



Office of Academic Affairs

News Digest January 23, 2017

Call for Nominations

Bonnie E. Cone Early-Career Professorship for Teaching

[The Bonnie E. Cone Early-Career Professorship in Teaching](#) was established in 2006 and is awarded annually to a member of the faculty who has been awarded tenure within the last three years. The Professorship appointment will be for a three-year term. Each year a recipient will be named. Dr. Fumie Kato, Languages and Culture Studies; Dr. Margaret Quinlan, Communication Studies; and Dr. Peter Tkacik, Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science, currently hold the professorship.

The appointment will include the inscription of the Professor's name on a permanent plaque, a formal announcement at the first University Convocation of the Professor's term, and the award of University resources above that normally given to faculty.

Eligibility

A faculty member must have been granted tenure in 2014, 2015, or 2016.

Nomination Process

The nomination packet should include:

- A letter from the Department Chair or Dean that documents how the faculty member has demonstrated a commitment to teaching at the beginning of an academic career. Specific examples that should be included in the nomination letter: innovative teaching techniques, curriculum contributions, assessment of student learning, and effective advising and mentoring.
- An updated copy of the faculty member's Teaching Philosophy.
- Current curriculum vitae.

Deadline

Nominations are due in the Office of the Provost by **March 24, 2017**, and may be sent via campus mail or electronically to Shannon.Homesley@uncc.edu.

Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching

[The Provost's Award for Excellence in Teaching](#) is granted to an academic department, program, or unit in recognition of the collective responsibility of faculty members for maintaining high-quality teaching. The award is intended to recognize documented efforts that improve student learning and outcomes. The award of \$5,000 can be used at the discretion of the recipient unit for any purpose authorized for state appropriations. A permanent plaque has been created to move each year to the recipient unit in recognition of the award.

Nomination and Award Process

Each college Dean, the Dean of The Graduate School, and the Dean of the Library **may submit one nomination of a department, unit, or program** that has through its collective actions demonstrated an impact on student learning. Each college or unit should develop its own mechanism for nomination.

Nominations to the Provost should consist of a letter from the dean not to exceed three pages. The nomination may be accompanied by no more than ten pages of supporting documentation. An emphasis should be on the collective work of a department or unit rather than the compilation of the accomplishments of individuals. The letter and supporting materials should address the following:

- What has been the specific goal of this group with respect to providing a learning environment of the highest quality?
- What has this group done to build and sustain program quality?
- In what ways has this group advanced the teaching goals of the Division of Academic Affairs? *(Examples may include, but are not limited to: active learning strategies, service learning opportunities, student research, and those goals articulated by the Division.)*
- What is the evidence of improved learner outcomes?

After receiving the nominations, the Provost will seek assistance as needed to evaluate the nominations. A final decision will then be made by the Provost who will notify the dean and department or unit concerned.

Award Criteria

All University departments and programs are expected to maintain ongoing methods for enhancing and evaluating teaching performance to encourage and support effective student learning. The Provost's Award, therefore, is given to a department or program with a documented record of sustained accomplishment, commitment, and innovation in undergraduate or graduate teaching. The award acknowledges unusual efforts on the part of a department or unit to work together to deliver teaching of the highest quality that impacts student learning.

Deadline

Nominations are due in the Office of the Provost by **March 3, 2017**, and may be sent via campus mail or electronically to Shannon.Homesley@uncc.edu.

Provost's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Academic Advising

[The Provost's Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Academic Advising](#) is granted to an advising center, academic department, program, or unit in recognition of the collective responsibility of faculty and staff members for maintaining high-quality undergraduate academic advising. The award is intended to recognize sustained efforts that assist students to achieve their educational and lifelong learning goals. The award of \$2,500 can be used at the discretion of the recipient unit for any purpose authorized for state appropriations. A permanent plaque is given each year to the recipient unit in recognition of the award.

Nomination and Award Process

Each Dean and Associate Provost may submit one nomination of an advising center, department, program or unit that has, through its collective actions, demonstrated a positive impact on students' educational and lifelong learning goals. The Dean of the College of Arts & Liberal Sciences may submit two nominations due to the higher number of advising centers, departments, programs and units eligible for the award in this college. Each college or unit should develop its own mechanism for nomination.

Nominations to the Provost should consist of a letter from the Dean or Associate Provost not to exceed three pages. This must be accompanied by supporting documentation of no more than ten pages. Emphasis should be on the collective work of faculty and staff with the advising center, department,

program or unit rather than the compilation of the accomplishments of individuals. The nomination letter and supporting materials should include the following sections:

- Philosophical Statement on Advising Excellence
- Undergraduate Academic Advising Program/Process Narrative
- Goals and objectives of the center, department, program or unit
- Description of the advising program/process
- Examples of collective work of faculty and staff in undergraduate academic advising
- Procedures used in advising evaluation
- Results/outcomes of advising evaluations
- Potential adaptations to other centers, departments, programs or units

After receiving the nominations, the Provost will seek assistance as needed to evaluate the nominations. A final decision will then be made by the Provost who will notify the center, department, program or unit concerned.

Award Criteria

All University departments and programs are expected to maintain ongoing methods for enhancing and evaluating academic advising performance to encourage and support effective students' educational progress. The Provost's Award, therefore, is given to a center, department, program or unit with a documented record of sustained accomplishment, commitment, and innovation in undergraduate academic advising. The award acknowledges unusual efforts on the part of a center, department or unit to promote collaborative efforts of faculty and staff to deliver academic advising of the highest quality that impacts students' educational progress.

Deadline

Nominations are due in the Office of the Provost by **March 3, 2017**, and may be sent via campus mail or electronically to Shannon.Homesley@uncc.edu.

Student Success

Bonner Leaders Program

UNC Charlotte welcomes twelve students as the first cohort of the new [Bonner Leaders Program](#). As part of a national network of programs supported by the Bonner Foundation, the Bonner Leaders Program at UNC Charlotte is an intensive, four-year community engagement opportunity in which undergraduates are embedded in Charlotte-based institutions and agencies, participate in weekly skills development seminars, earn course credit, conduct community-based research, and contribute to public policy initiatives. Bonner Leaders are selected through a highly competitive process open to incoming first-year students eligible for federal work-study awards. Partnering agencies include Discovery Place, the Levine Museum of the New South, Camino Community Center, Friendship Trays, and the Carolina Refugee Resettlement Agency. The program, directed by Dr. Tamara Johnson, Research Associate for Academic Planning and Analysis in the Provost's Office and Sean Langley, Associate Director of Volunteer Outreach in the Dean of Students Office, is committed to the belief that students can address critical social issues, providing them with an avenue to positively affect their campuses, the local community, and the world through leadership and excellence in service.



Training

Center for Teaching and Learning

CTL offers a range of professional development opportunities to promote excellence in teaching. Workshops on numerous topics are held throughout the month. See the full [interactive online calendar](#).

Moving Your Paper Exams to Canvas the Fast Way – With Respondus

Learn how to use Respondus, a Windows-only quiz building tool, to convert your exams - including embedded images - and upload them directly into your Canvas course. Led by Sam Eneman.

- Tuesday, January 24, 11:00 AM – 12:15 PM ([Register](#))

Teaching Fully Online with Canvas

Facilitators of this workshop will demonstrate two online courses they have taught with Canvas. If you would like to gather ideas for a smooth online teaching with Canvas, come join this workshop. Led by Jaesoon An and Caryl Gordon.

- Thursday, January 26, 2:00 PM – 3:15 PM ([Register](#))

Students' Pathway to Success: A Faculty Guide – Constructing a Course Syllabus (Webinar)

Join Dr. Pedram Leilabady, Senior Lecturer and Freshman undergraduate advisor in the Department of Physics and Optical Science, as he guides you to prepare a syllabus that not only meets the legal and accreditation standards for UNC Charlotte, but also serves as a dynamic curricular resource for both your students and yourself.

- Friday, January 27, 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM ([Register](#))

Contemplative Practices Discussion Group

The Spring 2017 reading will be *Contemplative Practices in Higher Education: Powerful Methods to Transform Teaching and Learning* by Daniel P. Barbezat & Mirabai Bush. [Register for Spring Sessions here.](#)

To register for Canvas workshops and other training opportunities, visit the [Center for Teaching and Learning website](#).

Survey Requests

Online Practices Survey

UNC Charlotte has the opportunity to significantly expand the reach of our online academic offerings by participating in the national [State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement \(SARA\)](#). Before the institution can apply, the [Office of Distance Education \(DE\)](#) needs feedback from you.

Please take some time to contribute to this campus-wide self-evaluation by sharing your insights at <https://docs.google.com/a/uncc.edu/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScHJs7ncUKEUCA2O12WdpGsxxk4NVi3jT-jeA05Rft94G7uAbw/viewform>.

This [Online Practices Survey](#) asks you to share how well UNC Charlotte exemplifies widely accepted best practices for online higher education. Lifted from the Council of Regional Accrediting Commissions' (C-RAC) [Inter-regional Guidelines for the Evaluation of Distance Education](#), the survey lists ways institutions typically evidence their attainment of benchmarks in nine categories and invites your perceptions of the extent to which these practices are in place at UNC Charlotte. The survey takes about 20 minutes to complete; but the opinions you share will significantly impact the planning, support, and growth of online education at UNC Charlotte for years to come.

Questions regarding the survey can be directed to Jody Cebina, Director, Distance Education and Summer School, via email at jcebina@uncc.edu or telephone at 704-687-1282.

Military Culture Climate Survey

UNC Charlotte's Military Affairs Committee (MAC) needs your assistance. The Committee is working to assess the University's organizational climate and whether it supports the academic success and graduation of military and veteran students. A web-based survey was developed to ascertain this information. The survey contains military culture items and takes approximately 15 minutes to complete. It is designed to assess an individual's perception of the organizational climate for military culture in one's general organizational setting.

The survey was designed to be administered anonymously to protect the identities of respondents. All responses to the survey will be collected online and your responses will be summarized with those of other faculty and staff. no individual or department or division information will be requested.

Academic Affairs faculty and staff will soon be receiving an email from the Office of Academic Affairs with the survey link and instructions for completing the survey; please complete the survey at your earliest convenience.

For questions, please email culture@uncc.edu or call 704-687-7977.

Military Affairs Committee (MAC)

- Dr. Hank Harris – Chair, Military Affairs Committee
- Dr. Christine Elnitsky – Member, Military Affairs Committee and Director, Academy for Veteran and Military Health

Vendor Demonstrations

An effort is underway to select a vendor to provide a state-of-the-art research administration system to replace the current system, NORM. Two finalist vendors, InfoEd and Huron, have been selected to present demonstrations of their product.

UNC Charlotte will host the western region of the University of North Carolina eRA (Electronic Research Administration) system RFP demonstrations.

The first set of demonstrations presented by **InfoEd** will be held on **January 24 and 25**. [View the itinerary here](#). **UPDATE:** All sessions will be held in **McKnight Hall in the Cone Center**. The itinerary has details on the topics that will be presented at each session and the suggested target audience. Registration is not required to attend in person. Attendees are welcome to attend as many sessions as they would like.

UPDATE: The demonstrations will also be available online by [registering here](#) for January 24 and [registering here](#) for January 25. After registering online, participants will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar. [Download instructions on how to log into the webinar here](#).

Contact AURA-team@uncc.edu with questions.

Guest Speakers



EPIC Energy Seminar Series welcomes Hubbell Lighting's Warren Weeks

The EPIC Energy Seminar Series offers a [fantastic line-up of speakers](#). The seminars strive to engage students, faculty and industry partners and provide opportunities to learn about different aspects of the energy industry from energy experts. EPIC Energy Seminars are FREE and open to students and the public.

"Energy Saving Impact of Solid-State Lighting"

Speaker: Warren Weeks
Director, Innovation & Technology
Hubbell Lighting

When and Where

January 24, 2017
EPIC Building Room G256
12:30 PM - 1:30 PM
Click [here](#) for more details and to register to attend.

Abstract

LEDs and solid-state lighting (SSL) promised significant energy savings over traditional lighting technologies. Have the energy savings claims come true? What can drive further SSL adoption to keep energy savings alive and relevant? Learn which market segments are leading and lagging in SSL adoption and why. Hear what is the next frontier in solid-state lighting.

About the Speaker

Warren is the Director, Innovation & Technology at Hubbell Lighting where he is accountable for leading and coordinating advanced R&D projects and SSL new product development (NPD) efforts. Prior to joining Hubbell, Warren was the President of the Compound Group, a business and technology advisory firm. His functional expertise in business development, strategy and operations is coupled with his technology entrepreneurship in LEDs and SSL. Warren co-founded Nitronex Corporation, a high-tech company developing advanced semiconductor

technologies. At Nitronex, he led the development of the industry's first blue light emitting diodes (LEDs) on ordinary silicon wafers. Warren previously worked at CREE, Inc. developing state-of-the-art blue and green LEDs. He is credited with producing the first solid-state blue laser in the US. Similar lasers are used in today's Blu-Ray players. He also served on the executive team at Intrinsic Semiconductor which was acquired by CREE in 2006.

Warren holds a B.S. degree in Ceramic Engineering from Clemson University and a M.S. degree from NC State in Materials Science & Engineering. He is a co-inventor on numerous US and internationally issued patents, pending patents, trademarks, copyrights and trade secrets. He has co-authored numerous scientific, peer-reviewed articles related to compound semiconductors. He has served as a technical reviewer to the US DOE for its SSL initiatives and is considered an expert in blue, green and white LEDs based on his +20 years experience in the industry.

Dissertation Defenses

The dissertation defense is one of the ways a new scholar demonstrates readiness to join the academy and is an opportunity to share their research widely. [View All Dissertation Defense Announcements.](#)

Upcoming Events

- Jan 24** [Personally Speaking Looks at Race, Religion, and the Pulpit](#)
- Jan 27** [Department Chairs Meeting](#)
- Feb 2** [Faculty Executive Committee Meeting](#)
- Feb 6** [Annual Witherspoon Lecture](#)
- Feb 7** [Graduate Council Meeting](#)

*The OAA News Digest is distributed each Monday to Academic Affairs Faculty and Staff.
Deadline for submission is 11:00 a.m. every Friday.*