News Digest

November 27, 2017

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2018 Undergraduate Research Conference

Please save the date for the 2018 Undergraduate Research Conference: **Friday, April 20, 2018**, Student Activity Center. Please encourage your undergraduate students who are involved with research to apply for the URC. URC registration opens on February 12, 2018, and closes at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 16, 2018. The UNC Charlotte Undergraduate Research Conference (URC) is a university-wide showcase of research projects completed by undergraduate students of all levels from all colleges and departments in the university. The URC is sponsored by Academic Affairs, the Atkins Library, Charlotte Research Institute, the Honors College, and the Levine Scholars program.

Remind Students to Complete FAFSA

As you meet with students, please remind them to complete their FAFSA if they want to receive a financial aid award for the 2018-2019 academic year. If students complete their FAFSA by January 1, they will receive an early award by March 1. This is a new deadline for continuing students so we can use your help in getting the message out. The earlier they receive their financial aid awards, the more prepared they will be.

2018-2019 Catalog Preview Available

The working drafts for the 2018-2019 Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs are available online for preview to help with planning your course and curriculum changes for the 2018-2019 academic year. These previews should reflect any course and curriculum changes that have gone through the full approval process within Curriculog. Any proposals that have not yet gone through the full approval process will not yet appear. Future changes will be added to these working drafts of the catalogs after the proposals have completed the full approval cycle within Curriculog. For instructions on previewing the 2018-2019 Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs, please visit the Faculty Governance website. Additional instructions for reviewing, editing, and revising non-curricular sections of the catalogs will be forthcoming in future editions of the weekly Academic Affairs News Digest.

Atkins Library Book Sale

On December 1 and 2, Atkins will offer for sale over 8,000 duplicate and carefully selected items including academic monographs, paperbacks, children's literature, K-12 teacher kits, LPs, DVDs, etc. The sale will be held in the Halton Reading Room. No item over $3.00. Cash only. More information: library.uncc.edu/BookSale.

University IT Assessment Town Hall

The campus is invited to attend the University IT Assessment Town Hall meeting on November 29. Participants can learn more and ask questions about the assessment, as announced in Chancellor Dubois' message to faculty and staff on November 17, 2017. Questions can also be submitted to stheriau@uncc.edu to be answered at the meeting.

- Wednesday, November 29, 10:00 - 11:00 AM, SAC 334AB

DSI Seminar

Computational Policy Analytics: Policy Modeling in the Age of Big Data

Speaker: Asim Zia, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Public Policy & Decision Analysis: Department of Community Development and Applied Economics & Department of Computer Science at the University of Vermont

With advances in computer sciences as well as widespread availability of big data from government programs, a new field of "computational policy analytics" is emerging that integrates computer science and public policy for generating novel insights to inform policy design and evaluation processes. Three specific complexity science tools appear very promising for computational policy analytics. (1) Bayesian Belief Network Models and Machine Learning Approaches are suitable for modeling uncertainty that is inherent in policy systems. (2) System Dynamic Models can seamlessly capture the dynamic and complex feedback structures of policy processes. (3) Agent Based Models can simultaneously enable modelling of spatial and temporal dynamics, networks as well as explicit rule structures and decisions of agents, be they individual or institutional agents. These three approaches can also be combined, mixed and matched, in the so-called "hybrid" models. These hybrid models are highly customizable that can enable understanding of multi-layered, nested and inter-dependent policy systems. Utilizing these tools, this talk will present examples of recent policy modeling applications cutting across land use policy, infrastructure design, health policy, energy policy and bio-security management.

- Friday, December 1, 12:00 - 1:00 PM, Woodward 338

Invitation to Speak at Analytics Frontiers 2018

Analytics Frontiers is the UNC Charlotte Data Science Initiative's annual conference, with support from prominent corporations and institutions in financial services, healthcare, energy, retail, education, government and manufacturing. In its fourth year, the Analytics Frontiers Conference will bring together business executives, thought leaders, data scientists, entrepreneurs, professional analysts and a diverse set of speakers. Last year, the keynote speaker was Nate Silver, founder of FiveThirtyEight.com and author of *The Signal and The Noise*. DSI is in the process of selecting another impressive keynote and additional speakers for this distinguished event and invites submissions from UNC Charlotte personnel. Presentations should be deliverable within a 45-minute time slot (including any Q&A, as appropriate). To submit your presentation for consideration, please send it to analyticsfrontiers@uncc.edu no later than **Sunday, January 14, 2018**. If your topic is selected, you will be contacted to submit a brief bio and picture, as well as to sign a speaker's agreement, including authorizing of the UNC Charlotte Data Science Initiative to make presentations available for viewing online.

Analytics Frontiers 2018 will be held on March 21 at The Ritz-Carlton in uptown Charlotte. It will be a full day event, with a focus on deep learning, machine learning, and artificial intelligence and breakout sessions that cut across a number of industries. Examples of suitable topics include: demos or case studies or discussions about the successful implementations of processes, tools, and infrastructure required to support large scale analytics; emerging technologies in data analytics; challenges in analytics within a specific industry; organizational acceptance of analytics; ethical considerations in data analytics; and analytics applications for everyday business. Visit analyticsfrontiers.uncc.edu for more information.

Retirement Receptions

Join EPIC for a reception in honor of Beverly Guessford who is retiring after 14 years of dedicated service to UNC Charlotte.

- Tuesday, December 5, 2:00 - 4:00 PM, EPIC Atrium (*RSVP*)

The Center for Teaching and Learning is rolling out the red carpet for Sam Eneman. Join CTL in honor of his retirement after 17 years of service.

- Thursday, December 7, 2:00 - 4:00 PM, Kennedy 236 (*RSVP*)

Dean Nancy Gutierrez invites all faculty and staff to join CLAS as they celebrate Bill Hill's retirement after 35 years of service to UNC Charlotte.

- Wednesday, December 13, 3:30 - 5:00 PM, Robinson Hall (*RSVP*)

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

THIS WEEK:
   Dec 1-2   Atkins Library Book Sale

NEXT WEEK:
   Dec 3   Defiant Requiem: Music and Resistance in Nazi Concentration Camp
   Dec 4   Graduate Student Funding - Faculty and Staff Forum

UPCOMING: https://provost.uncc.edu/about-academic-affairs/weekly-news-digest/upcoming-events