

Welcome to Campus Weekly

**UNCG****CAMPUSWEEKLY**

June brings lots of new Spartans to campus



June is the month for new Spartans to SOAR.

Thousands of incoming students will visit campus over the next few weeks for Spartan Orientation, Advising, & Registration (SOAR), a two-day orientation program for students and their families.

Students will meet with advisors, register for classes, get connected with different organizations across campus, learn about resources for student success, and stock up on all things blue and gold.

Throughout the summer, transfer and adult students will attend one-day SOAR sessions designed specifically for them. Remaining dates for those sessions are June 7, Aug. 12, and Aug. 14.

See more at newstudents.uncg.edu/soar.

Spartans shine at Tony Awards ceremony



Last weekend was a big one for UNC Greensboro alumni and Broadway veterans Joseph Forbes '75 and Beth Leavel '80 MFA.

Forbes was one of four recipients to receive this year's Tony Honors for Excellence in the Theatre, an annual award for individuals and organizations that have demonstrated extraordinary achievement in theatre. Forbes is the founder of [Scenic Art Studios](#), a premier scene painting studio for Broadway.

Leavel, already a Tony Award winner for her work on "The Drowsy Chaperone," was nominated for the Tony Award for Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in a Musical for her role as "Dee Dee Allen" in "The Prom."

"The Prom," which was named "Best Musical" in the Drama Desk Awards earlier in the week, also received a Tony nomination for Best Musical.

Leavel made two star appearances during the Tony's telecast – in the big opening number featuring each of the nominated musicals, and in a musical number from the production.

Keker Common Experience: new student success program for Fall 2019



The New Student Transitions & First Year Experience office is rolling out a new first year transition program for the upcoming academic year.

The Keke Common Experience is a holistic first year student success program designed to empower students with the tools and skills needed to find their way here. By participating in this program, students will be able to:

- 1) Connect with UNC Greensboro's people, programs, and resources to understand how they can help them succeed.
- 2) Engage in active learning strategies to improve critical thinking and academic success skills.
- 3) Develop a stronger sense of self-awareness through self-exploration and reflection.
- 4) Cultivate a sense of Spartan Pride and affinity for UNC Greensboro.

The Keke Common Experience instills a multi-faceted approach to student success and development through four key components:

Keke Success Guide: Each first year student receives a success guide created by a nationally-renowned author in the field of college student development. UNCG faculty and staff work collaboratively to tailor this guide to the Spartan experience to provide a customized and valuable learning tool.

Keke Speaker Visit: First year students have the opportunity to meet and hear from the author of the success guide during a campus visit in the fall. The author hosts a variety of presentations and workshops, to engage with first year students and the campus community.

Keke Success Series: Throughout the academic year, first year students have the opportunity to engage in a series of collaborative programs focused on student success. Various campus partners across UNCG's campus develop and facilitate these programs to help first year students take initiative and begin taking steps toward their future success.

Keke Common Experience Scholarship: First year students have the opportunity to reflect on their Keke Common Experience by competing in an essay competition to demonstrate their personal growth and academic success throughout their first year. The winning essay will be incorporated in the future year's success guide.

If you would like to learn more about the Keke Common Experience, visit the New Student Transitions & First Year Experience website [HERE](#).

If you are interested in collaborating on the Keke Common Experience and/or creating programs to support the Keke Success Series, contact Emily Wiersma, associate director, at e_wiersm@uncg.edu.

Additionally, the New Student Transitions & First Year Experience office would like to thank all campus partners for their continued collaboration and support of the Keker First Year Common Read. Academic year 2018-2019 was the final year for the Keker First Year Common Read at UNC Greensboro.

Moss Street celebrates first class of graduates



Hundreds of family members, friends, siblings, and community members were on hand for the inaugural “Moving Up” ceremony at the [Moss Street Partnership School](#) in Reidsville on Friday, March 31, celebrating the promotion of 59 fifth-grade students to middle school.

The innovative new partnership school, a collaboration between UNC Greensboro and Rockingham County Schools, opened its doors in the fall of 2018.

Over the course of the past school year, teachers and staff at Moss Street – also UNCG employees – used experiential learning and cutting-edge techniques to teach approximately 400 students in kindergarten through fifth grade.

Specifically, they sought to develop student skills and interest in the highly-desired “STEAM” subjects – science, technology, engineering, arts, and math – as well as provide other services including counseling, nutrition, and additional support for students and families.

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

By Eden Bloss

Photography by Martin W. Kane

Enjoy Eastern Music Festival concerts at UNCG



As part of 2019's Eastern Music Festival, of which UNCG's CVPA is a sponsor, the Eastern Chamber Players will perform every Monday at the Tew Recital Hall, starting June 24 and running through July 22.

The Eastern Chamber Players is an ensemble of EMF faculty musicians who perform a variety of pieces by composers including Mozart, Westlake, Stravinsky, and Puccini.

Performances are every Monday, June 24-July 22, at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30 for adults and \$25 for seniors. To purchase tickets, see the festival calendar [here](#).

Newsmakers: Leavel, Edmunds, Sarbaum, Alumnus in film, Sparks, Miles Davis' trumpet, Parsons, Jax, and Gateway Research Park

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:

- Beth Leavel was profiled in the Raleigh News & Observer, which noted her attending UNCG in the late 1970s. [The News & Record article](#).
- Julie Edmunds, program director of UNCG's SERVE Center, co-wrote an article for the RAND Corporation about how dual enrollment can make college more open to high schoolers. [The piece](#).
- Dr. Jeff Sarbaum spoke to WFMY News2 about the potential economic effects of new tariffs. [The interview](#).
- Alumnus Bo Yokely has secured his first leading role in a movie, the News & Record reported. [The article](#).
- Fox8 featured junior Victoria Sparks' efforts to make scholarships easier to find for college students. [The article](#).
- Yes! Weekly published a feature on the late Buddy Gist's relationship with UNCG and his donation of Miles Davis' trumpet to the School of Music. [The piece](#).
- Dr. Anne Parsons spoke with Fox8 about the historical marker and exhibition commemorating the site of the Greensboro's polio hospital. [The piece](#).
- The Gateway Research Park, jointly sponsored by UNCG and N.C. A&T, was highlighted in a Fox8 piece. [The article](#).

- UNCG's Police K9 unit reports that Jax has died. Jax had [appeared in Campus Weekly](#) in 2016. [This News2 report](#) gives details.

Gerald Holmes named Distinguished Alumnus at UNC-CH



Gerald Holmes, associate professor and diversity coordinator of University Libraries, has received an honor at UNC Chapel Hill's Commencement week.

He received the 2019 Distinguished Alumni Award from the UNC Chapel Hill School of Information and Library Science. He received his master of science in library science degree there in 1985.

The award recognizes Holmes' work both here at UNC Greensboro and UNC Chapel Hill, as well as with professional library organizations. Through this work he has strived to make the library profession more welcoming and diverse, and to open it up to individuals from underrepresented backgrounds.

At UNCG, Holmes has spearheaded multiple diversity efforts and committees within University Libraries. He has served as chair of both the library's diversity committee and the Faculty Senate Committee on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. Holmes has also served on the Chancellor's Equity, Diversity and Inclusive Excellence Committee for multiple terms. He led the creation of the Library's Post MLS Diversity Residency Program. His work in diversity has helped UNCG be the open and diverse community it is, with about half of its students from minority or international backgrounds.

Holmes also works heavily in mentoring other employees and community members. He has worked with important stakeholders at the University and in the community to build networks of diversity education.

Recently, he and the library dean were awarded Institute of Museum and Library Services funding to develop and deliver two institutes for incoming Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) diversity residents to improve their chances of successfully finding and keeping a job and encouraging professional networking. They also created an ongoing open access publication titled "The Library Diversity and Residency Studies Journal," along

with an associated webinar series to disseminate research and practical guidance for institutions seeking information on diversity and residency programs in library settings. The institute will orient new residents to best practices in getting the most out of their residency experience, as well as provide them a professional network of colleagues nationally.

Outside of UNCG, Holmes participated in the creation of the Association of College and Research Libraries (ACRL) Residency Interest Group and has chaired the ACRL African-American Librarians Section. He has served on the Executive Board of the Black Caucus of the American Library Association and the North Carolina Library Association, and he chaired the NCLA's Round Table for Ethnic Minority Concerns.

Holmes' service has been recognized by other organizations, including the UNCG African American and African Diaspora Studies Program, the American Library Association, the Black Caucus of the American Library Association, the North Carolina Library Association, and the UNC Chapel Hill General Alumni Association. He is a life member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc.

Holmes holds a B.S. degree in criminal justice from UNC Charlotte and an M.S. degree in library science from UNC Chapel Hill.

Dr. Robert Henson

Dr. Robert Henson has been appointed incoming interim associate dean of research for the School of Education. He will assume this new role on August 1, 2019. Henson first joined the UNCG faculty in 2005. He is currently an associate professor in the Department of Educational Research Methodology in the School of Education, and has been promoted to full professor starting this fall.

Henson is an internationally recognized scholar in educational measurement and is a leading expert in the field of diagnostic classification models, which are a set of methods used to score exams that provide student profiles describing the skills that they have or have not mastered. Based on these skill mastery profiles, tailored lesson plans can be developed to focus specifically on those skills not mastered for each student.

See full story at [School of Education website](#).

Jim Schaus

Jim Schaus has been named the new commissioner of the Southern Conference. Schaus comes from Ohio University, where he served eleven years as director of athletics. Previous tenures were at Wichita State, Oregon, Cincinnati, Texas-El Paso, and Northern Illinois. He also

has experience in the NFL. Schaus will succeed retiring commissioner John Iamarino, effective July 1. July 5, a formal press conference will be held at the Southern Conference's Spartanburg Office to officially introduce Schaus as commissioner. For more information, see the SoCon's press release [here](#).

Lindsey Woelker

Lindsey Woelker (UNCG Office of Leadership and Civic Engagement) presented in a webinar scholarship featured in a [new article in the most recent](#) volume of the "eJournal of Public Affairs" about implementing the CLDE Theory of Change at UNC Greensboro, New College of Florida and Barry University.

Keith Gorman and Kathelene McCarty Smith



University Libraries' Dr. Keith Gorman, assistant dean for special collections and university archives, and Kathelene McCarty Smith, instruction and outreach archivist, recently presented their findings on the shift in women's roles during World War I and after its conclusion, at a two-day symposium at Lander University in Greenwood, South Carolina.

The event brought together accomplished scholars, historians, curators and archivists, as well as citizens and students, to explore the impact of World War I on the South.

The origin of the symposium is the result of a recent book, "The American South and the Great War, 1914-1924," which investigates how American participation in World War I further strained the region's relationship with the federal government, the effects of wartime hardships on the South's traditional social structure and how the war effort stressed and reshaped the southern economy. Gorman and McCarty Smith's book chapter focuses on patriotism, service, and North Carolina women's colleges during the Great War.

Dr. Merlyn Griffiths



Dr. Merlyn Griffiths (Bryan School), along with an international team of researchers, formed a research group to advance knowledge of the proliferation and effects of water pipe “hookah” smoking across the globe.

On May 7, 2019, the team published “Water pipe (hookah) smoking and cardiovascular disease risk: A scientific statement from the American Heart Association” in *Circulation*, an American Heart Association journal.

The team found evidence indicating that water pipe tobacco smoking affects heart rate, blood pressure regulation, baroreflex sensitivity, tissue oxygenation, and vascular function over the short term. Harmful substances present in cigarette smoke are also present in water pipe smoke, often at levels exceeding those found in cigarette smoke. Long-term water pipe use is associated with increased risk of coronary artery disease.

Griffiths is Associate Professor of Marketing in the Bryan School of Business and Economics.