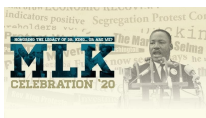


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2020 MLK Celebration: "Honoring the Legacy of Dr. King . . . Or Are We?"



Join the University community to celebrate the life, work and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the annual MLK Celebration. Keynote speaker Randal Pinkett will speak on the topic of "Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community?". The speech title is taken directly from Dr. King's last book before his assassination. It will bring attention to where we are as a society now and offer insight specifically from Dr. King for where we need to go as a society.

- Tuesday, January 21, 3:30 PM, McKnight Hall, Cone University Center

UNC Charlotte Opens Carolinas' First School of Data Science



UNC Charlotte has opened the Carolinas' first School of Data Science. This interdisciplinary school allows UNC Charlotte to expand on its programs in the field and open up the growing and diverse field of data science to students with varied career interests. The School of Data Science is planning to offer the state's only bachelor's program in data science beginning in fall 2020, pending appropriate state and federal approvals. The opening of the School of Data Science responds directly to job demand in Charlotte, throughout the state and the country, as jobs in data science continue to outstretch the number of qualified candidates. The School of Data Science is a collaboration among the College of Computing and Informatics, the Belk College of Business, the College of Health and Human Services and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. Its interdisciplinary approach recognizes the evolution of data science in many industries and the need for multiple skillsets among business managers, social scientists, government officials, statisticians, health care leaders, and many others to create meaning from data. Learn more about the UNC Charlotte [School of Data Science](#).

Film Screen with a Dean: What the Health

Join College of Health and Human Services Dean Catrine Tudor-Locke for a free screening of "What the Health," a powerful, controversial film offering a perspective on diet, industry and America's public health challenges. The film will be followed by an interactive panel discussion with individuals from a wide variety of backgrounds and perspectives. We'll dive into the health implications and ethics of what you eat, and take a closer look at the relationship between science, health advocacy and sensationalism. From the Film's Creators: "What the Health follows intrepid filmmaker Kip Andersen as he uncovers the secret to preventing and even reversing chronic diseases – and investigates why the nation's leading health organizations don't want us to know about it. With heart disease and cancer the leading causes of death in America, and diabetes at an all-time high, the film reveals possibly the largest health cover-up of our time."

- Tuesday, January 28, 4:00 - 6:30 PM, McKnight Hall ([Register](#))

Legal Training Session: Deal or No Deal

Join Assistant General Counsel Brad Trahan for an [interactive session](#) that will review the university's contract checklist and negotiating techniques. It also includes a discussion of who is permitted to sign what types of contracts and the division of responsibilities between the unit wishing to enter into the contract and units tasked with reviewing & negotiating the contract.

- Wednesday, January 29, 9:00 - 10:00 AM, CHHS 159 ([RSVP](#))

UNC Charlotte Children's Choir

The UNC Charlotte Children's Choir returns for Spring 2020. Visit the [Children's Choir webpage](#) for more information.

Ventureprise Launch NSF I-Corps Spring Cohort - Now Accepting Applications

Have an idea or research finding that the National Science Foundation may be interested in Funding? Want to receive up to \$5000 for your research or business idea? Apply to participate in the Spring 2020 Ventureprise Launch National Science Foundation I-Corps cohort. The program provides UNC Charlotte faculty, staff and students with commercialization training and up to an initial \$5000 in NSF funding. The goal of the program is to identify potential commercial uses and prepare for more substantial commercialization funding opportunities. The next stage is a six month \$50,000 NSF I-Corps Teams grant. The cohort will begin January 31 (rolling applications, last day to submit is January 28). A complete schedule and application form can be found on the [NSF I-Corps webpage](#). Contact: Principle Investigator [Devin Collins](#) (7-8058).

Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Fund Accepting Proposals

The Council on University Community is accepting proposals for the [Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Fund](#). The purpose of the Fund is to support initiatives promoting the daily value of diversity in the intellectual life of the campus. Students, faculty, and staff are eligible to apply for awards up to \$5,000. Restrictions on state funds apply. Potential uses of the Fund include:

- Presentations, workshops, trainings, cultural programs, exhibitions, films, or speakers that address issues of diversity
- Research on issues related to diversity
- Programs to integrate diversity into the classroom
- Programs that increase diversity in the academic pipeline
- Projects that promote diversity through linkages with the Charlotte community

Deadline for submission is March 10, 2020. To apply, please visit the [Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Fund webpage](#).

Discovery Place Science - Call for Participation in Community Outreach Initiative

The Office of Undergraduate Research, the Graduate School and other community partners will be celebrating the exciting research that is happening at UNC Charlotte through a partnership with Discovery Place Science. Both undergraduate and graduate students are needed to present their research at the event. The event will take place on Wednesday, April 1, 2020, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please encourage students in your college/department to participate. For more information, please contact the Office of Undergraduate Research at 7-5316 or via [email](#), or complete the [participation form](#). The call for participation for this event will close on February 10, 2020.

OUR Summer 2020 Undergraduate Research Experience

Student applications are now open for the Office of Undergraduate Research (OUR) Summer 2020 Undergraduate Research Experience. This year, there will be a part-time option for both the Charlotte Research Scholars and Charlotte Community Scholars Program. Please encourage your students to apply for the Charlotte Research Scholars and Charlotte Community Scholars programs. The last day to apply is Friday, January 31, 2020. For information on Faculty Projects for the CCS program, visit [Charlotte Community Scholars Program Information](#), and for the CRS program, visit [Charlotte Research Scholars Program Information](#) and click on See Project Description.

Undergraduate Research Conference

Registration for the 2020 Undergraduate Research Conference (URC) is now open. Please encourage your undergraduate students to register and present at the conference. URC registration will remain open until 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 21. Students can visit the [URC website for more details about how to register](#).

The Undergraduate Research Conference will be held on Friday, April 17, 2020, in the Popp-Martin Student Union. We are still seeking faculty, staff, and doctoral students to serve as URC judges. Please complete the [URC Judge Recruitment form](#) to indicate your availability to judge posters or oral presentations at the URC. The form has all the details regarding the sessions. Kindly complete the form by or before Friday, February 14, 2020.

J. Murrey Atkins Library: News and Events

University-wide Book Club

UNC Charlotte faculty, staff, and students are cordially invited to participate in a University-wide book club sponsored by Atkins Library that focuses on diversity and culture. The book selected for the first discussion is [The Person You Mean To Be: How Good People Fight Bias](#) by Dolly Chugh. The book will be discussed at the kickoff meeting. All are welcome to attend. Book Discussion Facilitator: Ryan Harris, Atkins Library, Head of Instructional Services. For more information contact Denelle Eads at deads@uncc.edu or x7-1165.

- Thursday, January 30, 4:00 - 6:00 PM, Atkins Library

Disability Advocate and Author Talks on Hidden Disabilities in the Workplace

UNC Charlotte's Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and Digital Studies (WRDS) and J. Murrey Atkins Library will host disability advocate and author Sejal Shah for a presentation entitled, "[Performing Health, Unmasking Pain: Wellness, Illness, and Diversity in the Workplace](#)," on Wednesday, February 12 from 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. in the Library's Halton Reading Room. The event is supported by the 2019-2020 Chancellor's Diversity Challenge Fund. [RSVP is required](#)

CONNECT Training and Early Alerts

Numerous CONNECT training sessions are scheduled for Spring 2020. These training sessions include Early Alert training. Early Alerts are due for all 1XXX/2XXX courses by noon on Friday, January 31. Information on fall training for advisors and faculty for CONNECT, including the link for registration, can be found on the [Academic Advising Technology Training webpage](#). 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 [LeeFredrick Bowen](#), Director for Academic Advising Systems.

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 (www.twitter.com/UNCC_Academics) or visit the [Academic Affairs Division News webpage](#).

Upcoming Events

This Week:

- Jan-May** [UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens events calendar](#)
- Jan-May** [Diversity Events on campus](#)
- Jan 21** [MLK Jr. Celebration](#)
- Jan 22** [Great Decisions Series: Climate Change and the Global Order with Dr. Deborah Thomas](#)
- Jan 22** [Application deadline for the Cultural Ambassador Program](#)

Next Week:

- Jan 27** [Faculty & Friends Concert: Elizabeth Sullivan, oboe](#)
- Jan 28** ['Last Date of Attendance' Open Swim Session](#)
- Jan 29** [Great Decisions Series: U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle with Dr. Margaret Commins, Queens University, Political Science and Sociology Department](#)
- Jan 30** [Speaker Series: Understanding Disparities in an Urbanizing World](#)
- Jan 30** [Exhibition Reception: Written Image and Drawing Connections](#)

Jan 31 [STEM Fair](#)
Jan 31 [Student Spotlight Concert](#)
Feb 1 [Urban Roots Symposium: Transforming the Urban Landscape](#)

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

*The [DAA News Digest](#) is distributed each Monday to Academic Affairs faculty and staff.
Deadline for submission is 11:00 a.m. every Friday.
Send submissions to academicaffairs@uncc.edu.*