The Office of the Provost continues to receive questions regarding a faculty member’s responsibility if a student reports to them that they have COVID-19. First, the faculty should advise the student to complete the daily Niner Health Check and state that they have symptoms and/or have tested positive. This starts the University's procedure related to isolation, quarantine and contact tracing. The student will provide their instructor with documentation from the University when they are released from isolation or quarantine. More details about the process are available on the Niner Nation Cares website.

Faculty members should not cancel their class or change the course delivery unless instructed to do so by contact tracers and Emergency Management. Faculty members should not share a student's health diagnosis with others. Notification is the sole job of Emergency Management and its contact tracing team. Faculty members should work with the student to complete course requirements remotely while the student is in isolation or quarantine (see Attendance Policy). Contact tracers will contact faculty and other students in the class if it is determined they are close contacts of a COVID-19-positive individual. Seating charts are recommended to streamline this process. It is important to note that just because you have been in a classroom with someone does not mean you are necessarily at risk of being a close contact. The contact tracing process is typically complete within 24 hours. Please become familiar with other FAQs at the Niner Nation Cares website.

The Classroom Support team, part of the Audiovisual Integration and Support for Learning Environments (AISLE) group, provides real-time, in-person, and remote support to instructors and other classroom users. All classrooms are equipped with intercoms for real-time communication with AV Call Center technicians who can assist you remotely and come to the room in person when needed--just press the red "Help" button on the touch panel. Over the last year, USB lectern microphones have been installed in all classrooms to support clear, high-quality audio for use with Zoom. Additionally, Classroom Support has installed dual monitors in these classrooms as part of efforts to support a hybrid teaching and learning environment. The monitors have embedded webcams that can be used for Zoom sessions. In classrooms with capacities of 80 or greater, there are wireless microphones that provide audio both for Zoom and in-room voice reinforcement. The wireless microphones are stored in digital safes attached to the lecterns. Please contact the AV Call Center over the intercom or email help@uncc.edu for the access code or to request a system demonstration and instruction. Related FAQs and user guides are available online.

The 57 Bus by Dashka Slater has been selected again as UNC Charlotte’s Common Reading Experience text for Fall 2021. The committee is confident that this sensitive, powerful book will spark discussions of systemic inequalities, cultural diversity, and self-awareness. The committee encourages wide-scale campus engagement with, and first-year course
adoption of, The 57 Bus. Author Dashka Slater will visit campus and speak to the public on Wednesday, October 20, 7:00 p.m., in the Student Union Multipurpose Room. More information.

Personally Speaking Series Begins New Season

In the 2021-2022 Personally Speaking published experts series, four College of Liberal Arts & Sciences researchers will engage audiences in conversations about alt-right gangs, the construction of language in the Marshall Islands, racial identity in Argentina, and geology’s impact in the Civil War. The 2021-2022 season will feature an in-person event offered at the same time as a virtual offering, assuming that COVID-19 restrictions will allow the face-to-face event. The presentations will be recorded and available on the College's YouTube channel (and we hope you will follow the channel).

Speakers and Dates:
- Alt-Right Gangs: A Hazy Shade of White, Shannon Reid. Tuesday, September 14, 2021 - VIRTUAL ONLY
- Talking Like Children: Language and the Production of Age in the Marshall Islands, Elise Berman. Tuesday, October 26, 2021
- Hiding in Plain Sight: Black Women, the Law, and the Making of a White Argentine Republic, Erika Edwards. Tuesday, February 8, 2022
- Rocks and Rifles: The Influence of Geology on Combat and Tactics during the American Civil War, Scott Hippensteel. Tuesday, March 29, 2022

2022-2023 Faculty Research Grants Program

The Faculty Research Grants Committee is soliciting proposals for the 2022-2023 Faculty Research Grants Program. Guidelines and application forms as well as other important information about the FRG Program will be posted online at the Center for Research Excellence website. The deadline for submissions is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, October 18, 2021.

Launch of Niner Research IACUC Module; Updates to COI Module

The Office of Research and Economic Development has launched the IACUC Animal Subjects module in Niner Research and implemented changes to the content of the Conflicts of Interest (COI) Module, including integration of the travel disclosure form. Additional information is available on the Niner Research resources page.

Ventureprise Launch NSF I-Corps Fall 2021 Virtual Cohort Now Accepting Applications

Join 300+ UNC Charlotte faculty and students that have already completed the Ventureprise Launch program. Receive up to $5,000 for your research or business idea. Apply to participate in the Fall 2021 Ventureprise Launch National Science Foundation I-Corps Virtual Cohort. The program provides UNC Charlotte faculty, staff and students with commercialization training and new NSF funding. The program is designed for you to work at your own pace with interview and funding goals. This virtual cohort has been designed with a tiered approach, launching on September 15. The goal of the program is to identify potential commercial uses for technology and research. The next stage is a six month $50,000 NSF I-Corps Teams grant. Applications are currently open and are reviewed as they are submitted, closing on September 9. More information and the application form can be found on the NSF I-Corps webpage. For additional questions, contact Devin Collins or Laura Smailes.

Niner Career Challenge Kickoff

The University Career Center is hosting a career challenge to help students plan for career readiness by engaging in services and events that prepare them for their future. To show support and encourage students to set aside time to focus on their future, the Career Center has created the Niner Career Challenge. Students can register for a chance to win free spring 2022 tuition and other monthly prizes. Thank you to employer partner, Flexcare Medical Staffing, for this incredible grand prize and the monthly prizes. For more information, visit the Career Center website.

Center for Teaching and Learning Workshops

Speak with an Instructional Designer: Need last minute feedback or support for your course? The Center for Teaching and Learning offers 1:1 consultations. For Instructional Design Consultation and to Request Technical Support, contact the IT Service Desk at http://help.charlotte.edu or by calling 704-687-5500.

Highlights for this week:
- Apply Now! Active Learning Academy: Reimagining Teaching & Learning. This year’s faculty academy will provide an opportunity to reflect and build on what we’ve learned from the experience of remote teaching. Key areas of
focus include (but are not limited to): Active Learning; Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion; Learner-driven Approaches; Accessibility; Student Engagement; and more. Apply Now!

- **First Day of Class Teaching Guide**: Practical strategies for your first day of class.

**Learning Technology Training:**
- Quick Start Your Semester Using a Canvas Template, Tuesday, August 24, 1:30 - 2:00 PM (Register)
- Quick Start Your Semester Using a Canvas Template, Wednesday, August 25, 11:30 AM - 12:00 PM (Register)
- Teaching with Poll Everywhere Workshop, Wednesday, August 25, 2:00 - 3:00 PM (Register)
- Canvas Assignments and Gradebook, Thursday, August 26, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (Register)

**CONNECT Training and Early Alerts**

CONNECT training sessions will be offered virtually for Fall 2021. Advisors and faculty can request training using the Google form on the Academic Advising Technology Training webpage. These virtual training sessions can include Early Alert training. Early Alerts are due for all 1XXX/2XXX level courses by 12:00 p.m. on Friday, September 17. Departments may also request to schedule their own training session to be held during a departmental meeting by contacting Stephanie Westine, Advising Systems Administrator, or Lee Fredrick Bowen, Director for Academic Advising Systems.

**Be Part of CTI’s Class of 2022 Seminar Leaders**

Are you interested in sharing your research with a broader audience? Do you care about public education? Do you see PK-12 teachers as allies in your work? If you answered ‘yes’ to any of these questions, then consider submitting a seminar proposal idea for the Charlotte Teachers Institute (CTI) lineup of 2022 seminars. CTI is an educational partnership among UNC Charlotte, Johnson C. Smith University, and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) to strengthen teaching and learning through collaboration, creativity, leadership, and content knowledge. CMS teachers in grades PK-12 apply to participate in professor-led seminars based on research and teaching interests with the goal of creating original curricula for CMS students. To date, 700+ CTI Fellows have written more than 1,045 original curriculum units, all available on CTI's website. Check out CTI's website for more information, including the commitment to racial equity and testimonials from teachers, professors, and funders. Please submit your ideas by Friday, September 3. CTI Director Scott Gartlan will be in touch following submission to discuss next steps.

**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**:
  - Aug-Sep: UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens events
  - Aug-Sep: Diversity events

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

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.