



# DIVISION OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

## WEEKLY NEWS DIGEST

March 8, 2021

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### Academic Policy Changes

#### Classroom Attendance Policy

Faculty Council [approved changes to the Classroom Attendance policy](#) to allow excused absences for students who are participating in University-sanctioned events. The changes instruct faculty to allow students excused absences in instances in which the students are representing the university in university-sanctioned activities. Despite the fact that many classes continue to operate remotely, there may still be instances this semester in which students are participating in university-sanctioned activities such as academic or athletic teams.

#### Commencement and New Student Convocation Faculty Attendance Policy

The Faculty Council approved changes to the UNC Charlotte Academic Policy: Commencement Faculty Attendance at its February 25, 2021, meeting. The updated [UNC Charlotte Academic Policy: Commencement and New Student Convocation Faculty Attendance](#) with revision history is posted in 'Academic Policies and Procedures' on the Office of the Provost website.

### Registration Open for W+GRA Summit

Registration is now open for the [W+GRA 2021 Summit: Recovery and Discovery: Women and Girls in a Dual Pandemic](#). The virtual Summit will take place on March 10 from 8:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The Summit will include a Women in Leadership keynote panel, featuring Chancellor Sharon Gaber, Provost Joan Lorden, and Mecklenburg County Manager Dena Diorio. Morning and afternoon panel sessions will focus on research and community practice experiences, as well as the impact of COVID-19 on women and girls. Registration is free but required.

### Office of International Programs' Study Abroad Week

While COVID-19 has impacted travel over the last year, the Office of International Programs is hopeful that widespread vaccine availability and worldwide safety measures will hasten a reopening of borders and a return to education abroad. Accordingly, the Office of Education Abroad (OEA) will be hosting [Study Abroad Week](#) with information sessions and internationally themed events from March 8 to 12, including two sessions for faculty, [Enhance Your Course with Globally Networked Learning](#) and [Getting Started with Faculty-Led Programs](#). Faculty from all departments are invited to attend; the OEA also asks that you share information about Study Abroad Week with your students via the [Marketing Toolkit](#), which includes graphics and a Canvas announcement template. Contact OEA with any questions.

### Virtual Spring Part-Time Job Fair

The [University Career Center](#) will host the Spring Part-Time Job Fair from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 17. The virtual event will be held through the [Hire-A-Niner](#) platform. The job fair is open to all majors and all class levels of UNC Charlotte students and alumni. All employers are hiring and there will be over 1,000+ job opportunities, with some listed pay ranges up to \$18.00 per hour. The virtual career fair will allow students to have a one-on-one video chat with employers.

## Sigma Xi Event: The Universe in the Infrared: Spitzer's Final Voyage

The UNC Charlotte Chapter of Sigma Xi: The Scientific Research Honor Society will present a talk by Caltech's Luisa Rebull titled, "The Universe in the Infrared: Spitzer's Final Voyage." Designed to observe in infrared light, NASA's Spitzer Space Telescope has deepened our understanding of our solar system, our galaxy, and beyond. The talk, which is open to all, will be offered Wednesday, March 24 at 5 p.m. at this Zoom link: <https://uncc.zoom.us/j/98702359842>. Contact [Alan Rauch](#) for more information.

## Center for Teaching and Learning Workshops

- Humanizing Your Online Course: Effective Facilitation Strategies to Engage Online Learners, Tuesday, March 9, 2:00 - 3:00 PM, [Register](#)
- Student-Centered Learning: Using Low-Stakes Quizzing in Canvas, Wednesday, March 10, 1:30 - 2:30 PM, [Register](#)
- Make Grading Easier Using the Canvas Gradebook, Thursday, March 11, 1:30 - 2:30 PM, [Register](#)

## Faculty Toolkit for Teaching During the Pandemic

Resources for faculty and staff teaching and advising during the 2020-21 academic year are available on the [Office of the Provost website](#). This includes the new grade election procedure for Spring 2021, related FAQs, suggested syllabus policies, how to handle student absences during COVID, a list of faculty mentors for remote instruction advice, resources from the Center of Teaching and Learning and other helpful resources.

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

## Upcoming Events

### This Week:

- Mar-May** [UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens events](#)
- Mar-May** [Diversity events](#)
- Mar 10** [Women + Girls Research Alliance Virtual Summit](#)

**Upcoming:** [provost.uncc.edu/division-news/weekly-news-digest/upcoming-events](http://provost.uncc.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.*