

Welcome to Campus Weekly



UNCG

CAMPUSWEEKLY

The Vacc tower bells' beautiful sounds are back



The story begins with a crackle of thunder. And ends with the most majestic sounds of the holiday season.

July 8. Thunder and lightning. A sharp strike hits UNCG's Vacc Bell Tower. The bells' consoles are immediately out of commission.

This full carillon of bells had first been heard on a December 2015 ceremony at the bell tower. Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam Jr. counted down "5, 4, 3, 2, 1" and, as the entire plaza was lighted with a seasonal display, music doctoral student Marya Orlawska-Fancey played a keyboard connected to the tower. The first song? "Carol of the Bells."

The UNCG carillon has 49 bells. The original 25 were complemented four years ago by 24 new bells, an additional gift by Dr. Nancy Vacc. The addition made it one of only five full carillons in the state, allowing the bells to provide a rich sound for any melody.

Fast forward four years, and the bells are ready to ring in the holiday season again. Insurance covered most of the cost of the repairs. The company that had installed the bells oversaw the sophisticated electronic repairs during the semester.

And the bells are now ready for the holidays.

The bells started striking the "Westminster chimes" each hour, starting Nov. 8. And since Nov. 8, they have played the UNCG alma mater at noon. A few seasonal songs sounded on

Reading Day, after the campus holiday reception at Alumni House. But, to help students concentrate, John Comer, the Alumni House manager who maintains the controls, has kept the bells relatively quiet during the exam period – no seasonal songs.

The respectful silence will come to an end later this week, as the exam period closes out Thursday evening. At 5 p.m. on Thursday, he plans to let the seasonal songs ring out. The carillon will play seasonal melodies each day at dusk through New Year's.

Those on campus for Thursday's late afternoon doctoral hooding ceremony or Friday's Commencement day will have something extra-special to enjoy.

By Mike Harris

Photograph by Martin W. Kane

Interdisciplinary social justice conference: Diversity in Sport

The 5th Annual Diversity in Sport Regional Conference will be hosted here at UNCG on April 3-4, 2020. Previously, the conference has been hosted by Long Island University (Brooklyn campus), Florida A&M University, Morehouse College, and Johnson C. Smith University.

The conference is student-led and is currently being run by UNCG's Department of Kinesiology. Shelby Anderson and Alexis Rice are the 2020 conference co-chairs. Dr. Jen Farrell, Dr. Diane Gill, Dr. Pam Brown, Dr. Erin Reifsteck, and Dr. DeAnne Brooks are serving as the faculty mentors.

Founded in 1985, the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP) is the leading organization for sport psychology consultants and professionals who work with athletes, coaches, non-sport performers (dancers, musicians), business professionals, and tactical occupations (military, firefighters, police) to enhance their performance from a psychological standpoint.

The 2020 keynote speakers are Dr. Angel Brutus and Dr. Melicia Whitt-Glover. Dr. Brutus is a member of Mississippi State University's Sports Medicine and Performance team serving as Director of Counseling and Sport Psychology. Dr. Whitt-Glover is the chief officer and principal investigator at Gramercy Research Group, an organization that combines faith, science, and research to develop evidence-based programs to help individuals sustain healthy lifestyles.



Dr. Rob Elliott Owens

This social justice conference is interdisciplinary in nature and welcomes proposals not only from sport and exercise psychology, but also from (physical) cultural studies, critical race theory, women's and gender studies, body studies, sport humanities, and sport management.

The conference was founded by the Diversity Committee of the Association for Applied Sport Psychology (AASP). Dr. Rob Elliott Owens of the Bryan School of Business and Economics and UNCG alumnus of the School of Health and Sciences (2011) and the School of Education (2005) is one of its founding members and he is the current chair of the Association's Diversity Committee.

The Call for Abstracts is now open. UNCG students, faculty, and staff are invited to submit proposals at <http://embracediversityinsport.org>

UNCG social media news, gifs, wallpapers, prizes and more

Campus Weekly will publish next Tuesday, and then go on winter break until the next CW newsletter publishes Jan. 9

In the interim, there are other great ways to not only stay informed, but to share your Spartan pride and engage online with other members of the campus community.

Check out these digital and social media resources provided by University Communications:

- UNCG has popular [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#) accounts, with lots of great stories, photos, and videos to share. Check out each of them - and subscribe to them if you'd like, to stay in-the-know.
- Plus, follow and engage with the different [social media accounts](#) across campus. Every school or college has accounts, most departments do, and lots of deans, faculty, staff members do as well. And of course [Chancellor Gilliam](#) is very active on social media.

Reach out to social media manager Morgan Glover if you need to update the directory or contact information for page administrators. Email mjglover@uncg.edu.

- Morgan Glover plans to host a tutorial in the coming semester for faculty and staff who are new to Instagram and Twitter. Please [email her](#) if you would like to be included in an invitation.
- Join UNCG's "Social Spartans" [online ambassador program](#). Faculty, staff, students, and alumni are eligible, and earn points toward prizes when they share University news and updates.
- And have some fun. Check out and use new branded [gifs](#) and [animated stickers](#) on UNCG's Giphy.com channel. Gifs can be used across platforms, while animated stickers are intended for use on Instagram stories and Snapchat.
- Show your Spartan spirit by downloading new University wallpapers for your desktop computer, tablet, or smartphone. You can access the images on [this page](#).
- New resources for campus social media managers are being added to University Communications' [website](#). Check out a social media strategy worksheet and list of common university hashtags [here](#).

A weekend of UNCG basketball action



NC State comes to town Sunday, to take on the Spartans.

With many of the students away, it's a great opportunity for faculty and staff to cheer even louder for the team, as they take on the ACC opponent.

NC State is currently 7-2, with big wins last week over Wisconsin and Wake Forest. UNCG is 8-2, with big road wins recently at Georgetown and Radford. The game will be [broadcast locally on My48](#).

The SoCon will present its SoCon Faculty and Staff awards to two members of the UNCG community, at the game. And – yes – the [baby derby](#) will be at halftime.

Want to gear up for the game? The day before (Saturday), Coaches Wes Miller and Trina Patterson as well as Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam Jr. will be at the UNCG Pop Up Shop, with a

live remote broadcast by Chris & Chris on Rock 92 FM. They'll be on hand starting at 1:30 a.m. Listen in or, better yet, stop by and pick up some UNCG gear and spirit wear for the games ahead.

All merchandise at the Pop Up Shop will be 25 percent off, and if you show your UNCG app you will get an extra 5% off.

And get an early start to the weekend by cheering on UNCG Women's team at NC A&T this Thursday. Tip-off will be at 5:30 p.m. The Spartans are 6-3, and senior guard Nadine Soliman just set a new program record for three-pointers made.

To purchase tickets for the UNCG vs. NC State game, [click here](#).

For a special Spartan 4-Game Mini Plan available for just \$75, which includes 1 TICKET FOR NC STATE, PICK 1 OTHER NON-CONFERENCE GAME, PICK 2 SOCON GAMES, [email the ticket office](#).

By Mike Harris

'Community Voices' exhibition

Gate City Writes is hosting an art exhibition at The Green Bean downtown through January 15.

Work from the organization's Community Voices group is being featured.

Gate City Writes is a writing collaborative for children and teachers. Every summer it hosts workshops and camps in the UNCG School of Education Building. Community Voices is a workshop specifically for immigrants and refugees who are interested in learning more about writing and learning English as a second (third, etc.) language.

The exhibition at The Green Bean includes campers' narratives about coming to the U.S., pictures of the writers, and maps of their home countries. The goal is to provide opportunities for people in the Greensboro community to learn more about each other.

Questions? Contact Dr. Amy Vetter at amvetter@uncg.edu.

Help out families and students through the Moss Street Angel Tree

The Moss Street Partnership School is asking Spartans to pitch in to help families and students in need this holiday season through the Angel Tree Holiday Assistance Program.

There are still a few families and students available on the signup list, which can be found [HERE](#).

Items can be dropped off to Christina O'Connor (School of Education Building, Room 253A) by Friday, Dec. 13. Please contact Johnette Walser at jcwalser@uncg.edu if you have any questions.

Newsmakers: Leavel, Laota, oldest long leaf pine, social mobility

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 last two weeks:

- Chancellor Gilliam spoke to Higher Ed Works about UNCG being ranked #1 in the state for social mobility. [The feature](#).
- Beth Leavel MFA '80 will be starring in the new "Devil Wears Prada" musical, Playbill reported. [The feature](#).
- Recent PhD graduate Zobaida Laota shared related her multicultural counseling experiences in the latest issue of Counseling Today. [The article](#).
- UNC-TV featured efforts by UNCG researchers to identify and also preserve the world's oldest long leaf pine, in the Weymouth Woods Sandhills Nature Preserve. [The piece](#).

Letter to the Editor regarding lawsuit

This Letter to the Editor from Provost Dana Dunn was published in the Dec. 5, 2019, News and Record:

Regarding the Associated Press story "UNCG faces lawsuit over harassment, retaliation" (Dec. 4):

UNCG is fully committed to providing an inclusive, safe, non-discriminatory environment for learning, living and working — and to thoroughly investigating any allegations of incidents that run counter to these fundamental requirements and principles.

We have read the recent media coverage of the lawsuit that includes UNCG and our nursing school. While it is unfortunate that the plaintiff's attorney has endeavored to try this case through the media, it is inappropriate for us to share details in the press and outside of the formal, and more complete, legal process.

We are fully confident the facts of this case will show the allegations related to UNCG are not true. As our filings in this case have demonstrated, the plaintiff cannot establish a connection between her dismissal from the program and her harassment claim.

We must be absolutely clear: We will not allow any student to receive a degree they have not earned from any program at UNCG when the academic and/or clinical record is clear that one has not been earned — especially in a lifesaving discipline like nursing.

We have an award-winning nursing program with a strong national reputation built on high standards and uncompromising integrity. Every year, UNCG graduates hundreds of qualified nurses who serve communities across our state and around the country. These graduates are well-respected for their knowledge, clinical skills and high degree of preparation.

Marcia Rock receives national distinguished service award



Dr. Marcia Rock recently received the Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Division's (TED) Distinguished Service award, for her service to TED over many years. She has been a member of the organization since she was a graduate student, and has previously served as TED's president as well as TED's political action member at large. She is currently a past president.

Rock, a faculty member in the UNCG School of Education's Department of Specialized

Education Services, has a long history of promoting government and political action to improve special education nationally. Her work has promoted advocacy in special education for both herself and the many doctoral students she has worked with through the years.

This advocacy manifests in Rock's current research interests: technology-enabled coaching in pre- and in-service teacher development, and self-monitoring for students. Through engaging with both teachers and students, she works to improve education for all, especially those students with exceptionalities.

In addition to her longstanding leadership in and service to TED, she is consulting editor and field reviewer for several journals, and works closely with the NC Department of Public Instruction's Exceptional Children division on a statewide Coaching Collaborative. She has also directed Project LINK-2-LEAD, a leadership preparation grant funded by the U.S. Office of Special Education Programs.

Through this work, Rock's focus remains: to, through research, teaching, and advocacy, make classrooms a better place for both teachers and students.

George Hancock



George Hancock (SERVE Center) received new funding from Alamance-Burlington School System for the project "Haw River Elementary School Comprehensive Needs Assessment."

Hancock also received new funding from Winston-Salem/Forsyth County Schools for the project "Moore Magnet Elementary School Comprehensive Needs Assessment."

These projects are a systematic assessment of practices, processes, and structures within a school to assist school leadership and key stakeholders in determining needs, examining their nature and causes, and setting priorities for future actions. The assessments guide the development of a genuine school improvement plan that is grounded in data and provides a road map to future progress. Research supports the fact that schools who undertake a true comprehensive needs assessment make better decisions, resulting in improved outcomes relative to the achievement of their students.

An assessment team (2-3 team members) will visit each school, providing an opportunity for teachers, support staff, school improvement team members, and other stakeholders to outline current perceptions relative to leadership, instruction, professional development, planning, and operations, and family and community engagement.

Dr. Ayesha Boyce



Dr. Ayesha Boyce (Educational Research Methodology) received new funding from Indiana University at Bloomington for the project “Network for Computational Nanotechnology - Engineered nanoBIO Node.”

Dr. Boyce will oversee evaluation for the project using a mixed-methods strategy in which data from one type of method (quantitative or qualitative) is merged, connected, and/or embedded with data from another type of method. Mixed-methods evaluations provide richer data allow for better triangulation of data, and result in more nuanced evaluation results. Qualitative and quantitative data will be collected concurrently as a way to extend the breadth, scope and range of inquiry, to learn about different phenomena within the same study, and to capture the richness and diversity of the program and program participant experiences. This evaluation will provide formative data to guide NCN improvement and summative assessment of nanoBIO Node quality and impact. Evaluation questions will center on: nanoBIO Node theory of change, implementation, effectiveness, diversity/inclusion/equity, communications, outcomes, and impact.

Dr. Sara Heredia



Dr. Sara Heredia (Teacher Education and Higher Education) received new funding from the Exploratorium for the project “The Phenomenal Genome: Evolving Public Understanding of Genetics in the Post-Mendelian Era.”

Heredia will be responsible for supporting the design team in developing and researching the teacher component of the project. This includes an on-site meeting at the Exploratorium with the advisory board to ideate and prototype experiences for science teachers to explore their current understanding of genetics. In years two and three, Heredia will travel to the Exploratorium each summer to collect data on implementation of experiences within the context of professional development settings. Heredia will also interview teacher participants in the year following their participation to inquire about if and how the teachers changed their instruction in relation to genetics. In the final year of the project, Heredia will work on data analysis and writing to disseminate research to multiple science education research audiences.

Dr. Eric Josephs



Dr. Eric Josephs (Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering) received new funding from the North Carolina Biotechnology Center.

The researchers will experimentally validate new molecular tools that they computationally predict could dramatically accelerate the production of crop variants with targeted genetic modifications ('precision breeding') to address future agricultural challenges. They expect the tools will be especially potent in important NC crops like tomato, sweet potato, tobacco, soybean, and cereals.

Luciana Lilley and Frank Donaldson

Luciana Lilley (English) and Frank Donaldson (Media Studies) spoke last Sunday at Triad Stage productions. Lilley discussed Triad Stage's adaptation in Winston-Salem of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, directed by Preston Lane, a UNCG CVPA faculty member and co-founder of Triad Stage. Donaldson spoke in Greensboro on the golden age of radio, connected to Triad Stage's production of *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*.