



## News Digest

October 1, 2018

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### Chancellor's Speaker Series: Dr. Michio Kaku

One of the most widely recognized scientists in the world today, Dr. Michio Kaku is a theoretical physicist, bestselling author, acclaimed public speaker, renowned futurist, and popularizer of science. He is an authority in Einstein's unified field theory predicting trends affecting business, medicine, finance, and our way of life, based on the latest research in science. As co-founder of String Field Theory, Dr. Kaku carries on Einstein's quest to unite the four fundamental forces of nature into a single grand unified theory of everything. He has written four NY Times Best Sellers. His latest, *The Future of Humanity*, discusses the future of the space program, when one day we might explore the stars. His previous best seller, *The Future of the Mind*, hit #1 on the NY Times, Amazon, and Barnes and Noble Best Sellers List, making it the #1 hardcover, non-fiction book in the country.

- Tuesday, October 16, 2:00 - 3:00 PM, Popp Martin Student Union Multi Purpose Room ([Register](#))

### Charlotte Research Scholars Faculty Fellow Call for Participation

The Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) is seeking a full-time faculty member to serve as the Faculty Fellow for the Charlotte Research Scholars Program. The stipend for this position is \$8000. The Charlotte Research Scholars (CRS) program is administered out of the Office of Undergraduate Research. It provides UNC Charlotte undergraduate students funding to participate in a ten-week summer research program (May 29, 2019 to July 26, 2019). Scholars receive one-on-one, faculty-guided research training, and participate in weekly professional development sessions to better prepare them for graduate school and a future research career. The program culminates in the Summer Research Symposium. The OUR is seeking candidates with experience mentoring undergraduate students and knowledge about research training programs for undergraduate students. To apply for this position please submit the following to [Dr. Erin Banks](#) by October 15: letter of application, current CV, endorsement from your chair.

Faculty Fellow Roles/Responsibilities:

- Be actively engaged during ten-week summer program
- Serve as point of contact for Charlotte Research Scholars faculty mentors
- Serve as point of contact for student participants
- Serve as the liaison between the CRS program and the Office for Undergraduate Research
- Work with the OUR to implement programming for summer research experiences
- Organize Charlotte Research Scholars Selection Committee

- Review Charlotte Research Scholars faculty mentors and student applications
- Participate in the OUR Faculty Fellow Advisory Committee planning meetings held during the academic year

## Save-the-Date: Undergraduate Research Conference

Please "Save the Date" for the Undergraduate Research Conference (URC) 2019, which will be held Friday, March 29, in the SAC Salons (8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.). The URC 2019 registration will open in January. Please encourage your undergraduate students to submit their research projects for presentation at the URC 2019.

## Grad Students' 3MT Competition Scheduled

Graduate students will have an opportunity again this year to compact their thesis or dissertation into a powerful, three-minute presentation for a chance to win cash prizes and a trip to the Conference of Southern Graduate School's annual meeting. Through the Three-Minute Thesis (3MT) program, contestants vie for the most compelling presentation of research to an audience that may not share the same expertise. "Polishing communication skills for our graduate students is a key focus for our professional development program," said Jill Huerta, Director of the Center for Graduate Life. "Effectively conveying ideas and arguments is a skill in great demand today." The 3MT competition originated at the University of Queensland, Australia in 2008. Since then, the program has spread worldwide to over 600 universities in 65 countries. Registration for UNC Charlotte's 2018 3MT competition is open until October 8 at the [Center for Graduate Life](#).

## Common Reading Experience Campus Event

### Exploring the Context: Apartheid, A Crime and Me

Trevor Noah provides a striking example of how self-reflection can lead to strong self, social and cultural awareness. The most important lessons of Trevor's story lie within the context of his experiences. This discussion with speaker Eddie Harris will help the audience consider and evaluate their own stories by drawing direct correlations with key themes exercised in Trevor's retelling of his story.

The Office of Undergraduate Education is pleased to announce a campus event as part of the Common Reading Experience discussion around *Born a Crime*. Faculty are asked to encourage their students to come out to learn with Eddie Harris, a UNC Charlotte alum, who is making quite a name for himself as a speaker and workshop facilitator on themes of identity, race, and culture. Direct inquiries to [Carla Eastis](#).

- Thursday, October 18, 7:00 - 8:00 PM, Student Union Room 340

## New Gmail Design is Permanent October 16

Starting Tuesday, October 16, the option to toggle back to the "classic" design will end and the new design will become permanent. Not comfortable using the new design yet? [Several introductory classes](#) are still available—register today! For any questions, please contact the IT Service Desk at x.75500 or [help.unc.edu](mailto:help@unc.edu).

### Key FAQs

[How to switch to the new Gmail design](#)

[Watch the new Gmail introductory video and key features](#)

## Use Your Employee Benefits for a Graduate Education

The Graduate School will conduct an information session for University employees who hold a baccalaureate degree and wish to pursue their graduate education. Enrollment counselors will explain the easy application process, answer program questions and distribute HR information for the tuition waiver and free textbook rental programs. Full-time employees can take three classes per year, tuition free. Additionally, employees can apply easily for admission as a graduate certificate or post-baccalaureate (non-degree) student without standardized tests, transcripts or recommendation requirements.

- Monday, October 15, 12:00 - 1:00 PM, Cato 248 ([Register](#))

## 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:

- Oct 2** [How DIY Bio Gets Ahead on Ethics, Biosafety and Biosecurity](#)
- Oct 3** [Bosnia and Herzegovina Series](#)
- Oct 3** [Majors Day](#)
- Oct 3** [Part-time Job Fair](#)
- Oct 4** [Botanical Gardens Annual Plant Sale Preview](#)
- Oct 5-6** [Fall Plant Sale](#)
- Oct 6** [Waco After 25 Years: What We Have Learned and Not Learned](#)

### NEXT WEEK:

- Oct 12** [Talking Policy in the Queen City: Conventions, Elections, and Mobilizing Voters](#)

**UPCOMING:** [provost.uncc.edu/about-academic-affairs/weekly-news-digest/upcoming-events](http://provost.uncc.edu/about-academic-affairs/weekly-news-digest/upcoming-events)

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*The [OAA News Digest](#) is distributed each Monday to Academic Affairs faculty and staff.  
Deadline for submission is 11:00 a.m. every Friday.*