



DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

WEEKLY NEWS DIGEST

May 25, 2020

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New Student Convocation 2020

New Student Convocation 2020 will be held in a virtual format on Sunday, September 6 (time TBD). We are looking forward to continuing our tradition of welcoming and introducing our new undergraduate students (freshmen and transfers) to the UNC Charlotte community through this newly redesigned format that will incorporate student and faculty voices, academic messages, and university traditions. More information will be available this summer on the [Student Convocation webpage](#).

CTI Welcomes Outstanding 2020 Fellows

CTI welcomed 104 outstanding and irreplaceable Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools teachers to our new cohort of 2020 CTI Fellows this Spring (see the [full list of Fellows here](#)). These 104 Fellows represent 55 different CMS schools, average 11.3 years of teaching experience, and teach 12,418 students in grade PreK-12. Pressing on in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, with the committed support of CTI's educational partners and [teacher leadership](#), CTI is using new formats to host our eight seminars. Each seminar group includes one university professor and 13 teachers representing grades PreK-12 who collaborate together long-term, focusing on a particular topic from April through November. The Spring seminar schedule included an orientation meeting, three seminar meetings, campus connection events at both Johnson C. Smith University and UNC Charlotte, as well as organizational meetings and informal dinner gathering -- all held virtually. Next up is the Prospectus Writing and Research Zoom Jam on Saturday, May 30, where Fellows can discuss their budding curriculum ideas and get research support from Johnson C. Smith University and UNC Charlotte librarians.

UTOP 2020

Due to the ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the 2020 session of the University Transition Opportunities Program (UTOP) will be offered online. The mission of UTOP remains steadfast, especially during this trying time, to provide an experience for first-year UNC Charlotte students that will facilitate a successful transition from high school to college. UTOP Virtual will accommodate up to 90 students. Students will be enrolled in two general education courses with an opportunity to earn six or seven credit hours towards their degree. For more information, please visit the [UTOP website](#).

Resources for Planning for Fall 2020 Reopening

Resources for academic department leaders planning for the Fall 2020 reopening are available on the [Office of the Provost website](#). Decisions will be based on these guiding principles: to preserve the college experience, to protect the health of our students and faculty, to ensure a successful learning environment, and to minimize the reduction in overall student credit hours.

Archived Messages to Faculty Provide Direction During Pandemic

Faculty, advisors and academic staff are encouraged to reference the archive of [messages from the Provost](#) as they continue to support and accommodate students who are completing the spring semester during challenging circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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:

- May** [UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens events](#)
- May** [Diversity Events on campus](#)

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.*