and panelists, including Brooks Ann McKinney, Head of Vulnerable Populations with Cone Health; Anita Bachmann, CEO of UnitedHealthcare Community Plan North Carolina; and Rep. Ashton Clemmons, Representative for North Carolina House District 57.

The symposium will be June 7 from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. in the School of Education. For more information, including a complete list of speakers, and to register, see the event listing here.

Retirement celebration for dance researcher Dr. Jill Green

The School of Dance will celebrate the upcoming retirement of Dr. Jill Green on April 6 from 3 to 9 p.m. The celebration will include somatics workshops and presentations in the afternoon and an evening reception. RSVPs are requested at https://goo.gl/forms/9eHtWNieuRKRU1gv2.

Green came to UNCG in 1993 and throughout her career has maintained an impressive roster of national and international credits for research activity across her three areas of expertise in somatics, social somatic theory, and post positivist research.

“As a pioneer in the area of body/mind somatic research and the originator of Social Somatic Theory, Dr. Green has brought national and international recognition to UNCG Dance as a center for somatic scholarship and practice,” says Director of Dance Janet Lilly.
At the National Dance Education Conference in October 2017, Green received the Outstanding Dance Education Researcher Award, which recognized her contribution to the field of dance education and research throughout several decades. In the same year, she was also invited to be the keynote speaker at the International Symposium of the Performing Arts in Brazil. Her current research focuses on socio-political (and gender) issues related to the body in dance and dance education. She is a former co-editor of Dance Research Journal and a 2003 Fulbright Scholarship recipient, which allowed her to investigate dance and body studies in Finland.

Green is known for her close work with UNCG dance students, serving on multiple MFA Thesis committees and working one-on-one with them on body alignment. For the last semester of her career at UNCG, she has served as interim director of dance while Lilly is on leave.

“Throughout my years at UNCG, I was lucky to be able to work with stellar faculty, some outstanding and supportive administrators, and wonderfully engaging and awe-inspiring students,” she says. “I am entering a new phase of my life with new challenges and professional activities. But UNCG will always be deep in my heart.”

Newsmakers: Mendez Smith, CNNC, Rhea, and the Muslim Students Association

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:

- Dr. Julia Mendez Smith wrote an article for Hispanic Outlook discussing being Latina in higher education. [The piece]
- Fox8 featured the work of the Center for New North Carolinians in helping immigrants adjust to life in the U.S. [The feature].
- Dr. Christopher Rhea and graduate student Katelyn Miller talked to Triad Today about Science Everywhere. [The interview].
- The Muslim Students Association held a vigil attended by students, faculty, and staff for victims of the New Zealand mosque shooting, WXII 12 reported. Drs. Omar Ali and Ben
Dyson and students Sidra Akram, Paul Van Eerden, and Manasik Idris were quoted. The article.

**Ashby Dialogue: ‘Crossroads: Animality, Disability, Activism and the Arts’**

Sunaura Taylor, an artist and writer, will speak on April 11 at 4-5:30p.m. in the School of Education Building, Room #114, as part of an Ashby Dialogue titled Crossroads: Animality, Disability, Activism and the Arts.

Her talk will be based on her book, “Beast of Burden: Animal and Disability Liberation” (2017). According to the publisher, The New Press, “‘Beasts of Burden’ suggests that issues of disability and animal justice—which have heretofore primarily been presented in opposition—are in fact deeply entangled. Fusing philosophy, memoir, science, and the radical truths these disciplines can bring—whether about factory farming, disability oppression, or our assumptions of human superiority over animals—Taylor draws attention to new worlds of experience and empathy that can open up important avenues of solidarity across species and ability.”

**Winners announced: Outstanding Dissertation and Thesis Awards**

The Graduate School is proud to announce the winners of the 2019 Outstanding Dissertation and Thesis Awards.

These awards were established to recognize exceptional work by graduate students and to encourage the highest levels of scholarship, research, and writing. Each academic department offering graduate degrees may nominate only one student for each award.

The criteria listed below are used by the judges to determine the winners. • Originality in selection and formulation of the research topic • Contribution this work makes to its academic discipline • Clarity of presentation • Skill and creativity in the use of methodology or research techniques • Independence of thought demonstrated by the student throughout the dissertation process • Innovation in the use of technology in the design, methods, or presentation of the thesis or dissertation • Relationship to professional caliber of work in the field (i.e., publishable work in/for refereed journal or juried exhibits) • Contribution this work makes to gerontology (for the gerontology awards) Congratulations to these award-winning students and their dedicated faculty mentors.

Outstanding Dissertation
Charlotte Chun (Psychology) – A Meta-Analysis of Context Integration Deficits Across the Schizotypy Spectrum Faculty Mentors: Michael Kane, Stuart Marcovitch, Paul Silvia, Suzanne Vrshek-Schallhorn Dr. Chun’s dissertation was a large-scale, state-of-the-art quantitative meta-analysis of the scientific literature on the association between cognitive measures of mental context integration and the symptoms of schizophrenia in both diagnostically patients and across the broader schizogony’s spectrum. Because of the need to bring coherence to what heretofore has been a confusing literature characterized by many small-sample studies with seemingly inconsistent results, this meta-analysis took an especially broad view of the literature including unpublished studies from the “gray literature” to control for potential publication bias. Overall, Dr. Chun found that patients across the schizotopy spectrum showed measurable context integration deficits, with diagnosed schizophrenics showing the strongest deficits that were significantly larger than those with other clinical disorders outside the schizotopy spectrum. Dr. Chun’s dissertation has now been published in the Journal of Abnormal Psychology (the most prestigious peer-reviewed journal in the field of basic clinical psychology and provides the first conclusive evidence that context integration deficits represent a stable marker of illness risk both prior to and during illness for both those diagnosed with schizophrenia as well as for those in the broader schizotopy spectrum. This is critical to the field in numerous ways. First, this marker can be used to identify the genetic variations that contribute to illness, revealing new biological avenues for intervention. Second, her work provides a foundation to investigate whether context integration can be modified at early stages of illness for individuals at high risk for psychotic disorders, and whether such modifications can ameliorate progression to disease.

Outstanding Thesis-Production
Natalie Gay (Psychology) – A Comparison of PTSD and Subthreshold PTSD Symptom Network Structures Faculty Mentors: Paul Silvia, Stuart Marcovitch, Blair Wisco, Gabriela Stein The committee stated three reasons for selecting Gay’s thesis. First, its subject matter is important and relevant to the health and social sciences. All too many suffer from PostTraumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). Gay’s thesis addresses the thorny topic of how to diagnose (and help) individuals who have several of the symptoms of PTSD, but not enough of them to merit the diagnosis of PTSD. Second, she uses the results of questionnaires of patients in Mexico and Ecuador to move beyond conceiving of a patient as suffering or not suffering from PTSD. Third, she uses a novel set of statistical techniques known as “network science methods.” These methods allow her to identify nodes or networks of symptoms to generate a map of stress disorders. Her work is therefore original and positions her well for external recognition. As Gay states, the application of network modeling to psychopathology “offers a radical shift in thinking that has the potential to inspire new hypotheses and lead to advances in our understanding of mental illness.” Gay also has received a “revise and resubmit” on a paper based on this project from a high impact peer reviewed journal.
George and Beatrice Goldman Fisher Gerontology Dissertation Award
Sara Bailey (Counselling and Educational Development) – The Game of I am: Enhancing Empathy and Improving Attitudes Toward Older Adults in First-Year Master’s Students Training to Become Counselors and Student Support Professionals.
Faculty Mentors: Rebecca Adams, DiAnne Borders, Laura Gonzalez, Keith Mobley  The committee was impressed with Dr. Bailey’s study. We found the topic relevant and her research innovative. The intervention was a very creative approach to addressing professional preparation and ageism. We were most impressed with the translational aspect of her research. We could see the intervention being used in multiple other disciplines to prepare professionals for work with older adults.

George and Beatrice Goldman Fisher Gerontology Thesis Award
Jack Kuhns (Psychology) – The Role of Schematic Support in Strategy Choice during Cognitive Skill Learning Faculty Mentors: Peter Delaney, Stuart Marcovitch, Dana Touron, Christopher Wahlheim The committee was impressed with Mr. Kuhns’ study. We found it to have a solid research design and advanced statistical analyses that were well executed. We were most impressed with the findings and their real-world implications for understanding older adults’ reliance on memory. The contribution this makes to geropsychology is noteworthy.

Innovative Use of Technology in a Thesis or Dissertation
Justin Larson (Economics) – North Carolina’s Clean Smokestacks Act, Untangling a Tangled Relationship.
Faculty Mentors: Jeremy Bray, Stephen Holland, Martijn van Hasselt, John Neufeld, Albert Link Justin Larson studied an important environmental problem, namely North Carolina’s Clean Smokestacks Act, using innovative technology and techniques. He firstly adopted and studied a novel technique, called synthetic control method that lead to the development of technology for understanding North Carolina’s Clean Smokestacks Act. Secondly, he analyzed the problem as a whole using the abatement technology. The scope and depth of Justin Larson’s dissertation and contributions to the field are noteworthy. Larson’s groundbreaking use of the innovative technology, the “synthetic control method,” contributes to the broader impact of a cleaner environment and offers new modes of data analysis for others in his field to use.

April road closures
Two road closures are planned for the first two Sundays in April for production of an important campus safety video. During both closures, Spring Garden will be closed east and westbound between Forest Street and Highland Street. College Avenue will also be closed to all vehicle traffic during the closures.
The road closures are planned for Sunday, April 7, from 8 a.m. to noon and Sunday, April 14, from 8 a.m. to noon.

**Coffee, Community, and Collaboration: Deadheads and Art Unite!**

The “Images of the Grateful Dead and Deadheads” exhibition at Tate Street Coffee House has been 30 years in the making. The show is an impressive survey of photographs by North Carolina artists spanning decades of Grateful Dead performances and fan culture. But the real story behind this exhibit is one of community.

Co-curators Rebecca Adams and Lena Rodriguez-Gillette, along with Tate Street Coffee House owner Matthew Russ, embody an intergenerational network of fans from across UNCG and beyond who are united by their love of the Dead.

“I couldn’t have done this by myself,” says Dr. Adams, the nation’s preeminent scholar on Deadhead culture. “This is an example of how the Deadhead community works, which is if you can do something, you do it whether you have the title or not. And eventually, you know, good things come back to you.”

Dr. Adams is professor and director of the Gerontology Program at UNCG. Her research on aging, communities, and Deadheads dovetails perfectly with this exhibition – and it’s literally part of her life’s work.

“This was my effort to bring all of the Deadheads affiliated with UNCG or who live around this area together into an intergenerational community because it’s part of my retirement plan to live in that community. I stuck with gerontology and was studying Deadheads long enough for the two things to come together.”
Rodriguez-Gillette is a recent alumna of UNCG. Part of the younger generation of Deadheads, the artist reflects on interconnectedness: “It’s interesting how Greensboro and everything comes around full circle. Everything connects for me with this community.” The logo Rodriguez-Gillette created for the Deadheads exhibition illustrates the mix of influences from her involvement in the art and music communities in and around UNCG.

You could say that all of this started because of Matthew Russ. While majoring in sociology at UNCG, he spotted Adams at a Dead concert in 1987. He eventually convinced Adams to study Dead fans. Soon after, Adams created one of the first-ever courses dedicated to the subject and in 1989 took her class on tour with the band to study fan culture at their concerts. Russ had graduated from UNCG by then, but he says of his influence on Adams, “There’s a great line by Grateful Dead lyricist Robert Hunter: ‘My job is to shed light not master it’. So I was like, here’s the idea. Now you run with it.”

The importance of community for Russ is clear when he describes Tate Street Coffee as a space that nurtures diversity, art, and music. “I wanted it to be a place where the university could kind of meet the community. Tate Street is like the front line, you know, where the university ends and the community starts. And I wanted people to coalesce. Tate Street Coffee was going to happen. I just volunteered for the job. I paraphrase Jerry Garcia when I use his expression.”

The exhibition runs through the end of April. On April 27, a full day of “UNCG Dead Scholars Unite!” will take place in the Elliott University Center. An exhibition closing celebration will take place at Tate Street Coffee House from 6 to 8 p.m., including music by local musician Jon Walters and David Gans, co-host of Sirius XM’s Grateful Dead channel Tales of the Golden Road.

Email another.year.of.the.dead@uncg.edu for more information, and be sure to check out the Another Year of the Dead Facebook page.

By Matthew Bryant
Photographic artwork copyright © Lloyd Wolf / www.lloydwolf.com; photo of Adams, Russ and Rodriguez-Gillette by Matthew Bryant
Sustainability Faculty Fellows of 2019-20

The Sustainability Faculty Fellows program has named its Fellows of the 2019-2020 academic year. The program aims to enhance UNCG’s sustainability by encouraging the integration of sustainability in innovative research, teaching, and service around sustainability across the campus. Sustainability Faculty Fellows (SFFs) will partner with the Academic Sustainability Coordinator (ASC), Dr. Etsuko Kinefuchi (Associate Professor of Communication Studies), to further academic sustainability in three areas: research, teaching, and/or leadership/outreach.

The positions are for one year and are renewable through re-application. Each Fellow is remunerated on an ad hoc basis in consultation with the faculty member’s department head and dean; remuneration (up to $3,500) may include a course release, funding for research or travel, graduate assistant support, or other mutually agreed upon non-financial resources.

UNCG’s 2019-2020 Sustainability Faculty Fellows:

Sarah Dorsey (Head, Harold Schiffman Music Library, associate professor in the University Libraries, adjunct professor in the School of Music) will serve as a returning SFF. She will continue to lead the highly successful UNCG Sustainability Film Series now in its 13th year.

Ms. Dorsey champions sustainability in many other ways. Her research weaves together music and sustainability; she founded the Green Library Group, and she maintains SUSTAIN-L, the campus-community listserv. She also co-organizes Green Drinks Greensboro to put together programs to advance sustainability in Greensboro.

Dr. Olav Rueppell (Professor, Biology) leads the Rueppell Research Group at UNCG to study the genetic traits, social behavior, aging, and health of honey bees. He is also co-founder and co-director of the newly established UNCG Plant & Pollinator Center. As a new SFF, Dr. Rueppell will seek to improve the pollinator friendliness of UNCG by identifying areas of improvements in natural resources and land management and implementing educational and practical goals to move UNCG towards a “Bee Campus USA” designation.
Dr. Meredith Powers (Assistant Professor, Social Work) will serve as a returning SFF to continue the Climate Justice Program she proposed for the International Federation of Social Work (IFSW). IFSW approved her proposal in January 2019 and appointed Dr. Powers as Program Director. In this program, social workers who travel to conferences voluntarily pay a small donation into the program fund hosted by IFSW to ease the ecological footprint they create through travel. The donations will be used to fund climate justice projects around the world. Along with Dr. Michaela Rinkel, Dr. Powers is the co-editor of “Social Work, Promoting Community & Environmental Sustainability: A Workbook for Global Social Workers & Educators,” Volume I & Volume II.

Dr. Sarah Praskievicz (Assistant Professor, Geography) studies the environmental aspects of river systems, including impacts of climate change on water resources. As a new SFF, she will examine the ecological health of North Buffalo Creek. She will involve her students in The Water Planet class in studying water quality and benthic macroinvertebrate assemblages among tributaries to North Buffalo Creek with differing level of urban development and to create educational and citizen-science initiatives that could potentially be implemented in public areas of North Buffalo Creek, such as along the Greenway and in the Audubon Natural Area.

Statewide McNair Colloquium on April 10

UNCG will host the 2nd Annual North Carolina Statewide McNair Colloquium on April 10, 2019. The Colloquia aims to promote research, scholarship, mentoring, and faculty diversity at the nation’s universities. The theme of this year’s conference is Pathways to the Ph.D.

This one day conference will include: workshops, a presentation from the UNCG Graduate School, as well as detailed discussions on the opportunities and challenges of graduate study. This year organizers have added a 3 Min Thesis Competition where scholars will have three minutes to explain the breadth and significance of their research project to a non-specialist audience. Prizes will be awarded.
Dr. Sherine Obare, the Dean of the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering (JNSS), will present the keynote address. Dr. Obare will share insights on the Graduate School experience, discussing both the IQ (Intelligence Quotient) and the EQ (Emotional Quotient) needed to succeed during doctoral studies. Dr. Obare will also offer tips on how to find work-life balance while in graduate school.

Agenda Highlights for the 2019 NC Statewide McNair Colloquium:

- Welcome from UNCG Provost Dana Dunn
- Graduate Student/Faculty Panel
- Networking Lunch with UNCG’s Directors of Graduate Studies
- Words of Wisdom from Gregory Bell, Associate Dean of UNCG Graduate School
- Application and Financial Aid Panel
- 3 Minute Thesis Competition

Invited McNair programs include:

- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- North Carolina Central University
- North Carolina State University
- Fayetteville State University
- UNCG

**Chinese Film Festival first screening Friday**

The Chinese Film Festival, organized by the Chinese Program of the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, is themed youth and love, and will run from Friday, March 29, to Friday April 12, 2019.

Highlights are:

3/29 Fri.  Film Screening: Taiwanese Teen Drama “Winds of September” – 2:30-4:30 pm, Bryan 122

4/5 Fri.   Film Screening: Taiwanese Teen Drama “Girlfriend, Boyfriend” – 2:30-4:30 pm, Bryan 122
4/12 Fri.        Lecture by Taiwanese Film Scholar Dr. Guo-Juin Hong (Duke University)  
- 2:30-4:30 pm, Bryan 122

The Chinese Film Festival series enables the campus community to explore Chinese culture, history and society across a broad range of disciplines, and promotes international cultural exchange..

The Chinese Film Festival is sponsored by the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures and the International Programs Center.

**Stufken will be founding director of MS in Informatics and Analytics**

John Stufken will join UNC Greensboro to head the new Master of Science in Informatics and Analytics (MSIA) program. He will direct the Fall 2019 launch and subsequent expansion of the MSIA. Initially, Stufken will focus on recruiting high caliber faculty and students, partnering with local industries to create a strong capstone experience for students, and maintaining an active research program.

Provost Dana Dunn said, “Informatics and analytics credentials are in high demand. Dr. Stufken brings an outstanding record of research and accomplishment to a high priority program designed to be responsive to employer needs.” Stufken will enter the director role with 18+ years of administrative experience, an extensive research background, and an exemplary track record of program development and interdisciplinary partnerships.

Stufken, the inaugural Charles Wexler Professor of Statistics at Arizona State University (ASU), currently serves as the coordinator for statistics for the School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences (SoMSS). Prior to ASU, Stufken served 11 years as head of the Statistics department at the University of Georgia (UGA). From 2000 to 2003, Stufken served as the program director for Statistics at the National Science Foundation. At NSF, Stufken collaborated on many interdisciplinary programs involving geosciences, computer science, biological sciences, and medical sciences.

Stufken has authored more than 75 publications, many in top refereed statistics journals, co-authored/edited two books, given approximately 100 invited presentations at professional conferences plus 70 invited research seminars. He is a Fellow of both the Institute of Mathematical Statistics and the American Statistical Association and an Elected Member of the International Statistical Institute.
He will join UNCG July 1.

Stufken says, “It is exciting to see that, with its new MSIA program, UNCG will train students to acquire informatics and analytics skills that will equip them to be leaders in a data-driven world. A focus on these skills is not only important today, but will be invaluable for many years to come. I am thrilled to have the opportunity to help build this program as its founding director.”

**Dr. William M. Adams**

Dr. William M. Adams (Kinesiology) received new funding from the National Athletic Trainers’ Association for the project “Inter-Association Task Force Meeting on Preseason Heat Safety in Secondary School Athletics.”

From the abstract:

Exertional heat stroke (EHS) continues to be the leading cause of death in sport and physical activity, particularly at the secondary school level. Prior position statements (NATA, 2003, 2012, 2015; ACSM, 2007) and consensus statements (NATA, 2009) have provided evidence-based recommendations on the proper care and management of EHS, however, there are current gaps pertaining to secondary school athletics. Recommendations surrounding heat acclimatization are American football-centric and fail to address other sports played in potentially extreme environmental conditions. Furthermore, current best-practices discuss the use of environmental monitoring to aid in the development of proper work-to-rest ratios, but there are no data-driven best practices for how these should be developed and implemented in an athletic setting. Lastly, developing secondary-school specific recommendations for the management and care of EHS is warranted and can be used by practicing Athletic Trainers at the secondary school level to further develop and refine their EHS management and care policies.

The purpose of this proposed inter-association task force meeting is threefold:

1) Develop evidence-based heat acclimatization guidelines at the secondary school level for all sports.

2) Develop evidence-based recommendations surrounding the development of appropriate work-to-rest ratios based on regional climates.

3) Develop secondary school specific recommendations for the pre-hospital management and care of EHS.
Dr. Jamie Schissel

Jamie Schissel’s (School of Education/Teacher Education and Higher Education) book “Social Consequences of Testing for Language-minoritized Bilinguals in the United States” has been published. The publisher is Channel View Publications of England.

Dr. Schissel’s research focuses on the education of emergent bilingual students, specifically how language education policies around assessments interact with teaching and learning. Schissel currently serves as Chair of the American Association of Applied Linguists Dissertation Award Committee. She teaches courses on applied linguistics at UNCG for undergraduate and graduate students and has a joint appointment in the Education Research Methods Department.

Ashley Owens

Ashley Owens (Housing & Residence Life) was selected as the Chair of the Southeastern Association of Housing Officers Graduate Issues and Involvement Committee. In this role, Owens will oversee a committee responsible for addressing graduate student issues and needs, and facilitating graduate student involvement. Owens is Coordinator for Residence Life.

Paige Thomas

Paige Thomas (Housing & Residence Life) was published in the latest edition of the Southeastern Association of Housing Officers’ SEAHO Report. Her article titled “Why You Should Take Time to Learn Your Job” explored the transition new professionals make to the work force and provided practical insight on how best to acclimate to your first professional role. Thomas is Coordinator for Residence Life.

In memoriam: Mazie Bain Bullard

Mazie Bain Bullard died March 11. She was almost 94. Bullard worked for UNCG for more than thirty years and retired as personnel director of the University. She was a graduate of Greensboro Senior High and completed the Commercial Course at Woman’s College. In her retirement she volunteered at College Place United Methodist Church; The Friends Home; The Shepherd’s Center; The Greensboro Pilot Club; and the Lecture League of Greensboro – and she served on the advisory board of the N.C. State Employees Credit Union.
In Memoriam: Lee Beverly

Dr. Lee Beverly, professor and former chair of the Department of Nutrition, died on March 24.

Beverly came to UNCG in 2012 as chair, a position he held until 2015. He was a distinguished scholar, receiving funding from NIH to support his research regarding hypothalamic mechanisms regulating energy balance and feeding behavior. He enjoyed all aspects of academia and mentored numerous students and faculty at UNCG – and The University of Illinois Urbana Champaign prior to coming to Greensboro.

There are no services planned but Beverly’s family and friends welcome others to join them in the Walk to Defeat ALS in Greensboro on May 11.

“Lee was also admired by his friends and colleagues as he managed his disease with incredible grace and courage never complaining throughout,” said current Department of Nutrition chair Ron Morrison. “A true friend that will be missed.”