

September 20, 2021

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Provost Search Announcement

Chancellor Gaber announced that UNC Charlotte has begun the process to identify its fifth provost, following Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Joan F. Lorden's announcement she will step down after June 2022. The [search committee](#) is led by Catrine Tudor-Locke, Dean of the College of Health and Human Services, and Rob Keynton, Dean of The William States Lee College of Engineering, and includes a diverse and accomplished group of faculty, staff and students. The committee will begin its work in September 2021 and will be assisted by Parker Executive Search. It is anticipated a new provost will be in place for the start of the 2022-2023 academic year.

Dean Gutierrez to Retire in June; Smail Appointed as Interim Dean

Nancy Gutierrez, dean of the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences since July 2005, has announced her intention to retire at the end of the 2021-22 academic year. John Smail, associate provost for undergraduate education and dean of University College, will serve a limited term appointment as dean of CLAS beginning July 1, 2022. [Read the full announcement.](#)

Guidelines for Faculty Accommodations During Pandemic

Continued community spread of the COVID virus is creating the need for temporary quarantine and isolation among some in our division. Faculty members who are teaching this semester may need accommodations if they are required to isolate or quarantine or must temporarily care for a family member who is isolated or quarantined. [FAQs](#), which are posted in the [Pandemic Instruction](#) section of the Provost's website, provide guidelines.

COVID Vaccination Rates

UNC Charlotte's vaccination rates continue to rise. As of today, 74% of students attending in-person classes, 81% of residential students and 87% of all faculty and staff have submitted approved documentation of being vaccinated against COVID-19. Additional information is available on the [COVID-19 dashboard](#), which is updated weekly.

Call for Nominations**2021-2022 O. Max Gardner Award**

The prestigious O. Max Gardner award is given annually by the UNC Board of Governors to "that member of the faculty of the University of North Carolina who, during the current scholastic year, has made the greatest contribution to the welfare of the human race." [Help us identify faculty nominees.](#)

Honorary Degrees

One of the highlights of UNC Charlotte's Commencement is the recognition of individuals for exceptional and distinctive service to the University or the larger community with an honorary degree from UNC Charlotte. We are asking for your assistance in nominating persons for this honor. [Click for details on how to nominate people for this honor.](#)

Outstanding Master's Thesis

Faculty may nominate students for the Outstanding Master's Thesis Award through October 8, 2021. The Outstanding Master's Thesis Award is a part of the Graduate School's focus on enhancing research skills. Nomination information, fields of competition and more is available from the [Graduate School](#). If you have questions, please contact [Julie Green](#), Graduate Student Services and Fellowship Specialist.

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshops and Resources

Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) Grants CFP

The aim of SoTL research is to engage in a rigorous and systematic inquiry process in order to critique, improve, enhance, and develop multiple perspectives that can help inform the teaching and learning process and enrich higher education. Visit the [SoTL webpage](#) for details, including this year's priority areas for funding. The proposal deadline is 12:00 p.m. on October 18. N.B. SoTL grants will be submitted via NinerResearch.

Get Help with Your Proposal

Mark your calendars to attend a workshop to help you prepare your proposal and listen to a short podcast.

- **Entering SoTL Applications into Niner Research**
Monday, September 27, 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM ([Register](#))
- **Developing a Fundable SOTL Proposal**
Thursday, September 30, 3:00 - 4:15 PM ([Register](#))
Wednesday, October 6, 11:30 AM - 12:45 PM ([Register](#))
- **Podcasts** (each three minutes or less)
[The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning](#), Concepción Godev
[The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Part 1](#). Kim Buch
[The Scholarship of Teaching and Learning, Part 2](#). Kim Buch
[The Impact of SoTL Grants](#). Kim Buch

Educational Leadership Virtual Open House

Is it time to take the next step in your career? Learn more about pursuing a leadership position in P12 or higher education at our virtual open house! During this session, you will hear from faculty and staff about programs in the Department of Educational Leadership. Faculty, Program Coordinators, and Program Directors will offer breakout sessions with specifics on each degree program. Attend one of the two virtual sessions to learn more about the higher education programs.

- Thursday, September 23, 5:30 PM, via Zoom ([Register](#))
- Tuesday, October 12, 5:30 PM, via Zoom ([Register](#))

Legal Affairs Training: Copyright Infringement

The Bling May Sting: Considerations for the Lawful Use of Copyrighted Materials in Your University Work

In this presentation, Assistant Professor Will Sherman (Religious Studies) will share his experience responding to an alleged infringement claim and how (even inadvertently) our work can make us vulnerable to copyright infringement claims. He will share some tips with attendees that may help them avoid similar claims. Copyright and Licensing Librarian Kate Dickson will also provide an overview of copyright law and review the fair use exception to student and employee use of copyrighted works in the educational setting. Attendees will learn the four-part fair use analysis and practice applying it in several hypothetical examples in order to gain confidence working with fair use in everyday situations.

- Tuesday, September 28, 12:00 - 1:00 PM ([RSVP](#))
**Registrants will receive the Zoom link via email prior to the presentation.*

Free Financial Empowerment Sessions for UNC Charlotte Students, Staff & Faculty

The Urban Education Collaborative is excited to announce a unique opportunity for students, staff and faculty. Through a partnership with Fifth Third Bank, free Financial Empowerment and Financial Counseling workshops will be offered on September 28, 2021, from 10am - 4pm by employees of Fifth Third Bank. [More information](#).

W+GRA 2021-2022 Seed Funding RFP Opens October 1

Based on the results of the 2021 Summit, W+GRA seeks to support new or ongoing research efforts whose goals align with the programmatic priority to highlight the issues that women and girls face in the workforce as a result of, or exacerbated by, COVID-19's impact on the economy and society. Issues may cover a variety of areas, such as the exposure of gender-biased employment practices during COVID; the disproportionate burden that the pandemic placed on single mothers; and the relationship between employment and housing security; the over-representation of women of color in low-wage jobs, particularly front-line workers, and their increased exposure to the virus; the lack of affordable childcare for working mothers. From October 1-15, 2021, W+GRA will accept proposals for funding in the amount of \$1,000-\$5,000 for projects that focus on one or both of the following:

- Supporting an ongoing research project or a new research project that addresses the intersectional nature of the problem along the lines of race, class, gender, age, ability, immigrant status, language, location, access to helpful resources, and income.
- Tangible projects that will support the work of the W+GRA such as conference presentations, workshops, research papers, training, or programs that address the "she-cession" and women missing from the workplace.

[View the full RFP](#); send questions to [Taylor Rauschenberg](#).

SBIR and STTR Grants

The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs are highly competitive programs funded by federal sponsors that encourage domestic small businesses to engage in Federal Research/Research and Development with the potential for commercialization. Charlotte promotes and supports our faculty and staff in their desire to participate in such programs. Central to the STTR program is the partnership between domestic small businesses and nonprofit research institutions, such as Charlotte. STTR's most important role is to bridge the gap between performance of basic science and commercialization of resulting innovations. STTR and SBIR may produce significant Conflicts of Interest (COI) which must be managed before University sub-awards may be funded. Because of this, all employees are strongly urged to set up an appointment early in the application process with Sherry Loyd, especially when they have a financial COI with a party or entity involved in the Prime application. This is to manage and avoid unmanageable conflicts of interest at any stage of the application process. Contact coi-staff@uncc.edu for more information.

Office Name Change: Student Accountability and Conflict Resolution

The team in Student Conduct & Academic Integrity is announcing a [name change](#) for their office; which corresponds with the office's new three-year strategic plan. The new name is [Student Accountability & Conflict Resolution](#). Through this strategic plan and name change, staff aim to cultivate a campus culture that embraces different perspectives, civil discourse and free expression through appropriate conflict resolution. Using a values based and student centered approach to accountability, the goal is to foster integrity and respect in our community, and to be national leaders in equity and inclusion within student conduct. If you or your staff are interested in virtual or in-person training related to Academic Integrity, please contact [James Lorello](#).

CGLL Offers Support For Dissertation Work

The Center for Graduate Life and Learning (CGLL) offers dissertation support to UNC Charlotte students at all stages of the dissertation process. Through the CGLL, writers can learn tailored strategies for managing the dissertation process, as well as how to:

- Plan, draft, revise, and edit their dissertation writing
- Work more effectively with dissertation chairs and committee members
- Create strong writing habits and set reasonable writing goals
- Manage their time and be more productive
- Deal with barriers to writing, such as writer's block and procrastination

Students may email [Dr. Lisa Russell-Pinson](#), Assistant Teaching Professor of Writing in the Graduate School, to schedule an appointment.

The Dissertation Writing Group (DWG) meets Wednesdays, 10-12:30 p.m. and provides a supportive, virtual forum to help dissertation writers:

- Form or refine productive writing and work habits
- Break isolation and build community
- Take advantage of structured writing time

The first DWG session begins Wednesday, September 29. The group is facilitated by Dr. Lisa Russell-Pinson, Assistant Teaching Professor of Writing in the Graduate School. To be eligible to participate in this group, writers must be doctoral students who are actively working on their dissertation and able to commit to attending each 2.5-hour session for eight weeks. Please visit the [DWG registration](#) site to join this group.

New Grade Mode Introduced for Doctoral Dissertation and Master's Thesis Research

Last spring, the Faculty Council approved a new grade mode option for graduate research credit. Beginning Fall 2021 the default grade mode for Doctoral Dissertation Research and Master's Thesis Research will be Satisfactory Progress/Unsatisfactory Progress (SP/UP). Programs that offer a Master's Thesis option may request that a Standard Letter grade (A, B, C, U) be assigned instead of SP/UP grades by contacting the Graduate School no later than October 1, 2021. The grade of SP/UP option is in the 2021-22 [Graduate Catalog](#) under Degree Requirements and Academic Policies/ Grading and Related Policies. More information specific to Master's Thesis Research can be found under Degree Requirements and Academic Policies/ Master's Degree Requirements. Please direct any questions to [Sandra Krause](#), Assistant Dean for Graduate Academic Services.

AAUP Chapter Meeting, September 23

Join the UNC Charlotte AAUP chapter to set priorities for the year and appreciate our "retiring" officers at the AAUP member meeting on September 23, 3:00-4:00 p.m. Please [submit pre-meeting questions](#) to help us set our priorities for this year. The agenda will include updates on current issues (COVID, budget), setting priorities for the year (from form responses), appreciation to Janaka Lewis, Christine Haynes, and Oscar de la Torre Cueva for their leadership, and Q&A/general discussion. [More information about UNC Charlotte's AAUP chapter.](#)

- Thursday, September 23, 3:00 - 4:00 PM, via Zoom
<https://uncc.zoom.us/j/96456772235?pwd=aUEreDRibXd0ZndjVnpLWDZwd2ljdz09>
Meeting ID: 964 5677 2235
Passcode: 633712
Dial in: 312 626 6799

Faculty Council News

Please visit the Faculty Governance website for the latest news from the Faculty Council including:

- [Meeting Schedules](#)
- [Agendas/Minutes](#)
- [Latest News](#)

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](#)

Latest AA News

For up-to-the-minute news from Academic Affairs (faculty awards, research, recognition, initiatives), follow us on [Twitter](#) or visit the [Academic Affairs Division News webpage](#).

Upcoming Events

This Week:

- Sep-Oct [UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens events](#)
- Sep-Oct [Diversity events](#)

Upcoming: provost.charlotte.edu/division-news/weekly-news-digest/upcoming-events

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CHARLOTTE
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

The [DAA News Digest](#) is distributed each Monday to Academic Affairs faculty and staff.
To have items included in the digest, complete the [NEWS DIGEST REQUEST FORM](#).
Deadline for submission is 11:00 a.m. every Friday.