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Nominations Sought for 2021 Employee of the Year Awards

Every year, UNC Charlotte awards and recognizes exemplary employees for their hard work and dedication to the campus community and beyond. In a year unlike any other, the Human Resources Department is asking employees to nominate their teammates, colleagues, those they supervise and other University employees for the [2021 Staff Employee of the Year awards](#). The deadline has been extended to 5 p.m., Friday, March 19, 2021.

Establishment and Review of Bilateral Articulation Agreements Procedure

A new procedure on the establishment and review of articulation agreements between UNC Charlotte and other institutions has been created to ensure the development and documentation of a smooth path for students seeking transfer to UNC Charlotte. The new [UNC Charlotte Academic Procedure: Establishment and Review of Bilateral Articulation Agreements](#) can be found on the [Academic Policies and Procedures site](#).

Launch of New Niner Research Modules, Retirement of NORM

Research and Economic Development is pleased to announce the launch of three new grant modules for proposal submission, proposal tracking, and award tracking that will replace our current electronic research administration (eRA) system, NORM. All faculty and staff involved in grant seeking are encouraged to participate in instructor-led training sessions over the next several weeks. Visit the [Niner Research](#) website for more information.

Scholarship of Assessment Faculty Learning Community Grants

The Office of Assessment and Accreditation announces funding for summer 2022. The [Scholarship of Assessment Faculty Learning Community Grants](#) will focus on Learning Improvement to make intentional changes in the learning environment that lead to improved student achievement. During the summer, participants will establish a working knowledge within one of the chosen tracks, identify an area of student learning to improve, and develop a learning improvement plan to implement during the 2021-2022 academic year. The two tracks are 1) Equity in Assessment and 2) Gradescope Integration. Submissions should be sent to [Christine Robinson](#) by 5 p.m. on April 2, 2021.

49er Impact, Student Pitch Competition, Announces Panelists; Applications Due 3/15

The 49er Impact virtual event and pitch competition gives students the opportunity to network with social and business entrepreneurs and win \$1,500 or more for their business idea or social change concept. Panelists will include UNC Charlotte alumni, faculty and Ventureprise program participants who have made an impact in the Charlotte community with their ideas. They will provide feedback and help UNC Charlotte students take their ideas to the next level. Applications for the competition are due by Monday, March 15. Application can be found [here](#). Panelists can be found [here](#). More info on the competition [here](#).

Office of International Programs News and Events

Hear Former Ambassador Pearson at Upcoming Distinguished Speaker Series

The Office of International Programs and the World Affairs Council of Charlotte (WACC) extend a special invitation to the UNC Charlotte community to participate in WACC's Distinguished Speaker Series on March 15 from 2-3 p.m. Former U.S. Ambassador to Turkey Robert Pearson, an innovative diplomat, leader, and crisis manager at the top levels of the U.S. government, will address "A Democracy for the American People." Campus community members are encouraged to [participate](#).

Globally Networked Learning Info Session for Faculty

The Office of International Programs will host a [Globally Networked Learning info session](#) which will address the process for embedding virtual exchange into coursework as well as faculty funding opportunities. Faculty are invited to attend the information session on March 19 from 12:00-1:30 pm. [Register](#) for the session by filling out the expression of interest form.

J. Murrey Atkins Library News and Events

Open Education Resources and Affordable Textbook Webinar

The cost of textbooks and course materials can often be cost-prohibitive for students. Librarians from Atkins Library, in partnership with CTL, will present faculty with information about options for providing students with affordable textbooks including Open Textbooks, Open Educational Resources (OER), and library provided resources. [Register](#) for the webinar to be held Wednesday, March 17 at 12 p.m.

Atkins Book Club: *I'm Not Dying With You Tonight*

For this semester's Atkins Book Club selection, the library joins the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library (CML) for their [Community Read](#) which focuses on creating a community dialogue around the themes of racism and social justice. The selection is a YA book titled *I'm Not Dying With You Tonight* by Kimberly Jones and Gilly Segal. Told from two viewpoints, Atlanta high school seniors Lena and Campbell, one black, one white, must rely on each other to survive after a football rivalry escalates into a riot. Atkins Library has purchased an electronic version of *I'm Not Dying With You Tonight* for unlimited users to access through its [catalog](#).

- CML is hosting a [virtual author talk](#) with Kimberly Jones and Gilly Segal on Wednesday, March 24 at 10:30 a.m.
- Atkins will host its own book discussion on [Zoom](#) for the campus community on March 31 from 2:00-3:30 p.m.

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) or visit the [Academic Affairs Division News webpage](#).

Upcoming Events

This Week:

- Mar-May [UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens events](#)
- Mar-May [Diversity events](#)

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.
To have items included in the digest, complete the [NEWS DIGEST REQUEST FORM](#).
Deadline for submission is 11:00 a.m. every Friday.