

FALL 2022

UNCG

MAGAZINE

EVERY NURSE HAS A STORY

Sometimes the most
compelling ones are
their very own PG. 26

PRIZE-WINNING
JOURNALISM

PG. 12

CELEBRATION OF
FRED CHAPPELL

PG. 20

REFUGEES
OF WAR

PG. 34

Gabrielle
Baldwin '23



A large crowd of students is gathered at a school event. In the foreground, a young man with curly brown hair, wearing a brown t-shirt, is smiling and waving a white flag with a blue and yellow logo. The logo features a stylized mountain and the letters 'UNCG'. He is also wearing a blue and white beaded bracelet on his right wrist. Behind him, other students are visible, some wearing brown t-shirts. The background is filled with more students, creating a sense of a large gathering.

2

LET'S GET STARTED Their first chance to gather with future friends and classmates! NAV1GATE, also known as New Student Convocation, gives students a chance to show their school spirit, learn more about UNCG, hear from the chancellor and faculty members, and learn some tips for the first day of class. The various T-shirt colors show their intended academic unit. Brown means Bryan School of Business and Economics. And you can tell he means business!



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Club sports teams were among the 250 offerings at Fall Kickoff.

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Every nurse has a story. Sometimes the most compelling ones are their very own.

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Lots of class notes and pictures, too

Cover photography: Gabrielle Baldwin '23

By David Row '09, '16 MFA

Photo on this spread by David Row '09, '16 MFA

Check out the magazine website

Visit alumnimagazine.uncg.edu to enjoy the digital version of the magazine in both photo-rich stories you can easily share on social media and in PDF format. While there, you can also submit a class note, view video clips, or click on archives to see former issues.

bigpicture

Whether it's the eagerness of first-year students or the joy of returning students reconnecting with friends and faculty, the energy on campus as we kicked off the academic year was contagious.

In my welcome message I presented three challenges to our students:

- **Live your purpose.** Stay anchored to your "why" and lean into it every day. It will raise your spirits and steel your resolve as you strive to accomplish individual and collective goals.
- **Focus on wellness.** Your health and well-being are our top priorities. Make healthy choices, and extend care and compassion to others, asking for and providing assistance when needed.
- **Be engaged.** Take advantage of every opportunity and experience the year has to offer. Show up ready to learn and grow and always give your best.

We are greater together, especially when our alumni are involved. Make plans to come back to campus. Be part of the *Light the Way* campaign. Hire UNCG interns and graduates. Encourage prospective students to tour UNCG.

Thanks for your continued support of UNCG, and I hope to see you soon.



FRANKLIN D. GILLIAM, JR.
CHANCELLOR

new



New at the G

This fall, UNC Greensboro excitedly welcomed more than 2,400 first-year students. They come from cities across North Carolina and beyond, but their top larger cities of origin are Greensboro, Charlotte, Raleigh, and Winston-Salem, and the top smaller towns of origin are Siler City, Hillsborough, Summerfield, and Henderson.

Fifty-three percent of the first-year students are first-generation college students, and the top

major preferences among them are nursing, computer science, biology, psychology, kinesiology, business administration, music, studio art, drama, and finance.

Several new offerings are on tap this fall:

- A Computer Science PhD program within the Department of Computer Science
- An esports concentration at the Bryan School of Business and Economics

sfront



- A minor in Jewish Studies within the Religious Studies Department
- A new online MA in Speech Language Pathology is moving forward. The first online delivery will begin Fall 2023.
- The School of Music has a new concentration in Popular Music and Technology and Jazz Education.
- The School of Art offers a BFA concentration in Animation, while the School of Theatre offers an

MFA in Drama, Music Direction for Musical Theatre Concentration. (See p. 19 for stories on these.)



TELL US HOW WE'RE DOING!

Your opinion about UNCG Magazine is very important to us. Please share your input with a 6-minute survey! Visit go.uncg.edu/magazinesurvey or link via this QR code.



\$52M RESEARCH AWARDS

HIGHEST IN UNCG HISTORY

UNCG RESEARCH FUNDING climbed in the last fiscal year to the highest level in the university's history: \$51,960,000. That's a 7% increase over the previous year. "This year's largest awards reflect our University's values and aspirations – partnerships to improve health and prosperity in North Carolina, interventions to improve the well-being of at-risk populations across the nation, and STEM research and education," said Chancellor Gilliam.



Randall Kaplan has
endowed the Randall R.
Kaplan Distinguished
Professorship in Innovation.

Strategic advantage

Former Board of Trustees chair and current *Light the Way: The Campaign for Earned Achievement* co-chair Randall Kaplan has endowed the Randall R. Kaplan Distinguished Professorship in Innovation.

This endowment will enable UNCG to award the Distinguished Professorship to a faculty member leading work in a cutting-edge field of study, positioning UNCG students for successful careers in emerging, in-demand fields.

Chancellor Gilliam said, “Randall understands the shared fate of UNCG, the Triad, and the state of North Carolina. His endowment will give UNCG a strategic advantage in emerging fields, providing our students the competitive edge they deserve.”

Kaplan’s gift was announced during the ribbon-cutting ceremony of UNCG’s new Esports Arena, located in Moran Commons.

The first Randall R. Kaplan Distinguished Professorship in Innovation will be awarded to a faculty member in the forthcoming esports academic program. This professorship will enable UNCG to recruit and retain academic luminaries in cutting-edge fields, like esports, in perpetuity.

“Our economy is rapidly changing, and UNCG must be creative and nimble to prepare graduates for a dynamic world,” said Kaplan. “Investing in the leadership of innovative programs will keep UNCG ahead of the curve.”

Kaplan practiced law in Washington, D.C., before moving back to Greensboro to become

president of Kay Chemical Company. He has founded and led multiple businesses and is the current CEO of the private investment company Capsule Group, LLC. He has served on a number of boards for organizations, including UNCG.

The Kaplan family’s legacy is evident around the campus, including their gift to create Kaplan Commons, the west lawn of Elliott University Center. Also, Kaplan’s mother, Tobee Kaplan, gave a gift to support health and wellness at UNCG. As a result, the Leonard J. Kaplan Center for Wellness was named in honor of Randall Kaplan’s father, Leonard Kaplan.

Kaplan’s gift is part of UNCG’s \$200 million *Light the Way: The Campaign for Earned Achievement*.

ESPORTS, A BOOMING INDUSTRY

*2020 SURVEY BY STATISTICA, 2018 PEW RESEARCH CENTER SURVEY; **ESTIMATE PER NEWZOO



**175M+ VIDEO GAMERS
IN THE US**
**83% of females and 97%
of males ages 13-17 play
video games regularly.**



**GLOBAL
REVENUE
estimate of
\$1.114 billion
in 2021.**

PLAY'S THE THING

ESPORTS CONTINUE TO GROW at UNCG. Last summer, the UNCG Network for the Cultural Study of Videogaming collaborated with UNCG's Esports Summer Camp, offering instructional content on gaming, community, and accessibility. During the first week of classes, a "First Year Play" brought students together to connect across common interests. The fall Ashby Dialog series is focusing on queerness, diversity, and inclusion in videogames, furthering the academic and community study of gaming. And course development mini-grants in the College of Arts and Sciences have led to 10 new faculty-developed courses created in recent months.

The UNCG Esports Arena and Learning Lab's opening generated media coverage and buzz among prospective students. The arena will get more attention this fall, when UNCG will partner with EPIC Games to host a Fortnite tournament for high school and collegiate gamers.

SEE MORE AT [ESPORTS.UNCG.EDU](https://esports.uncg.edu).



VIEWERS
662.7 million people
watched live-streamed
gaming content
in 2020.



\$2.4 MILLION
UNCG received
from state budget
for creation of
esports facility.



A mother remembered

Luther Hodges Jr. holds
a picture of his mother,
Martha Blakeney Hodges '18.

A \$750,000 gift from Luther Hodges Jr. will increase the reach and impact of the Martha Blakeney Hodges Special Collections and University Archives in Jackson Library.

Combined with a previous gift, Mr. Hodges' support for the University's *Light the Way* campaign totals \$1 million. "Luther has been a tremendous supporter of our University," said Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr. "Luther was compelled to give so that he could have an impact on the library and memorialize his mother in a deeper way."

His mother, Martha Blakeney Hodges, was a First Lady of North Carolina and an alumna. "It seems that everyone knew my father," Hodges said, referring to the late Governor Hodges. "My mother – who graduated in 1918 – was equally remarkable."

University Libraries Interim Dean Michael Crumpton noted Hodges' great support over the years for the Martha Blakeney Hodges Reading Room and the archives. "He's visited us frequently over the years. He understands the value of archives and protecting institutional history."

The University will use this new gift to create an archival researcher room as well as to support special collections residents, graduate student fellows, and interns.

“My mother, as well as one of her sisters, became principals after graduating from this wonderful campus.”

— LUTHER HODGES JR.

MARTHA BLAKENEY HODGES SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES (SCUA) 50TH ANNIVERSARY SPEAKER SERIES

- ▶ OCT. 20:
"Signs of the Past:
Campus Ghosts
at UNCG"
- ▶ NOV. 4:
"She Can, We
Can' Project"
- ▶ NOV. 11:
Annual Women
Veterans Luncheon
- ▶ NOV. 18:
"Read My Lips:
Political
Collections in
the Archives"
- ▶ DEC. 2:
"Holiday Recipes
from SCUA
Collections"
- ▶ DEC. 13:
"Charles Dickens
and his Christmas
Ghost Stories"

All sessions will
be held virtually
at noon. See
the schedule at
[library.uncg.edu/
info/depts/scua/
speakerseries.aspx](http://library.uncg.edu/info/depts/scua/speakerseries.aspx).

SCUA's 50TH

GREENSBORO HAS A RICH HISTORY, and UNCG plays a big role in preserving it.

The Martha Blakeney Hodges Special Collections & University Archives (SCUA) was established at UNCG 50 years ago. SCUA archives a wide variety of history, from UNCG's nearly 14 decades as well as from the larger Greensboro community.

"The university archives, the rare books collection, the women in military archives, all reflect back to our history as a women's institution," University Archivist Erin Lawrimore says, "giving educational opportunities to women at a time when it wasn't really that common, especially at a public school."

The special collections are host to a wide variety of resources. In addition to the many written records stored there, SCUA contains items as diverse as historic signs from around campus; the Robbie Emily Dunn Collection of American Detective Fiction, which includes works written by women and those works featuring a female protagonist published from the 19th century through the 21st century; and the largest collection of historical cello sheet music in the world.

What's most exciting to the archivists is how these items are used. They enjoy taking items off the shelves and into the learning environment. For example, items such as historical signs from the Civil Rights Movement are incorporated into library exhibits as well as instruction. These lessons are holistic, Lawrimore explains, weaving together multiple collections to tell a bigger story – one on a local, personal level.

As Kathelene Smith, Interim Head of SCUA, says, "Making connections is really important, and that's a lot of what we do. We make connections with the students, the faculty, researchers, and the greater community."

1935 red leather Woman's College class jacket, the oldest class jacket in the collection



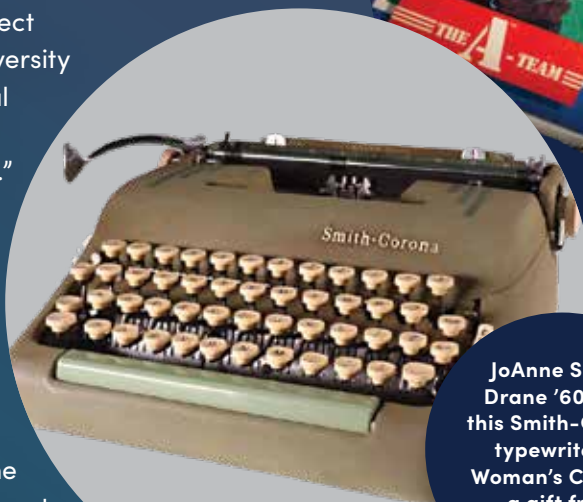
Wooden seal of the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina



Notebook of author and retired UNCG creative writing professor Michael Parker's story drafts. The cover features Mr. T.



JoAnne Smart Drane '60 used this Smith-Corona typewriter at Woman's College, a gift from her father.



Darlinettes, an all-female big band – all Woman's College students. Their recordings are preserved in SCUA.



Lindsey Sanders
'12 MSW, '21 PhD



Shaun
Tyrance
'03 MS

Mental game

Maintaining peak mental health can be challenging. When you have millions of people watching, it can be exhausting.

Lindsey Sanders '12 MSW, '21 PhD and Shaun Tyrance '03 MS are among the health specialists making sure NFL players are taken care of in their entirety, including their mental health.

Sanders, a behavioral specialist, oversees behavioral services administered by Cigna on behalf of the NFL. Tyrance is vice president of

players to use the service. It takes away a lot of the stigma of seeing a therapist."

The NFL only requires a clinician to be on staff for eight to 12 hours a week, but the Chiefs have hired Tyrance to be there full-time.

"Mental health is so important for everyone, especially during recent times," Tyrance said. "When (players) make a mistake at work, it's very public. They have unique stressors."

Sanders agrees. "A lot of people assume athletes have it all, but they have such incredibly unique needs," she said. Even in high school and college, coaches need to prioritize the mental

health of their athletes, she explains. They can face enormous pressure regarding academics, performance, and body issues.

She began working with Cigna in January 2020. She was working on her doctorate in public health education at UNCG and was a graduate assistant at the Institute to Promote Athlete Health and Wellness when she learned of the position.

"When NFL players make a mistake at work, it's very public. They have unique stressors."

—SHAUN TYRANCE '03 MS

player services and assessment for the Kansas City Chiefs, where he works to support players' and coaches' behavioral health and psychology. He joined the team in 2019 as the second full-time clinician in the NFL, before it was mandated by the league.

"I go to every team meeting, practice, and game," he says. "Our coach and managers see my office as a good place and encourage the

"Dr. (David) Wyrick was chair of the dissertation committee and my boss. He was an incredible resource for me," she said. "He understood how I wanted to use my degree and got me involved in organizations that presented at conferences, which helped me meet people. It got me on an email list that had job postings, and this one came around."

Prior to earning her doctorate, Sanders received her master's in social work through a joint UNCG/NC A&T program.

Tyrance earned his master's degree from UNCG in sports and exercise psychology. He was recruited by the Chiefs to be their clinician after working in private practice with college athletes in Charlotte for nearly a decade.

Mental health is as normal a topic as physical health, Sanders explained. "It needs to be a natural part of (the player's) day, like going to the doctor, then the chiropractor, then the therapist. Everyone needs to work together to keep this person healthy."

BIG SCORE

UNCG VOLLEYBALL is known for its vocal fans, giving the team a boost at key moments.

One such fan, James Dutton, with a \$1.6 million planned gift, will help turn the volleyball program into a perennial power.

\$1.1 million of the planned gift will establish the James Dutton Endowed Scholarships in Volleyball, providing two full-cost-of-attendance scholarships annually for members of the UNCG Women's Volleyball team.

\$450,000 of the planned gift is designated for a UNCG Volleyball Enrichment Fund.

\$50,000 will support the UNCG Volleyball team's operating budget.

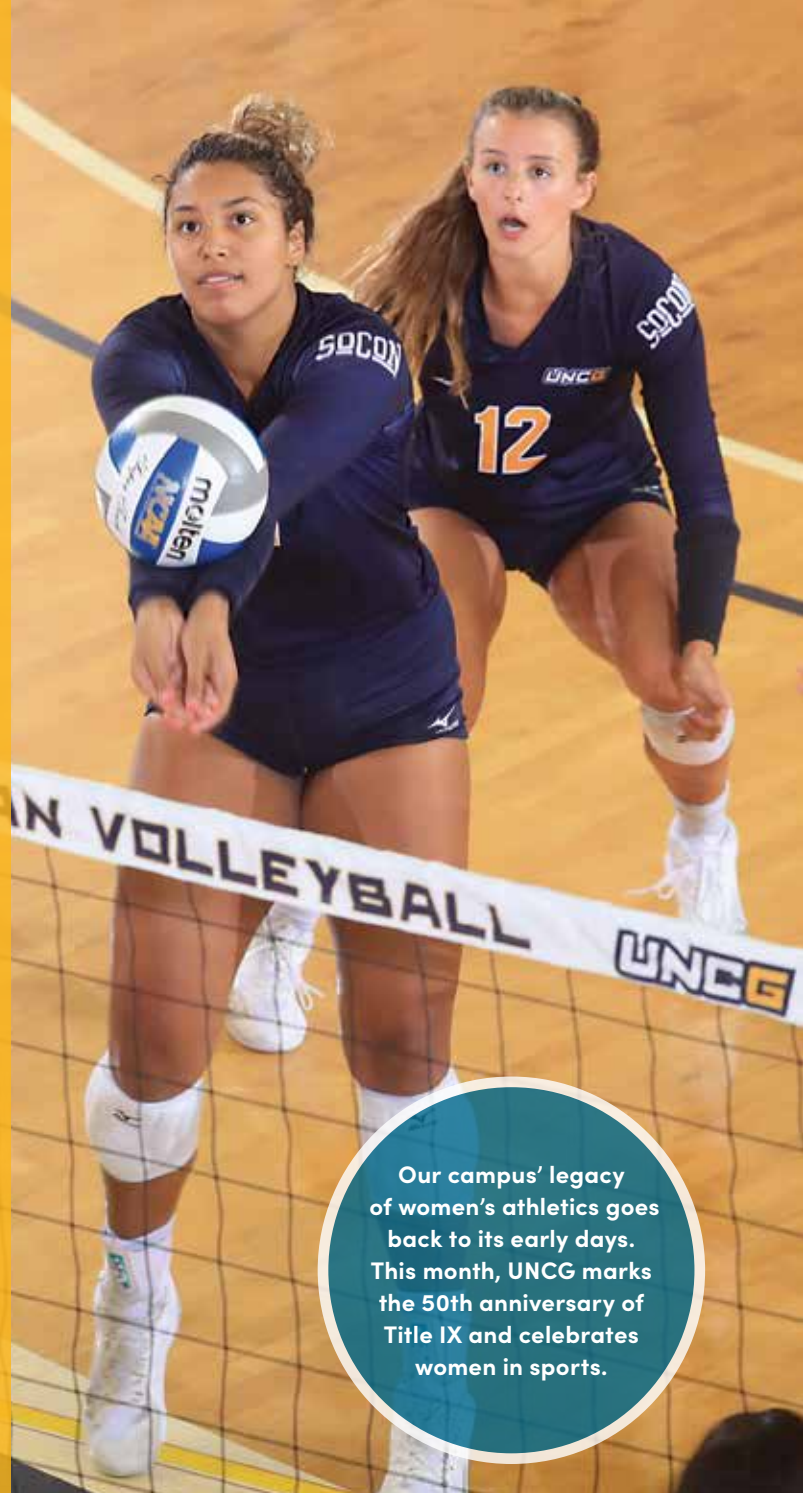
This \$1.6 million commitment marks the largest gift by one donor in UNCG Athletics history.

"I have seen this volleyball program grow. I've admired its tenacity and passion for winning," Dutton said. "Last season, they surprised a lot of people around the SoCon by taking the regular-season title when they had relatively few veteran starters returning. I want to help these Spartan student-athletes reach even greater heights."

UNCG Chancellor Franklin D. Gilliam, Jr. said, "James Dutton's generous support – as a longtime enthusiastic fan and magnanimous benefactor – is lighting the way for women's volleyball and Spartan Athletics. He will be helping generations of student-athletes excel on the court and in the classroom."

Dutton grew up near UNCG on Tate Street and attended Curry School, a teacher training school near the heart of the campus. Before his undergraduate years at UNC Chapel Hill and afterward, Dutton took courses at UNCG.

He began playing competitive volleyball in his forties, and he continued playing for another 20 years. Now at age 80, he intends to make his most powerful set-up assist on the court yet.



Our campus' legacy of women's athletics goes back to its early days. This month, UNCG marks the 50th anniversary of Title IX and celebrates women in sports.

SETTING UP A STRONG SEASON

With their emergence last season as Southern Conference Regular Season Champions, the UNCG Volleyball team won't sneak up on anyone this year.

Last year, they'd been picked to finish last – before finishing first. This year, with

seven new faces on the roster, they were picked to finish sixth. They are motivated to again prove themselves.

Gabriela McHugh, on the All-Conference first team last season, led the conference, averaging 10.41 assists per set. She was also sixth on the

team with 13 service aces. They also return Elayne Grisbee, who was fourth on the team with 2.14 kills per set and second on the team with a .390 hitting percentage. Taylor Robertson was fifth, averaging 1.88 kills per set.

Coach Corey Carlin says, "We have a fantastic group of returners who experienced what it takes to win a championship, so their leadership for the new players will be huge." Admission is free.

**SEE THE SCHEDULE AT
UNCGSPARTANS.COM.**

Gorgeous Green Hill

“The Plants & the Planted.” That’s the cheeky yet affectionate name of the historical walking tours provided in spring and fall by volunteer members of Friends of Green Hill Cemetery. Located just north of the downtown business district, Green Hill is Greensboro’s oldest public cemetery (est. 1877) and the final resting place of many of the city’s most prominent citizens, including UNCG’s founding president Charles Duncan McIver and his successor, Julius Isaac Foust.

What many may not know is that in addition to interesting gravesites and monuments, its 51 acres are home to more than 900 diverse and unusual trees and shrubs, such as American Yellowwood, Chinaberry Tree, Devilwood, and Arizona Cypress. This horticultural treasure trove can largely be attributed to the late Bill Craft, whose family has many ties to UNCG, for his decades of private donations, plantings, and care of the cemetery’s trees and shrubs that transformed Green Hill into a botanical destination.

UNCG alumna and Green Hill Cemetery volunteer Ann Stringfield ’75 encourages lunchtime strollers, genealogists, bench sitters, plein air artists, plant enthusiasts, and picnickers to visit this local gem. “What a wonderful place for respite in this busy world,” she says.



Each Founders Day, UNCG alumni, staff, and students follow the tradition of laying wreaths on founding president Charles Duncan McIver’s and second president Julius Isaac Foust’s graves at Green Hill Cemetery. The 1939 photo above shows Walter Clinton Jackson, Emily McIver, Minnie Lou Jamison, Dr. Anna Gove, and Ezekiel Robinson among others in attendance.

TO LEARN MORE, VISIT [FRIENDSOFGREENHILLCEMETERY.ORG](https://www.friendsofgreenhillcemetery.org).

CAMPAIGN NEARS 70%

ONE YEAR after the public launch, the *Light the Way* campaign is charging toward the goal of \$200 million. Here is an update:

Amount raised to date*:
\$138,218,836 | \$200M



Giving every promising student a chance



Attracting and retaining academic luminaries



Investing in research, programs, and opportunity



*Fundraising totals as of 9.01.2022



LIGHT THE WAY ON FOUNDERS DAY
October's Founders Day is always special, with flowers at the McIver statue. Our university's anniversary this fall marked the one-year mark of the *Light the Way* campaign public launch. The day's biggest event, particularly for the students, featured music, games, and a large birthday cake celebrating the day our campus' doors first opened 130 years ago.

SEE PHOTOS AT [ALUMNIMAGAZINE.UNCG.EDU](https://alumnimagazine.uncg.edu).

Bethany Heybrock '17
with her dog, Leon.



Facts, checks, balances

Richard
Griffiths '78

More than 2,200 local newspapers have shut down in the last 15 years, the Washington Post reports.

In Greensboro, the News & Record – which once was able to employ more than 100 people to bring readers the latest news each day – reportedly has only six full-time journalists on staff. The amount of local coverage has dwindled.

It's a trend seen in every part of the nation.

"We have to really focus, big time, on strengthening and encouraging local journalism," says Richard Griffiths '78.

“Local journalism is absolutely critical to having a strong, functioning democracy.”

—RICHARD GRIFFITHS '78

After retiring in 2017 from CNN, where as vice-president and senior editorial director he was responsible for editorial quality control, he led the Georgia First Amendment Foundation. The focus? Bolstering open government and true, independent journalism in that state and

inspiring it throughout the nation. Now president emeritus, he speaks nationally and internationally on the topic. For the last 24 years, he has served as a visiting professor at UNC Chapel Hill.

"In order for us to make rational decisions as a society, we have to understand what's going on in our communities," he says. "And, frankly, social media isn't enough, because nobody has the time to go to every county commissioners meeting and take note of what's actually happening. And they don't have the time to stand outside the representative's door to ask the

accountability questions that are required to keep democracy healthy and to hold government officials responsible."

With a career including work at CBS News in Atlanta and Los Angeles,

his final 26 years were with CNN. There, among other responsibilities such as investigative reporting, he and his team were responsible for CNN's fact-checking. That included ensuring all news reports, including those related to the U.S. national elections, were factual and accurate.

"We learned early that being first with the news was almost irrelevant. Sure, it was nice to get a scoop now and again, but what was important was being absolutely accurate, making sure the context was right. That meant a dedicated team of researchers, whose job it was to verify every fact in every story. CNN still has that system today."

His journalism career yielded two Emmys, five Peabody Awards, and two Investigative Reporters and Editors medals. The impact isn't measured in those.

"What I hope that I have achieved in my career is to help the public understand the world around them and trust journalism a bit more," Griffiths says. "That only happens if the news process is transparent. My message to journalists every chance I get is to make sure they explain to the public how they do their jobs."

He got his start at UNCG. "The school was absolutely critical in developing my critical thinking – in particular (through) my extra-curricular activities. I was initially a reporter for WUAG (the UNCG radio station), and then a news director there. I wrote a column for The Carolinian."

He conducted a lengthy interview with Chancellor James Ferguson for Pine Needles. He vividly recalls covering a student march on the Chancellor's House on campus, with the chancellor meeting the protestors at his door in his pajamas.

Sociology professor Bill Knox and communications/media professors Tom Tedford and John Jellicorse inspired him the most. But his journalism work pulled him away from his classes. While he didn't complete his degree, his passion was kindled.

"Bill Knox truly understood the nature of journalism in the context of the society in which we live and taught me so much that was so important."

And effective journalism is key. "The Pew Charitable Trust and others have done research that shows that, if a community loses its local newspaper, taxes jump substantially and government becomes much less efficient," Griffiths says. "Everyone should subscribe to the local newspaper – or their local NPR station by contributing – to make sure that we have good functioning, local journalism."

EXTRA, EXTRA

CHRIS BOYETTE '10, a national news editor at CNN, was awarded an Emmy last year for his work on the network's coverage of the murder of George Floyd and the protests that followed.

As a newsgathering editor on the national desk, Boyette chases stories and works with writers, correspondents, and producers to bring those stories to CNN's audiences. "Some of the best journalists in the world worked together to cover this story. It was a difficult story to tell in many ways, but that made it all the more important of a story to be told," he said.

"We knew we had to tell our audiences the story, and we had to get the story right."

An English major at UNCG, he had an affinity for literature, reading, and writing, but an introductory journalism class sparked a new passion. He became a staple at WUAG, while working up the ranks to senior reporter of UNCG's *The Carolinian*.

"My time at UNCG was foundational to where I am now," he said.



BEFORE CAROLINE BLAIR '06 earned her morning news anchor position at Spectrum News 1 in North Carolina, she earned a full scholarship on the Spartan women's basketball team. She also earned All-Academic Southern Conference honors, as she double majored in Communication Studies and Media Studies, Broadcast & Cinema with a concentration in news and documentary.

As the producer and anchor of *In Depth* news segments, she interviews some of the state's most impactful politicians and community leaders.

"There's never been a more important time for unbiased journalism, especially on the local level," she said. "I take deep pride in asking tough questions, sharing the facts, and keeping people informed."



PULITZER AND PUBLIC SERVICE

STEPHEN J. BERRY '84 MA, while at UNCG, focused on American history with a specialty in the Civil Rights Movement.

As a reporter for *The Orlando Sentinel*, he and a colleague earned a Pulitzer Prize in Journalism for investigative reporting that uncovered racial targeting in the unlawful seizure of

The 1993 Pulitzer was earned for uncovering racial profiling by law enforcement in Florida.

millions of dollars from motorists by a sheriff department's drug squad. The last stint in his 33-year career as a reporter was with the *Los Angeles Times*, where his work earned a Pulitzer nomination.

His honors also include the Associated Press Newspaper Executive Council Award for public service.

Before retiring from Iowa University, he was professor of journalism for nearly two decades.

His highly respected "*Watchdog Journalism: The Art of Investigative Reporting*" (Oxford University Press) laid out a high standard of performance and an ethical reporting regimen.

Also, he is co-founder of The Iowa Center for Public Affairs Journalism, collaborating with other news organizations to produce in-depth investigative projects on important public affairs issues. It's also known for its online news site IowaWatch.org.

Real-world care



Frederick
Douglas '82

Frederick Douglas '82 has been supporting families for 30 years.

Early on she adopted the System of Care philosophy, focusing on collaboration across agencies, families, and youth to make decisions and provide support. "The process recognizes that the family has the most important information to meet their own needs," she says.

Now, she serves at UNCG's Center for Youth, Family, and Community Partnerships. There, as the Family Training Coordinator with the new NC Youth and Family Voices Amplified program, she arranges training and aid to professionals who help support families' mental health. The innovative project, launched in July, aims to enhance family-driven, youth-led care through education and community partnerships.

"Parents and caregivers of children who live with mental illness can feel isolated, alone, and hopeless," Douglas says. "Even though they are the expert on their children and their family's needs, they are many times blamed for their child's behavior, and their voices are

disregarded when they share what is best for their own families. The Family Partner walks beside the parent and supports the parent in making their voice heard."

Her vital coordinator role requires lived experience, she notes, explaining that real-world experience with mental health and navigating the medical system is key. From her time supporting a family member through behavioral health care, she found herself particularly prepared for this exciting role – a unique position in a field that increasingly acknowledges the importance of whole-family engagement in care for family members who may be struggling. Now she will train future professionals who will work with agencies and communities to make a positive impact for many families.

"As a graduate of UNCG, I never dreamed that I would partner with the University in so many initiatives," she said. "These experiences have established an open, honest, and transparent rapport."

THE UNCG CENTER FOR YOUTH, FAMILY, AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS (CYFCP), with collaboration and funding support from the NC Department of Health and Human Services, has launched NC Youth & Family Voices Amplified. This program will provide training, technical assistance, and support for Family and Youth Peer Support Providers across the state. "Voices Amplified will amplify the voices of youth and families in supporting their mental health and well-being, and it reflects UNCG's longstanding commitment to community partnerships," says Dr. Christine Murray, CYFCP director.

EXCEPTIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE

Margaret Bourdeaux Arbuckle '74 MEd, '84 PhD was honored for her tireless advocacy for quality education for all students. She received the 2022 Adelaide F. Holderness/H. Michael Weaver Award.

The Board of Trustees annually confers Distinguished Service Awards upon deserving North Carolinians in recognition of exemplary public service and civic engagement. The Holderness/Weaver Award recognizes exceptional service to the community.

Throughout her distinguished career, Dr. Arbuckle has been a staunch supporter of public

schools in Guilford County. She has been a dedicated community leader and volunteer in Greensboro, serving on numerous boards and commissions,



including as a Guilford County Commissioner from 1992 to 1996. From 2005 until her retirement in 2013, Arbuckle was the executive director of Guilford Education Alliance, an independent nonprofit that galvanizes the community in support of a high-caliber education for all children in Guilford County Schools. She currently serves on the UNCG School of Education Advisory Board and on the Board of Directors for the Public School Forum of North Carolina.

"We are all called or charged to love and serve others, seek justice, and go into the world and do good," said Dr. Arbuckle in accepting the award.

A detail from
Carina Nebula
newly captured
by James Webb
Space Telescope.

SPACE JAM



April Frake '12, '14 MA

WHEN SHE APPLIED to the Goddard Space Flight Center's Lunar and Planetary Science Academy, no geographer had ever interned there, April Frake was told. The soon-to-be grad student made it. She worked with famous scientist

Dr. Tim McClanahan to understand why there was an observable ripple in stereo images the Lunar Reconnaissance Orbiter sent back to earth.

At Goddard, the futuristic Webb Telescope was being built. The sight was awesome! Its project director, Nobel Prize laureate John Mather, gave a talk. Later, Frake asked him, "Would you come speak to the STAMPS undergrads at UNCG?" He said yes. When he gave a public lecture after his talk with UNCG students, she had the honor of introducing him. She is still amazed. Just as she is amazed at the mind-boggling photos released in recent weeks. You're not only seeing distant galaxies, you're peering far back in time.

Arriving at UNCG as a first-generation college student, she'd loved geography – with one caveat, she told everyone. "I have no research

interest in what's going on on earth."

No problem. Professors like Dr. Roy Stine were encouraging. She studied Io, a moon of Jupiter. She focused on the moon-sensor spacecraft Clementine for her senior project.

A geography major and Dorothy Mason Scholar, she took two astronomy courses under Dr. Steve Danford, another mentor. She followed her passions as she earned her master's in geography at UNCG.

Later in her academic career, she was asked: What is your do-or-die project? It had been volcanology on Io. But now? Her interest had turned earthward. "I wanted to understand the drivers of mosquito-borne illnesses to know what strategies would be most effective to protect public health, especially as climate and environments continue to change."

Now, she and her team at the World Bank focus on the risks of climate change to multiple economic sectors, including health.

It's the study of space, she notes. One type of science blurs into another. Those fascinating edges are her jam. There, you can make an innovative impact.

"They're so exciting, the boundaries of science!"



Outtake

JUST FOR KICKS Club sports are not only a fun way to make friends and keep physically fit, they build leadership skills. Each team is student-run, taking “teamwork” to a higher level as you compete against club teams from other universities. The Fall Kickoff event on the first day of August classes proved to be an ideal time to check out the various club sports, ranging from rugby to tennis to soccer. This year, more than 250 student groups and departments were represented at this event, offering something for students of every interest. Getting involved and enjoying friendships, as you pursue your studies? That’s a winning goal.

PHOTOGRAPH BY DAVID ROW

“I never practice, I always play.” – Wanda Landowska, musician





Gajin Fujita, "Invincible Kings of This Mad Mad World," 2017.

VALUE ON DISPLAY

ACROSS TIME AND CULTURES, gold has served as a metaphor for what we value most. It conveys goodness, excellence, brilliance, and wealth.

Across the arts, craftspeople have long pounded gold into thin sheets called leaves, which are applied in a process called gilding. Gilding has illuminated sacred texts, given luster to holy spaces, and allowed religious sculptures to shine.

It appears frequently in the work of contemporary artists. The artists represented in the "Gilded" exhibition on view at the Weatherspoon turn to gilding as a means to reconsider our value systems. They ask us to see the beauty in what we

so often overlook and honor that which we so often throw away. Gilding images of people – often those who have been disempowered or forgotten – they ask us to hold up our collective humanity. If, as the saying goes, "all that glitters is not gold," the artists represented here offer an inverse proposition: perhaps that which does not always shine is most worthy of our attention.

After "Gilded" closes here on April 8, 2023, the project, curated by Dr. Emily Stamey, will travel to the Hunter Museum of Art in Tennessee and the Hood Museum of Art at Dartmouth.



ARTISTIC GIFT

Margaret '01 MALS and Bill Benjamin, active champions of the Weatherspoon Art Museum, have made a generous gift to endow a faculty fellowship grant and to support the museum director's discretionary fund to further increase accessibility to the museum and its collection.

In recognition of their impact, the Weatherspoon's 145-seat auditorium was dedicated in the Benjamins' honor in September.

"The Margaret and Bill Benjamin Endowed Faculty Fellowship is the first to enable UNCG faculty to plan a course or exhibition based on the museum's renowned collection

of modern and contemporary art," said Anne and Ben Cone Memorial Endowed Director Juliette Bianco. "We thank Margaret and Bill for sharing a vision of the Weatherspoon as an increasingly accessible and inclusive space for teaching and learning with exceptional works of art."



POPTECH

The School of Music has added a degree concentration in Popular Music and Technology. It's "PopTech," as the students call it.

"This will really diversify our program by welcoming students who are accomplished musicians in areas we haven't been able to bring to the School in the past because we didn't offer what they needed," says Professor Mark Engebretson.

These musicians are a versatile group. They are singer-songwriters, producing engineers, laptop performers, music producers for videos and gaming. One of those is Cady Fleet (seen above, with Engebretson).

"I've always had a passion for song-writing and making music. And I really want to learn more about how to produce music. It's just the perfect degree for me!"

The first cohort quickly filled, with over 20 students.

"There's a real market for this type of program," says Engebretson. "About half of the students we've enrolled are new to UNCG."

Fleet explains, "This is the direction that music is going. Everything involves technology. Whether or not you like classical or write your own songs or you are into jazz - everything is recorded for some purpose or involves technology in some way. You'll have an advantage as a musician if you know how to do those things."

Birth of animation

This fall, for the first time, UNCG students will be able to choose animation as a concentration within the BFA in Studio Art. By the end of this semester, the program is expected to have admitted a full first cohort of 20 students. Assistant Professor of Animation Dan Hale '01 predicts that the demand will grow.

"There is profound interest among young people in animation," says Hale. "Ask anyone between the ages of 12 and 18 and they will readily identify their favorite animated series and tell you why. So what is it about animation that they connect with? I think it's this idea that you can tell any story through animation. And, the career paths are more than just cartoons. There is animation in documentaries, training videos, tutorials, and then there's the gaming industry, which is taking off."

And it's essential for an outstanding modern school of art, Professor of Art History Heather Holian explains. "Animation brings together every one of the traditional art forms that we are familiar with and then takes it beyond that. It also allows artists to bring in their own voices in very profound ways and allows for collaboration, which is so important for our artists, especially our young artists."

Hale adds, "We also look forward to working with other areas of the College of Visual and Performing Arts on topics such as music soundtracks for animation, acting coaching for students developing characters, etc."

The two professors will lead different areas of the program. Dr. Holian's "Art of Disney and Pixar" is a 200-level class without prerequisites and brings students from all over the University to the School of Art.

"My other classes focus on the ancient Romans through the Renaissance, and no one just

stumbles into those classes. Interesting similarity though: In Renaissance art and in animation, collaboration is key. Although we center on a single artist genius, all of them had workshops. The modern animation studio is an extension of the workshop system."

Holian also teaches a 300-level class focusing on the work of women in animation. Conversely, Hale's classes focus on the making of animation.

"I teach them how to create their own work," he says. "We start with animation analysis. We study techniques, then incorporate them into our own works. Basic concept art. Stop motion animation. Hand-drawn 2D animation. Computer-generated 3D animation. From there, they choose their direction to finish up the degree."

"Our students will really benefit from having animation and art history side by side," says Holian. "That's not something you're going to get at a conservatory or a school that is not a broader university that has humanities education as central to the arts."



Illustrations from UNCG's animation program:
top, Rachel Hamm; middle, Lareine Gohi;
bottom, Will Suits



Fred Chappell
at his home,
May 2022

One *of us* Forever

Fred Chappell's poetry, essays, and novels are lauded nationally and beyond. Meanwhile, he's inspired a legion of Spartan students, who make clear that what he taught was timeless.

BY FORMER STUDENTS AND MIKE HARRIS '93 MA
PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARTIN W. KANE AND COURTESY OF MARTHA BLAKENEY
HODGES SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

In recent months, film festival audiences have seen Fred Chappell on the big screen. To decades of former students, he's already larger than life.

Ruth Dickey '04 MFA introduced Chappell and the film at its screening at the Greensboro Bound festival. "Fred Chappell: I Am One of You Forever," produced by UNCG Media Studies professor Michael Frierson and financed in part by *Light the Way* campaign gifts, will be shown in early November on PBS NC statewide.

"I absolutely love this gorgeous film," said Dickey, executive director of the National Book Foundation. "And what I loved most about this film, that traces Fred's life from childhood through family and studying and writing and teaching and novels and poems, is that it is – just like Fred – absolutely full of heart and stories."

Interviewing dozens of authors, critics, and Chappell family members, Frierson and his team filmed not only in Greensboro but in Chappell's hometown of Canton in the North Carolina mountains. He even interviewed Fred and his wife, Susan Nicholls Chappell '70, at the St. Andrew's Episcopal Church where they were married in 1959.

Days before the screening, the Chappells welcomed our magazine staff to their backyard garden. Susan showed the wonderful mossy area and the shed where Fred has often written. Asked about a nearby sculpture of a goat, Fred referred to the scene in "Brighten the Corner Where You Are" where a goat and a teacher have a debate. He noted that farm animals were ubiquitous where he grew up.

A Sunset Hills neighbor at the time, artist Jim Barnhill '82 MFA, created that goat. The Chappells also asked him to create the centerpiece

FRED GAVE ME the most profound gift: the belief that the stories I was attempting to tell mattered. At the time I got my MFA at UNCG, I was the only out queer poet in the entire MFA program. And I was writing poems about being queer and about the people I had known and worked with at a soup kitchen in Washington, D.C. I felt like a profound misfit. But Fred always met my writing with grace and warmth and kindness.

It took me 15 years to publish a version of the manuscript I worked on with Fred. Then, the most beautiful thing fell into my life: a letter from Fred. He had read my book, with the wholehearted attention that all of us writers dream someone will give our work.

In all these years, Fred has not only been doing his own critically important and exquisitely beautiful creative work, but he was also reading, and writing to, dozens if not hundreds of us, telling us that in this camp of storytellers, we all belong, and our stories don't just matter, but are essential.
– Ruth Dickey '04 MFA

of their patio. It echoes Botticelli's artwork of the solar system, an illustration in Dante's "Divine Comedy," circled by text. "I'm a big fan of Dante," Fred says. "That's the last line in each of the three parts of the 'Divine Comedy': 'L'amor che muove il sole e l'altre stelle.'"

He helpfully translates, returning to his western North Carolina accent: "The love that moves the sun and the other stars."

For many years, he's been known as Ole Fred. In fact, the main character in his acclaimed quartet of poems, "Midquest," is called "Ole Fred." In those poems and his well-loved Kirkman family quartet of novels, he explores one of the four elements – fire, water, earth, and air. Allusions to seemingly hundreds of books from Western literature underpin the works.

At Duke University, he studied under William Blackburn. Friends included Reynolds Price, Anne Tyler, and William Styron.

More than anyone, he made the UNCG MFA in Writing program one of the finest in the nation.

Author of a dozen books of poetry, two short-story collections, and eight novels, he taught in the English Department for over 40 years. He is the winner of the (Yale) Bollingen Prize in Poetry, Aiken Taylor Prize, and T.S. Eliot Prize. In France, his novel "Dagon" was awarded the Prix de Meilleur des Livres Étrangers. He served as Poet Laureate of North Carolina from 1997 to 2002.

His prose is often termed magical realism. He unveils a world that is transcendent, even with plowing, milking, and barn mucking to do as well as practical jokes and jests to endure or inflict. His magic, perhaps, is that even as he pulls out allusions to Homer, Dante, Twain, George Washington Harris, and a dizzying number more, it's all in the service of a well-told tale. And as the personal honors have grown and his life is now told on the screen – and as his students have won honors such as the National Book Critics Circle Award and Pulitzer Prize for Poetry, and have earned professorships, a National Book Foundation directorship, and other high posts – he just wants you to call him Fred.



**Top, Fred Chappell,
ca. 1970**

**Above, Fred with
his son, Heath,
1960s**

FRED'S ABILITY TO NAVIGATE MULTIPLE

GENRES in fiction like "The Adder" and in his poetry (I go back, often, to "C") was and has been a map. Every person who wishes to write needs to find the door into the room, or forest, or whatever landscape that will supply the necessary oxygen and space and freedom to do the work they most want and need to do. Fred, in both his work and in his person, has opened that door for a lot of us.

– Kelly Link '95 MFA

TO STUDY WRITING WITH

FRED was like studying how to found a country with Ben Franklin. Anything that we MFA students wrote, be it sonnet, epistolary poem, surrealist story, dramatic monologue, novel, or monster myth, he had already achieved in his multitude of books. His curiosity and handiness for literary invention cannot be overstated. Fred's tutorials, held in a McIver office with shelves and stacks leaning from every side, were often Socratic. He didn't tell you what he thought of your poem. He read it aloud to you, in a thoughtful baritone, and in the vocalization you heard its strengths and weaknesses. Despite Fred's encyclopedic knowledge of multiple genres (in multiple languages), he was the antithesis of snobby or elitist. When I met with him one afternoon, seeking a list of All the Important Books a Young Writer Must Read, he told me the advice Randall Jarrell had offered him, "Read at whim." In other words, we should learn to find our own best influences. I know one of mine, and I'm grateful for all that Fred has given me.

– Maria Hummel '98 MFA

DURING MY YEARS AT UNCG, I subjected Fred to several of my “poems.” They were uniformly wretched. Fred was always gracious enough to not mention this, which allowed me to discover the nature of their wretchedness all on my own. He called everyone “darling,” which I have come to see as the ideal way of moving through the world.
– Steve Almond '97 MFA

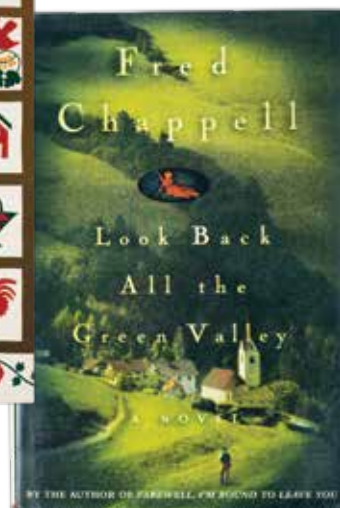
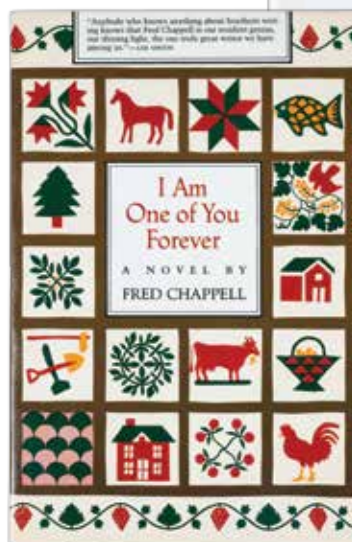
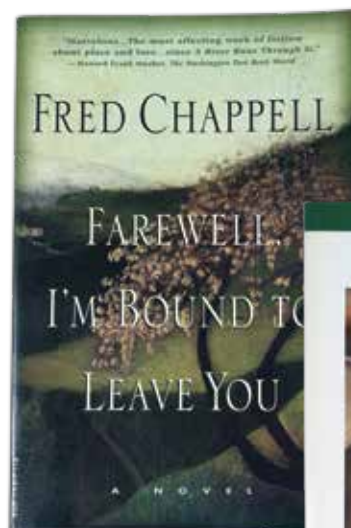
ONE SPECIAL FEATURE OF FRED'S TEACHING was his ability to understand a young writer's intentions in a poem or story. He was especially effective in critiquing poems because he seemed able to see what the poet was aiming for. Much of Fred's best teaching was done one-to-one. In the boiling hot summer of 1967, before he and Susan left for a year in Florence, I met Fred at the café called The Pickwick two or three times a month to discuss poems I submitted to him. In spite of his vast erudition he was very informal, never professorial. He spoke as one writer to another, and his enthusiasm for good writing was contagious. He could be tough. I remember him writing at the top of a page, “Big Deal.” But he could be excited about a good passage. He often alluded to other writers, once pronouncing, “You got your emeralds from Wallace Stevens, who got them from Mallarmé.”

While Fred was in Florence, I mailed him drafts of poems, and he answered with detailed letters written in tiny script on airmail paper, words of criticism and encouragement.
– Robert Morgan '68 MFA



Left, Fred with his grandmother and parents, Anne and J.T. Chappell

Below, Fred as a boy



“ Fred Chappell is like Whitman. He contains multitudes.”

– RODNEY JONES '73 MFA

Left, four of the nearly two dozen books written by Fred Chappell



Top, Fred and Susan Chappell, May 2022

Above, Goat sculpture by Jim Barnhill at the Chappells' home



FOR A LONG WHILE

I FEARED FRED: Something about how I thought he looked at me with the scrutiny of a hawk considering a three-legged mouse limping around in an open field. It turns out, Fred paid attention, even as I blathered, mispronounced words, lost contact with the subject of the conversation. I'm certain, after that long month or so, it got to the point where I didn't want to disappoint the great writer. In time, I realized I needed to sit in a chair and tell a story, instead of acting like a circus performer half-skilled (at best) at juggling, trapeze work, taming the unreliable creatures. I got a notion of persistence from Fred. And I think of this, about daily.

– George Singleton '86 MFA

ONE THING that has always stuck with me about Fred is The Laugh. Sometimes it would be in response to some minor exchange while passing in the hallway, sometimes after the punchline of a story he was telling, sometimes you would just hear it emanating from his office, but often it would hit in the midst of a workshop, sometimes during unexpectedly tense moments. It was the kindest, most generous laugh, full of affection for every aspect of the human condition, and I always thought it made an excellent compass for the aspiring writer to follow. Still do!

– Rowan Jacobsen '92 MFA

FRED HAS BEEN RETIRED

for 18 years now and I still receive monthly (if not weekly) phone calls from him asking for the address of one alum or another because he just finished reading their new book and has written them a letter about it. What a gift.

– Terry Kennedy '99 MFA, program director

WORKING IN HOLLYWOOD, another struggling writer gave me “Brighten the Corner Where You Are.”

I took the book home and opened it immediately. The first chapter, “Moon,” captured me through its lyrical language and touch of magical realism. Even now, 33 years later, I am nearly brought to tears when my mind’s eye watches Joe Robert rip the moon from the sky and dump it into a bucket of milk. I knew the moment I read “Moon” I wanted to study with Fred. I owe Fred much. He allowed me to try and become a writer. In the end, it sort of worked out, at least enough for me to push out a couple of novels, and teach thousands of students how to be better writers.

– Jack Riggs ’93 MFA

IN WORKSHOP, he spoke minimally, but when he spoke, it mattered. His opinions changed expectations and lives.

– Marianne Ginger ’74 MFA

BY THEIR NATURE, creative writing workshops are unpredictable, dictated by the work produced and the personalities of the students. But Fred’s workshop was masterfully designed even as it seemed wholly extemporaneous. He shuffled into the room with his humble gait and wrote a quote upon the board as if it had just occurred to him as he walked down the hall from his office. In reality, he was guiding our learning with extraordinary purpose and wisdom. That was part of his magic as a teacher. He was at once the immensely learned and accomplished expert and simply “Ole Fred” – our friend, our pal. How fortunate we all were.

– Dan Albergotti ’02 MFA



Top, Fred with UNC President Bill Friday

Middle left, Fred and Susan Chappell at Fred Chappell – NC Poet Laureate Celebration, 2003

Bottom left, Fred writing at home

Above, (l-r) Robert Watson, Peter Taylor, Fred Chappell

YEAR-LONG CELEBRATION OF FRED From a Fred Chappell Writing Contest for students (with poetry, prose, and essay categories, of course) to readings by lauded former students, the year will be a “Fredfest.” It all culminates the weekend of April 14–15 with several events. **See details at english.uncg.edu/mfa.**

SEE THE DOCUMENTARY TRAILER AND MORE AT ALUMNIMAGAZINE.UNCG.EDU.

NURSES' STORIES

BY ALEX ABRAMS

PHOTOGRAPHY BY DAVID ROW '09, '16 MFA
AND MARTIN W. KANE

EVERY NURSE HAS STORIES TO TELL. THEY'RE TALES OF COURAGEOUS PATIENTS AND NEAR-MIRACULOUS OUTCOMES. SOMETIMES, THEIR MOST COMPELLING STORY HAPPENS TO BE THEIR OWN.

In May 2016, Gabrielle Baldwin decided to attend what was supposed to be her graduation from the UNC Greensboro School of Nursing.

She shed a few tears as she entered the Coleman Building, thinking this was nothing like how she had envisioned her graduation. She was in a wheelchair, paralyzed from the chest down.

Baldwin showed up in the blue cap and gown she ordered for the occasion, even though she knew she wouldn't be graduating that day. She posed for photographs and made her way onto the stage when her name was called.

She was honored to be included in the ceremony with the rest of the Class of 2016.

Four months earlier, Baldwin had sustained a spinal cord injury when her older brother attacked her while she was staying at her mother's house in Burlington. She had been home for winter break, and she was set to begin her final semester at UNCG in five days.

Baldwin's C-5 and C-6 vertebrae were damaged during the attack on Jan. 6, 2016. While recovering at a hospital in Chapel Hill and then a rehabilitation center in Atlanta, she had been unable to finish the last requirements needed for her to earn a bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) degree.

"I was so angry with God after my injury because I was like 'Why would you let this happen to me?' I was doing good. I wanted to save lives and help lives," Baldwin said. "Why did this happen to me? I was living a good life. I was a good person. I had a lot of anger and resentment towards God."

Baldwin now considers Jan. 6 as her "Life Day," a term she picked up from other individuals who have sustained spinal cord injuries. On that Wednesday six years ago, the then-21-year-old nursing student was given a second chance at life and "reborn" a different person.

Now 27, Baldwin is married and the mother of a two-year-old girl and stepmother to a 10-year-old boy. She said her perspective on life has changed, though her desire to become a nurse has only intensified since she learned to turn her trauma to triumph.

Baldwin returned to the School of Nursing in August 2021, seven years after she started the BSN program, ready to wrap up her degree. She needed to audit several courses she had previously taken, finish some classes that had been added since 2016, and complete the last of her clinical rotations.

She's scheduled to graduate in May 2023.

"There are so many things you can do in nursing. You don't have to do bedside nursing. There's a lot of compassion needed," Baldwin said. "You have to have a heart of a nurse and a mind of a nurse. It's not so much the physical capabilities of a nurse that should hinder anybody."

"So, I'm glad that UNCG saw that, that they saw that I would make a good nurse and that I deserved to finish nursing school despite my disability."

It's a unique situation for the School of Nursing.

Baldwin's husband, Eric Vanderkuyl, is not only her partner but also her caregiver. A licensed practical nurse (LPN), he accompanies her to classes inside the Nursing and Instructional Building.

At around 7:50 a.m. on most mornings, Vanderkuyl assembles Baldwin's wheelchair outside the building. He also takes notes for her since she has limited use of her hands.

"I help her get ready for class and just pretty much be her hands when she's not able to," Vanderkuyl said. "She does as much as she can, but I want to pick her up and carry her whenever I can, so it's a plus."


Baldwin laughed. "It helps that I'm tiny," she said.

School of Nursing faculty members were excited to see Baldwin at the 2016 graduation and encouraged her to return as soon as possible to complete her degree.

They're now working on ways for Baldwin to finish her clinicals in a manner that complies with the North Carolina Board of Nursing's requirement for a focused client care experience, specifically a clinical experience that simulates an entry-level work experience.

PURSuing BOTH NURSING AND A RECORD DEAL

Baldwin comes from a family of women who wanted to become nurses before their career plans changed.

A woman with long dark hair, smiling, is seated in a wheelchair. She is wearing light blue scrubs over a dark blue shirt. The scrubs have a logo on the left chest that reads "UNC GREENSBORO School of Nursing". The background is a blurred indoor setting with warm lighting.

“There are so many things you can do in nursing. You don’t have to do bedside nursing. There’s a lot of compassion needed.”

— GABRIELLE BALDWIN '23

Her great-grandmother was in nursing school in England when she met Baldwin's great-grandfather while he was stationed there with the U.S. Navy. She never returned to nursing school, though she later graduated magna cum laude from Elon University with a master's degree in English.

Years later, Baldwin's mother was in nursing school when she was forced to leave because of postpartum complications with Baldwin. She used the skills she learned in nursing school as a dialysis technician, and she always encouraged her daughter to become a nurse.

Baldwin said she wasn't sure she wanted to major in nursing when she arrived at UNCG as a freshman in Fall 2012. She was curious enough to attend an information session that the School of Nursing held for students interested in earning a BSN.

Baldwin left the session excited about what she had heard. She was accepted into the School of Nursing as a junior in 2014.

At the time, her younger sister, Dajea Scott, was thinking about applying to nursing schools. Just like her mother had encouraged her, Baldwin encouraged Scott to become a nurse.

Scott became the first nurse in the family after she graduated from Pfeiffer University. For Baldwin, though, nursing was somewhat of a backup plan.

"I wanted to have nursing under my sleeve, but when I actually graduated, I had planned to go to Los Angeles and sing," she said.

In the eighth grade, Baldwin performed at the Greensboro Coliseum as part of an "American Idol"-like contest called "Triad Idol." She then auditioned for NBC's "The Voice."

While at UNCG, Baldwin had a local manager and was recording R&B and soul music every Saturday in addition to taking nursing classes and working as an au pair for a family in Summerfield.

Baldwin was booked to sing with a band at a concert in April 2016. After her injury, her concert was turned into a benefit show, and the proceeds went toward her medical bills.

Friends made T-shirts and bracelets to show their support for Baldwin during her recovery. They used the hashtag #GabbyStrong on social media.

HER PINNING CEREMONY

Baldwin has reached a point in her recovery where she's able to talk matter-of-factly about the day she was injured.

She testified that her brother banged on her bedroom door on the morning of Jan. 6, 2016, asking for hair bows for his dreadlocks. When she unlocked her door and opened it, he attacked her.

In December 2021, her brother was sentenced to 48 years in prison after being convicted for shooting and killing a man in a park in Denver, Colorado. At the time, he was awaiting a retrial on charges of kidnapping and inflicting serious injury during the attack on Baldwin five years earlier.

"I've told my testimony a good amount of times. I guess it's been six years now. I think it's part of the healing process," Baldwin said. "It's like you get used to it. I think people just get that way with their personal

stories, so I'm more comfortable now.

"I'm really grateful for that. I've had plenty of times when I've cried throughout telling it, but I think this is a different point in my life."

Dr. Lori Hubbard, who taught Baldwin in a childbearing and

reproductive health course, visited Baldwin as she was recovering from her spinal cord injury in intensive care. Baldwin had tubes in her nose and throat to help her breathe and eat, and she had a communication board because she couldn't talk.

Only a few days after the attack, Hubbard accompanied a small group that included several UNCG faculty members, three of Baldwin's close friends from nursing school, and her mother and sister.

They held an emotional pinning ceremony for Baldwin in her hospital room.

The pinning ceremony is a rite of passage for nursing students, and Baldwin had expected to be "pinned" with the rest of the Class of 2016. Her pin was instead placed on her blue hospital gown.

"Because the treatments and therapy in the early time after a spinal cord injury are critical to long-term recovery, I wanted to offer her as much encouragement as possible soon after the incident," Hubbard said.

"At the time, Gabby and her family lived one street over from me in Burlington. I would drive past the scene of the incident and pray for her, and I just wanted to see her in-person to tell her how much the faculty and I cared about her and wanted her to work hard for recovery."

Another School of Nursing professor recorded her class lectures so Baldwin could watch them during her five-week-long stay in the hospital.

"She sat right beside me in every class," said Katie Richardson, who earned her BSN in 2016 and has been friends with Baldwin since they had a class together during their first semester at UNCG. "So I was like 'You know, nobody is sitting in your seat. You've got to come back.'"

It was difficult, however, for Baldwin to keep up in class in the months after her injury. She eventually withdrew from UNCG.

"Not being able to finish my schooling was very, very frustrating and caused me a lot of resentment and a lot of anger and a lot of depression because I was so close to my goal," Baldwin said. "I mean I had ordered my cap and gown, never expecting my reality to crumble as it had."

THE SILVER LINING

Baldwin found herself in a dark place. She became depressed while recovering at her mother's house.

Baldwin said she had difficulty healing emotionally while staying in the same place where she was attacked. She then made a New Year's resolution to change her outlook on life.

On Jan. 1, 2017, five days shy of the one-year anniversary of her incident, Baldwin told herself she needed to grow into a better person. She reconnected with her faith and became more social, eventually meeting Vanderkuy on social media.

"We were just friends for like a year. He just helped me to be more social. He would just not leave me alone," Baldwin said, laughing.

Vanderkuy was a nursing student at ECPI University at the time, but he was struggling to complete his degree. He wanted to take a break from his classes to care for Baldwin on a full-time basis, but she insisted he stay focused and finish nursing school.

“Because the treatments and therapy in the early time after a spinal cord injury are critical to long-term recovery, I wanted to offer her as much encouragement as possible soon after the incident.”

— DR. LORI HUBBARD

“I’ve told my story a good amount of times. I guess it’s been six years now. I think it’s part of the healing process.”



Gabby and three of her close friends from nursing school at an emotional pinning ceremony in Gabby's hospital room.

Right, Gabby and Eric and their daughter, Zaine, born in 2019.



Left, Gabby and Eric got married on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022.



Vanderkuyl earned his LPN degree from ECPI in January 2018. He and Baldwin started dating and fell in love. They had a daughter, Zaine, on Dec. 16, 2019, joining a son, Kache, from Vanderkuyl's previous marriage.

The couple considers Jan. 10 as the anniversary of when they started dating. It happens to be four days after the anniversary of when Baldwin was injured. She and Vanderkuyl got married on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022.

It's not a coincidence they picked that date for their wedding. If Jan. 6 is Baldwin's "Life Day," then she said Easter is "the day of renewal."

She used a special wheelchair provided by the nonprofit organization Waymaker Off-Road Wheelchairs to get to the altar on her wedding day in Haw River, N.C.

"I think it's the silver lining to my testimony. I've been through a lot of trauma, and the love that I found in him is a silver lining to all of it because it has been a lot. It has been a huge struggle. This is where I get emotional," Baldwin said, holding back tears.

"He has a lot on his shoulders, so he's like the real hero in all this. But it's really special because he's a nurse, so we have a common interest in that, and he just likes supporting me. Just like I helped him, he's helped me."

APPROACHING THE FINISH LINE

While Baldwin was at home taking care of her newborn daughter, she felt a calling to return to UNCG and finally finish her BSN.

"When I had my daughter and was able to give birth naturally despite my injury and a lot of people thinking it wasn't possible, I felt like I could accomplish anything," Baldwin said. "Once I became a mom, I felt a burst of immense motivation."

Then, the coronavirus pandemic broke out in the U.S., forcing classes in the School of Nursing to go virtual. The online classes would be more accessible for students like Baldwin with physical limitations.

When I had my daughter and was able to give birth naturally despite my injury, and a lot of people thinking it wasn't possible, I felt like I could accomplish anything.

Baldwin spoke to School of Nursing faculty and staff members about the possibility of returning to finish her degree. First, though, she had to clear up some confusion they had.

They were under the impression she was paraplegic and could use her hands fully during her clinicals. She explained that, while she can move her wrists, she no longer has enough hand function to

administer a shot or check a patient's blood pressure.

After re-enrolling at UNCG, Baldwin arrived with Vanderkuyl in August 2021 for her first day back in the School of Nursing.

"I would actually say I'm doing this for myself and also for my daughter because I have a disability," Baldwin said, "and I want to show her that I can overcome and that a disability shouldn't stop someone from pursuing their dreams."

After coming so close to graduating six years ago, Baldwin said she's not taking anything for granted. She doesn't want to jinx herself and envision what it would be like for her to attend her actual graduation from the School of Nursing.

"Instead of graduating honorarily, it will be an honor to roll across the stage and accept my BSN in May," Baldwin said.

BLACK AND WHITE DECISIONS

Dr. Meka Douthit EL '96 was working the night shift as a new nurse at Wake Forest Baptist when a Ku Klux Klan member arrived at the hospital with chest pains. He insisted he didn't want her – a Black woman – to treat him.

He wanted a White nurse instead.

Douthit EL, who had just started her first nursing job after graduating from UNCG in 1996, offered to make a deal with the man. She suggested they put aside their opinions of each other and work together to address his health issues and obvious needs.

"I said, 'Will you just please allow me the opportunity to take care of you and treat your chest pain? And what I want in return is that you show me just some mutual respect.' I remember telling him, 'The only thing in between you and the treatment we have to help you is your opinion of me plus the agreement of you to receive my help.'"

While the man never thanked her, Douthit EL got the feeling he appreciated what she did for him. She had become the type of caring, understanding nurse she needed but didn't get a few years earlier while pregnant with her first child at age 19.

Douthit EL has put people's negative opinions behind her and made a name for herself during her extensive nursing career.

Last September, Douthit EL, who is director of Cone Health's Systemwide eLink Tele-ICU & Centralized Cardiac Monitoring Department, was sworn in as president of the North Carolina Nurses Association (NCNA).

"When I got connected with the NCNA and saw just the mentorship, support, leadership development, and opportunities they offer, I said, 'Oh gosh, I think I could be president. I don't know when it's going to happen, but that's something that I want to happen in my life,'" Douthit EL said.

She is the fourth African American president. Two of the NCNA's previous Black presidents also have UNCG connections.

Ernestine Small was the University's first Black faculty member

when she was hired as an instructor in 1967, and she remained on the School of Nursing faculty until 1991.

Meanwhile, Dr. Ernest Grant earned his master of science in nursing and PhD from UNCG. He now serves on the University's board of trustees, in addition to his role as president of the American Nurses Association.

Douthit EL saw the importance of strong leaders and a sense of community as a kid while growing up in her family's



Dr. Meka Douthit EL '96,
president
of the North
Carolina Nurses
Association.

apartment above Gilmore's Funeral Home, which her grandfather opened in Winston-Salem. Both of Douthit EL's parents worked as morticians, and she saw their professionalism and how they showed compassion to grieving families. She also accompanied them to the hospital after someone died.

Her older sister had earned a bachelor of science in nursing degree from UNCG, and after doing some soul searching, Douthit EL decided to become a nurse as well.

She knew she had made the right decision after she had a bad experience with a nurse during her difficult pregnancy at 19.

A college student at the time, she was on Medicaid and the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) health program. A nurse who was treating Douthit EL seemed to be bothered by her during a visit.

"She categorized me. She categorized me as being 'Oh, you're just another teenaged person' because I was 19," Douthit EL said. "I'm having a baby, but she treated me less than. She was so mean, so uncaring when I needed somebody to be caring and understanding."

Douthit EL said the experience made her want to become a nurse who shows true kindness for everyone under her care.

A few years later, as she prepared to treat the Ku Klux Klan member, she told him no one outside of his hospital room had to know what she was doing for him.

"I didn't get a thank you. He didn't say it with his words, but he said it with his eyes," said Douthit EL. "He said it with his silence. He said it by agreeing to allow me to treat him, to accept me."

UNCG NURSES who hold top leadership posts:

- **Dr. Meka Douthit EL '96**, North Carolina Nurses Association, president
- **Dr. Ernest Grant '93 MSN, '15 PhD**, American Nurses Association, president
- **Stacy Yancey '11**, North Carolina Association of Nurse Anesthetists, president
- **Dr. Lori Hubbard** (faculty), North Carolina Perinatal Association, president

UNCG NURSING ASKED ALUMNI TO SHARE A BIT OF THEIR OWN STORIES

"MY NURSING CAREER has been the anchor for my entire life, giving me opportunities to practice in different ways to improve the health of individuals and populations, and providing constant growth, learnings and friendships."

— SALLY SCANTLAND FOLAND '74



"IN MY 38 YEARS as a UNCG School of Nursing grad, I have worked in many specialty areas: neuro rehab, primacy care, leadership, and hospice. Nursing is not one-dimensional and has allowed me to pursue interests in the many facets of health care. And for that, I will always be grateful."

— KATHY FOSTER '84, '92 MSN

"BEING A NURSE means you are a 'master coordinator.' You have the ability and insight to see individuals and families at some of their most challenging times and offer clinical knowledge and emotional support. You are the central point for ongoing care coordination. Being a nurse is truly a calling."

— DR. TOMIKA WILLIAMS '03 MSN, '16 PHD



TIKTOK CELEBRATION

Victoria Glosson '21 was lying in bed with nothing to do and no electricity after a winter storm had knocked out the power.

Bored, she decided to share a funny video she'd recorded of her father two days earlier. Her phone died soon after her 80-second video was uploaded onto TikTok.

When power was finally restored and her phone turned back on, her phone immediately started buzzing.

She saw that her video had 30,000 views on TikTok, then 1 million views, and soon more than 9 million views. The UNCG nursing undergrad had gone viral over the 2021 Valentine's Day weekend.

Millions of people around the globe have been touched by Glosson's heartwarming video. In the clip, she captures the moment she informs her father, former UNCG police officer Barry Glosson, that she's cancer-free. She'd been battling Stage 3 Hodgkin's lymphoma for nearly two years.

Her dad celebrated by jumping around the house and hugging his wife. "That's like his little happy dance," Glosson said.

Her mother, Dr. Smita Glosson, who earned her BSN degree from UNCG in 1996, saw the video on NBC's "Today" show. It was then featured on ABC's "World News Tonight."

"We just did not expect it to go that far, but people were sending me just such kind messages," Glosson said. "People with cancer were reaching out to me, asking for advice. It was just so heartwarming, and the support was insane.

"I was like 'Oh my gosh. Never in a million years would you ever guess this.'"

Of course, not much about the past years had gone as Glosson planned. She had been through a lot: A scan revealed she had cancer, a near-fatal blood clot was discovered in her heart, and she underwent a stem cell transplant to remove more cancer following chemotherapy – before she got her great news.

Now, Glosson works in the emergency department at Moses H. Cone Memorial Hospital. She's also completed UNCG's RN-to-BSN program. She graduated last December. Another cause for celebration!

STAR IN THE MAKING

Irene Richardson '22 was in South Florida to attend a pathology research symposium when she woke up and discovered she couldn't move her arms or legs.

She was diagnosed in 2015 with neuromyelitis optica (NMO), a rare condition in which a person's immune system attacks a substance in the body that serves as insulation around the nerves. The condition, similar to multiple sclerosis, affects approximately 1-10 people per 100,000.

"The only people who could truly understand what I was going through were my nurses at the time, the ones that would hold my hand, cry with me, and help me do all the things that I couldn't do for myself," Richardson said. "They would treat me with dignity. They would give me encouragement to keep going, keep trying, keep fighting."

They also inspired Richardson, married with two teenage daughters, to enroll at UNCG at age 36 and pursue a career in nursing.

To do so, she'd have to juggle classes, a full-time job, and her family life – all while getting chemotherapy treatments every five months to keep her NMO symptoms manageable.

In May, Richardson earned her BSN degree. Even more, she graduated as president of the UNCG School of Nursing's Class of 2022.

"It is hard to find the right words to describe. It is like I wished on a shooting star, and now I'm holding it in my hands," she said.



“I am exhausted and jubilant all at once. Get ready. This will be the first of many accomplishments for me and my class.”

— IRENE RICHARDSON,
PRESIDENT OF THE
SCHOOL OF NURSING'S
CLASS OF 2022

“MY BELIEF is that Nursing is a continuum that starts with compassion, empathy, skill, and desire to continue learning every day. Nursing is more than a role – it's an essence of the soul!”



— TIFFANY GIBSON '01, '22


PHD, ADVANCED PRACTICE
NURSE CERTIFIED IN WOMEN'S
HEALTH AND FAMILY PRACTICE

“TO BE A NURSE means having a passion for what you do, advocating for your patients, and educating. I graduated from the UNCG School of Nursing in 1999 with my BSN. My career in nursing has led me to my own business as an independent nurse consultant helping agencies become accredited or survey ready.”

— LATOYA LOWERY BROWN '99

“I CHOSE TO SHARE THIS QUOTE: ‘When you feel like quitting, remember why you started.’ Because I feel like it truly encompasses how nursing nowadays feels, with so much stress and burnout and people falling out of love with nursing. This quote shows that through all of these hardships nursing really is a work of heart!”

— ABIGAIL MANTEK '17,
PEDIATRIC EMERGENCY ROOM
NURSE



“I think it helps me with the military side as far as training and learning critical thinking.”

— SHIANNE DANIELS '22

UNC GREENSBORO
School of Nursing
— Class of 2022 —

SALUTE TO MILITARY VETERANS

Shianne Daniels '22 wanted a bachelor of science in nursing (BSN) from a military-friendly university. When she did a search for military-friendly universities in the Triad, UNCG popped up on Google. She then came across UNCG's innovative Veterans Access Program (VAP), which provides medically-trained veterans and service members with specialized support to earn their BSN.

"It just lined up," Daniels said. "Everything lined up."

She enlisted in the U.S. Army Reserve in 2011, soon after earning a bachelor's degree in psychology. In May, the Watha, N.C., native earned her BSN from UNCG, named one of the nation's top-10 "Military Friendly Schools" among Tier 2 research institutions.

With financial assistance from the U.S. military and support from her fellow VAP students, she did it. "We are very tight-knit."

Daniels initially worked as a multichannel transmission systems operator-maintainer after she joined the Army Reserve at age 21. As a civilian, though, she worked as a rehabilitation technician and in the public school system as she considered her long-term career plans. Daniels found an Army Reserve unit in Virginia that she could join, giving her the opportunity to enroll in a 13-month program to become a licensed practical nurse. She then applied to UNCG to enter the BSN program as a VAP student.

"What struck me most when I first met Shianne was her beautiful smile and joyful presence," said Dr. Susan Letvak, the VAP director and the

Eloise R. Lewis Excellence Professor in the School of Nursing. "She is a gift to the profession of nursing and the many lives she will touch as a Spartan nurse."

Like other VAP students, Daniels had a pair of service members who were one year ahead of her in the program to mentor her throughout her first year in the School of Nursing.

Her mentors regularly checked to see how she was doing in her classes, her clinical rotations, and her personal life. They were available if she needed help dealing with stress or a difficult nursing course.

After graduation, Daniels moved to Atlanta and now works as a nurse in the emergency department at Emory University Hospital. She's in the department's year-long residency program.

"I think it helps me with the military side as far as training and learning critical thinking," Daniels said. "If I were ever to go downrange and get deployed, I would think that I would have the skills doing it on the civilian side as an emergency nurse."

VAP STUDENTS

are advised by nursing faculty and/or staff who are military veterans and understand the unique needs of military and veteran students. To date, VAP students have had 100% job placement on graduation.



War and Refuge

Throughout our history, UNCG has provided real-world support for those driven from their homes.

BY ELIZABETH KERI AND MIKE HARRIS '93 MA

ILLUSTRATIONS BY ANTWAIN HAIRSTON '21

WHEN WAR BROKE OUT IN BOSNIA, UNCG ALUMNA RADA PETRIC '08, '10 MS, '20 PHD WAS JUST A LITTLE GIRL LIVING IN SARAJEVO.

Every day, her parents and two siblings packed their bags and headed to the airport, hoping their names would be called from “the list.” Being on the list meant you were chosen to leave the country that day, on the city’s one airplane.

But every day, their names were not called.

As months passed, Petric’s older brother decided to sneak onto the plane. When a married couple’s names were called, he posed as their child and successfully flew to Serbia, where an aunt picked him up.

The rest of the family waited,

bags packed. One day, the officer called two female names, but nobody responded.

Thinking quickly, Petric’s mother called back, “It’s my daughters.” Because the girls were too young to have identification, the officer let them through.

“My mom told my older sister, ‘Just take her and go,’” recalls Petric. “It didn’t dawn on me until we were riding up the escalator to get on the plane that my mom wasn’t coming with me, and the waterworks started.”

Petric was just 7 years old. She wouldn’t see her parents again for years.

The Yugoslav Wars

In the Eastern European region that was formerly Yugoslavia, religious and ethnic differences caused tension for many years – erupting in the Bosnian War, the Croatian War, and other armed conflicts in the early 1990s.

Serbs against Croats against Bosniaks. Roman Catholics against Orthodox Christians against Muslims.

At least 130,000 were killed, according to the Humanitarian Law Center. Even more were displaced.

“It was all based on religion,” says Dr. Petric. “When the city we

lived in got occupied by a certain religion, the other people were not safe to stay there. We were forced out because we didn’t belong to the majority.”

After fleeing Bosnia, Petric and her siblings lived separately with aunts and uncles in Serbia. Eventually they lost all contact with their mother and father.

Three years passed. Back in Bosnia, her parents finally decided to try sneaking across the border – through a minefield. Terrified, their mother had to turn back, but their father pushed onward and made it.

“It took him all night, crawling on all-fours and feeling for landmines.”

Shortly after, Petric’s mother was arrested and became a prisoner of war. For nine months, she shared



a cell with six women, witnessing many of the horrors of war: rape, abuse, senseless killings.

For the rest of the family, life in a war zone gradually became almost normalized. Petric remembers jumping rope with a friend when a bomb exploded just two blocks down, killing a neighbor they knew well. A piece of shrapnel grazed her friend's leg.

"But five minutes later, we went back out in the yard and continued playing jump rope," Petric says. "It sounds crazy now, but we were so used to shootings and bombings. You just followed protocol."

One day, there came an unexpected knock on the door. Petric called out, "Come in – the door's open!" A woman she did not recognize opened the door.

"Can I help you?" Petric asked.

"Rada," the stranger said. "It's me. It's your mom."

Four years had passed since Petric had last seen her mother. Finally released from prison, she had ridden a bus across the border where the officers, drunk on a religious holiday, did not bother to check her identification.

Petric beams when recalling their reunion.

"I almost broke my neck running down to her. For the next three days, I didn't leave her sight."

Refuge at Last

Though finally reunited, Petric's family struggled simply to meet their basic needs. Living in a dilapidated building and forced to pick through trash for food, Petric's parents decided to seek religious refuge in other countries.

The United States accepted their application.

Petric was 13 years old when they were placed in Greensboro, North Carolina.

"Part of the reason why I have such a strong connection with UNCG is because the very first place we lived was only three blocks from campus," said Petric. "We would walk to UNCG and just enjoy the scenery."

But even with a new sense of hope for a better future, tragedy struck again. Their father, a diabetic, fell into a coma before he could fly to the U.S. He never woke up.

Their brother worked three jobs to support the family, while Petric and her sister finished high school and learned English.

"I no longer needed to worry about shelter, a safe place, or food.



Dr. Rada Petric '08,
'10 MS, '20 PhD

"My mom told my sister, 'Just take her and go.'"

I could finally just focus on my studies.”

Petric excelled. She chose to attend UNCG, in part to remain close to her family. She joined the Biology Department, known for its many undergraduate research opportunities, and soon discovered her own love of research. She worked in the bat and mouse lab with Dr. Matina Kalcounis-Rüppell.

“While we were doing field work in the woods at night, I said, ‘Wait, you mean I can do this for a living?’”

The joy of research fueled Petric’s decision to pursue a

master’s degree in biology, and later, her PhD in environmental health science – both from UNCG’s Biology Department. She also worked as a lecturer in the department for several years.

“The Biology Department at UNCG provided me with a lot of opportunities, from paid internships to grant funding. That’s part of the reason I kept coming back for all of my degrees.”

She also built a strong community of friends, especially as a graduate student, who, she says, supported her through the “mentally and physically exhausting” process

of earning a PhD.

Now, Petric is an assistant research professor at UNC Chapel Hill, where she also directs the Institute for the Environment at Highlands Biological Station. There, she conducts research on bats and other small mammals. She also runs a program that immerses students in the Southern Appalachians, teaching them about the environmental human impacts on the region.

Despite finding refuge and academic success, the trauma of war lingered. For many years, Petric suffered from PTSD

and recurring nightmares. She struggled to be close to people.

“But working through all of this has helped me become a more compassionate person.”

She says this compassion applies both to her own family that she started, as well as the students she mentors. If a student is struggling academically, she can almost always identify with what they’re going through – because she’s lived it.

“I’ve also become someone who really tries to live every day to its fullest,” reflects Petric. “Because I know that, in the blink of an eye, it could all be gone.”



Dr. Ivana Nikolic '02

“People who haven’t had to leave their home don’t understand what it means. Once a refugee, always a refugee.”

A PHYSICIAN FINDS ‘HOME’

DR. IVANA NIKOLIC '02 is another refugee from Bosnia who found her way to UNCG’s Biology Department.

When her family arrived in Greensboro, Nikolic was the only one who spoke English, and she had already graduated high school. So their resettlement agency went about lining up a job for her. After all, somebody needed to work.

She was to be a manager at a candle factory.

But her parents, themselves well-educated, heard of the plan and were insistent – “No,” they said, “Ivana will go to school.”

“My parents told me, ‘Go find the nearest school,’ so one morning I went to the bus stop, got on a bus, and asked – in my very proper British English – if the driver could please take me to the nearest university.”

Just a few steps later, the driver opened the door, informing Nikolic, “This is your stop.”

It was UNCG.

UNCG’s Biology Department quickly became like a second home for Nikolic.

“I was either working in the lab or in this cubby space in the Eberhart Building,” she said. “It felt like a family. I felt very safe and supported.”

She conducted research alongside treasured faculty mentors: cell biology with Dr. Karen Katula and embryology in frogs with Dr. Mark Hens.

Her biology professors, she said, understood her situation. They knew that her life was complicated, that her parents didn’t speak English, that she was working several jobs as a math tutor to support her family.

Nikolic also volunteered as an interpreter for her resettlement agency. The role often took her to doctor’s offices, where she would translate for displaced families much like her own.

The experience, in part, inspired her decision to become a doctor.

With help from UNCG’s pre-medical advisor at the time, Dr. Rob Cannon, Nikolic was accepted to some of the country’s top medical schools. She chose Duke University School of Medicine and later received prestigious postdoctoral positions at the University of Pennsylvania, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, and Harvard University.

These days, Nikolic is an established cardiologist at Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, where she also teaches medicine at Harvard.

It would be easy to conclude that life has turned out well for Nikolic, that perhaps leaving Bosnia was beneficial, in the end. But that would be an oversimplification.

“People who haven’t had to leave their home don’t understand what it means,” she said. “Once a refugee, always a refugee. It took my family 20 years to get back to where we originally started before the war.”

IRAQ TORN BY WAR

ARRIVING IN GREENSBORO IN 2008, Noor Ghazi '19 MA found peace. Within a decade, she discovered Peace Studies. "I have always dreamed of ... studying further. I come from a country that is torn by war, and I grew up witnessing one war after another," she said in a UNCG Q&A interview. "I grew up wanting to make a change, to impact the world, and to see peace in it. I had never heard of a study of Peace or learning about Conflict until the moment that I was looking for a graduate program at UNCG and saw the words 'Peace and Conflict Studies.' My heart danced with happiness."

She explained that Peace Studies are virtually unavailable in the Middle East. She is working with others to change that.

In addition to being a visiting Research Scholar in the department, Ghazi is a lecturer of Arabic at UNCG. She also teaches at other U.S. colleges and consults at Mosul University, where she collaborates on peace-building in Iraq. Also, she was invited by the non-political, non-sectarian Iraqi Alamal Association in Iraq to collaborate on peace-building projects. The effort led to her translating John Paul Lederach's "Preparing for Peace" – one of the most important books in the Peace Studies field – into Arabic. Hoping the book will help stanch radical extremism, she expects it will be used in new Peace Studies programs in major universities in Baghdad, Mosul, Salah Aldeen, and Al-Anbar. Also, her documentary "Mosul: Mother of Two Springs" premiered in the U.S. and in Iraq in recent months.

VISIT ALUMNIMAGAZINE.UNCG.EDU TO SEE HER TEDX TALK.



Noor Ghazi '19 MA

"I grew up wanting to make a change, to impact the world, and to see peace in it."

SUSAN MCINTYRE '84 MEd, months after the 9/11 attack, was enlisted as the U.S. government's team leader in humanitarian response in Afghanistan.

Arriving as the 2001 U.S. invasion there had begun, she served to assist Afghan civilians in need. With 30 years of international experience, 20 of them in the U.S. government specializing in disaster relief, she led a team supporting the people of Afghanistan caught up in the war.

SEE HER VIDEO PRESENTATION TO UNCG VANGUARD ALUMNI AT ALUMNIMAGAZINE.UNCG.EDU.



Susan McIntyre '84 MEd

"The most primary needs (such as water), they cannot wait."



DR. ANNA GOVE, resident physician and director of the Department of Health in the campus' first decades, took leave during WWI to aid refugees in Europe. She joined the American Red Cross and in France served with the Children's Bureau in Marseille. She mainly addressed refugee children's hunger and health concerns. After the war, she served with the Smith College Relief Unit in France, before returning to campus in 1920. She'd joined this campus at age 26. After retiring in 1936, she continued to serve in an advisory capacity until her death at age 81. The student health center bears her name.



Dr. Sharon Morrison/HHS

“In Greensboro, we have a history of successful resettlement.”

VIETNAM WAR'S REPERCUSSIONS

THE MONTAGNARD PEOPLE of Vietnam allied themselves with the U.S. forces during the Vietnam War. Since the U.S. pulled out in 1975, they have been persecuted. Many fled. Since the 1980s, many have found refuge in Guilford County.

Dr. Sharon Morrison has worked with refugee communities in Greensboro for more than 15 years. A professor in the Department of Public Health Education, she is the School of Health and Human Sciences' Community Engaged Research Fellow. She was honored with the UNC BOG Excellence in Teaching Award in 2017.

Her community-based participatory research involves working alongside communities to identify problems and implement solutions together. At the beginning of the COVID pandemic, she and her graduate students collaborated with Montagnard leaders and youth to build systems that would help their community weather the storm. Between May 2020 and December of 2021, her team and the Montagnard Dega Association were able to



Dr. Morrison and UNCG grad student Xuem Siu at a community vaccine clinic.

assist over 200 families and helped vaccinate more than 500 individuals. She also works with Bhutanese and Congolese communities, from two other nations wracked by violence.

Supportive research takes collaborative effort, she notes. “There’s no magic about it.”



Liana H'Yua Adrong '16, '21 MSW

A LEADER OF MONTAGNARD COMMUNITY

LIANA H'YUA ADRONG '16, '21 MSW is executive director of Greensboro's Montagnard Dega Association and is chair of the Greensboro International Advisory committee.

“During the Vietnam War, my father, like many Montagnard men, worked with the U.S. Special Forces, fighting for our freedom from Communism,” she explains. Once the war ended, her father was imprisoned in a re-education camp. In 1996, her family was granted refugee status to resettle to the U.S. She was 13 when they arrived in Greensboro.

Now, she is passionate about today's youth. As an undergraduate, she had helped create UNCG's first Montagnard student group (Dr. Morrison was faculty advisor). More recently, she helped start the Montagnard American Organization, where youth can get together, help each other, and inspire one another, as they foster awareness of higher education and cultural preservation, she explains.

“We are ensuring that our youth have the help they need to break the cycle of poverty and thrive.”

“I was a scared little girl leaving the only home I'd ever known.”

CNNC IMPACT UNCG's Center for New North Carolinians grew out of a task force created by Chancellor Patricia Sullivan in 1997. The Center, providing collaborative research with refugee and immigrant communities, enhances UNCG's historic commitment to special populations.

SUPPORTING NURSING CARE FOR UKRAINIAN REFUGEES

SINCE PUTIN'S RUSSIAN ARMY invaded Ukraine earlier this year UNCG nurses have collaborated with the Nurses Association of the Republic of Moldova to help. During this refugee crisis, Moldova has received more Ukrainian refugees per capita than any other nation. A new program through the NC-Moldova Nursing Collaborative provides education for Moldovan nurses as they care for refugees.

One of the first Zoom webinars for these nurses, on March 10, focused on common infectious diseases, managing chronic conditions, special conditions for vulnerable populations, and unique needs of the refugee population.

Dr. Audrey Snyder, Professor and Associate Dean for Experiential Learning and Innovation, was a presenter. Dr. Deborah Lekan and Dr. Nancy Hoffart, recently retired from the faculty, also spoke.

UNCG faculty Dr. Vadim Korogoda and Snyder are members of the collaborative; Hoffart and Lekan are co-chairs. Together with Moldovan nurses and administrators, they've held ten webinars, with topics ranging from Psychological First Aid to Hypothermia. Videos were shared with nurses in Ukraine.

"This morning was a humbling experience," Snyder said after the first session. "We hit the maximum Zoom webinar capacity at 500 attendees – although one Zoom site may have had a dozen health care providers together at one site to view."

Snyder saw participants from throughout Moldova. All five colleges of nursing in the Republic of Moldova were repre-

sented, as was the medical university. There were many hospitals and clinics represented. "Some of the different specialties that we were able to discern were gynecology, urology, pediatrics, cardiology, surgery, neurosurgery, perinatal, pulmonology, surgery, adolescent health, and others," she said.

Korogoda, a School of Nursing clinical assistant professor with a nurse anesthesia focus, added, "The people in Moldova – including my family – are generous people and will help anyone in need, but



People donate blood at the Blood Service Center in the city of Lviv, Ukraine.

they themselves have limited resources." He believes these webinars have helped.

Additionally, the collaborative shipped a 40-foot container with medical supplies to Moldova in September to support care for refugees.

The collaborative's work is supported by a Rotary Foundation Global Grant initiated by the Guilford Rotary Club in Greensboro, as well as the Matson Halverson Christiansen Hamilton Foundation. Translation at the sessions is supported by the Global Rural Nurse Exchange Network. UNCG's School of Nursing, as well as the Guilford Rotary Club, has had a history of collaboration with Moldovan nurses. This program is another step in that collaboration.



EACH GIFT TO THE CNNC

goes directly to support community-based programs, giving newcomers information and tools to make North Carolina their new home. cnnc.uncg.edu/give



“A lot of sports therapy is about encouraging people – making them believe they can succeed.”

— JANIAH LINDSEY '24

Very first Hielscher Scholar

With a newly created scholarship, she's on her way to fulfilling her dreams.

Janiah Lindsey '24 is the inaugural Hielscher Scholar and recipient of a scholarship funded by the Physical Education Class of 1975 to support students committed to earning a bachelor's in kinesiology. The scholarship honors the Physical Education Class of '75's lifelong bond and their beloved advisor, Pat Hielscher.

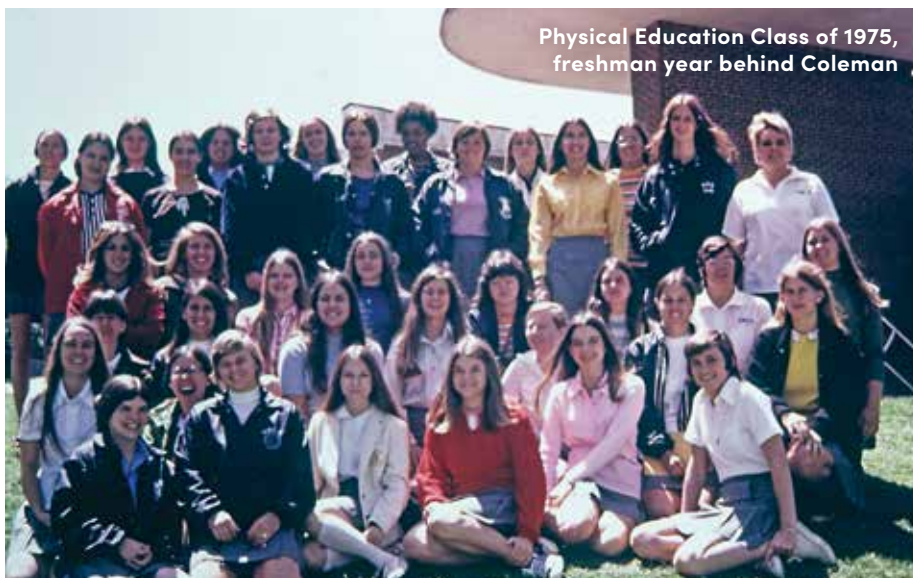
Not only did the alumni endow the scholarship, but Pat Hielscher '66, '70 MSPE and Cathy Tamsberg '75 arranged to meet Janiah in the fall of 2021 – first to get to know her over coffee and later to present her with a goodie bag close to spring semester exams. “It's clear she has goals for her future and the capacity and

determination to pursue them with passion,” says Cathy, senior-year Physical Education Class of '75 president. “We are very excited that she and ‘The Class’ are connected.”

Janiah hopes the donors recognize in her a like-minded person who believes sports training can heal not only the body, but also the spirit. In high school, Janiah – a serious soccer player for 13 years – injured her hamstring. At that point, she met Miss Rae, a sports trainer who helped her believe she could regain her pre-injury body, as well as her confidence. “A lot of sports therapy is about encouraging people – making them believe they can succeed,” Janiah says. Miss Rae became her role model for a major in kinesiology and a future career in sports therapy.

Janiah knew from the beginning she wanted to attend UNCG, but the pandemic protocols of 2020 made finding community a real challenge for her and other incoming freshmen. Like the P.E. Class of '75, she soon found a community on campus that helps her excel. Her job with Outdoor Adventures at UNCG's Kaplan Center for Wellness introduced her to a supportive group of friends who share her enthusiasm for taking on the center's popular climbing wall.

After spending the summer at home to be with family and to study for her fall semester anatomy class, Janiah is ready for her junior year. And, as a Hielscher Scholar, to prepare for a career that will help others build healthy minds and bodies.



RAISE A GLASS TO “THE CLASS”

“If I knew for sure what made the Physical Education Class of ’75 so special, I would bottle and sell it because it made our time at UNCG incredibly important,” says Cathy Tamsberg ’75, senior-year Physical Education Class of ’75 president.

Something magical happened in September 1971 when 40 eager, new physical education majors first met in Coleman Gym. Add to the mix their class advisor, Pat Hielscher, a young instructor in her second year at UNCG, who cared deeply about her charges and whose high expectations for their behavior and athletic and academic performance inspired them to rise to the next level.

The excellent reputation of the School of Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (now HHS) also factored into the collective identity of what became known as “The Class,” recalls Paula Bonner ’75: “The faculty were national leaders in their areas of specialty but were also playing important roles in advancing Title IX and increasing opportunities for girls and women in sports.”

The bond among members of “The Class” has remained beyond graduation by way of an annual Christmas newsletter, five-year reunions at Piney Lake, and Zoom meetings to update progress on their scholarship fund.

To celebrate their 20th reunion, “The Class” established a scholarship honoring Class of ’75 Physical Education majors and their advisor, intended to be an endowed fund to help students with financial need become physical education teachers. Now approaching their 50th reunion and realizing the needs and interests of students have changed over the years, they have broadened the scholarship’s scope to sophomores committed to earning a BS in kinesiology, prioritizing historically disadvantaged or first-generation students. The Physical Education Class of 1975 Scholarship Fund recipients are now known as “Hielscher Scholars” to thank Pat, the School, and the University for relationships that have endured for half a century.

“**Champion the right to be yourself;
Dare to be different
And to set your own pattern,
Live your own life, and follow
your own star.**”

– PHYSICAL EDUCATION CLASS OF 1975 MOTTO,
ORIGINAL QUOTE BY WILFERD PETERSON

Student, physical education instructor, Piney Lake supervisor, class advisor, volleyball coach, and friend

Throughout her years at UNCG and the decades beyond, Pat Hielscher ’66, ’70 MSPE has been many things to many people, most recently honoree of the Physical Education Class of 1975 Scholarship, whose recipients are known as “Hielscher Scholars.”

Pat is humbled by this tribute from the physical education students she was assigned in the fall of 1971. The special bond that formed among “The Class” and their advisor continues to this day. But what many may not know is that in addition to being honored by a UNCG scholarship, Pat is a generous donor herself.



**Pat Hielscher ’66, ’70 MSPE,
UNCG faculty of the Department
of Physical Education at
the Physical Education Class
of ’75 10th reunion**

Made UNCG’s first Women’s Volleyball coach in 1970, Pat developed a winning intercollegiate program. In 2008, she established the Patricia A. Hielscher Volleyball Athletic Scholarship with a testamentary gift, to be awarded to

a student-athlete who competes at a high level while sustaining academic performance that meets or surpasses University standards.

Also in 2008, Pat pledged an additional testamentary gift to establish funding for a second scholarship to honor a family member, expanded in 2021 to create the Hielscher Family Endowed Scholarship in Kinesiology, which will support graduate students in the Department of Kinesiology.

“The University supported me in the pursuit of my dream when financially my parents had very few resources. It is my turn to provide some assistance to aspiring students who dare to pursue their dreams,” Pat says.

MORE STORIES AT [LIGHTTHEWAY.UNCG.EDU](https://lighttheway.uncg.edu).

gradtidings

COMPILED BY THE OFFICE OF ADVANCEMENT COMMUNICATIONS

1950s

DOT KEARNS '53, '74 MED was recognized as a UNCG Trailblazer.

1960s

BEVERLEY HARRELSON '63 was highlighted in a Greensboro News & Record story for her nursing work.

BETH DEISHER '68 received the 2022 Q. David Bowers Award from the Central States Numismatic Society. 🏆 12

For **ANITA FRIEDMAN '68**'s final project in her 1967 Design & Construction class, she designed and sewed a dress. Now a family heirloom, this dress was worn by her at many special occasions and passed down to her daughter. Now her granddaughter has worn it at her Bat Mitzvah! 🏆 (See p. 44.)

DONNA STALEY '69 was given the DAR, Colonel Balfour Chapter's Community Service Award for her work in Forsyth County libraries.

1970s

DOROTHY DAVIS '70 retired from the UNCG Department of Anthropology where she had been faculty since 1983.

BARBARA AYERS BEST '71 attended the inauguration of Phillip G. Rogers, the new East Carolina University chancellor, as UNCG's representative. 🏆 9

STEVEN UNDERWOOD '73, '80 MA, '92 EDD published a new novel, "Young Hickory," a World War II drama.

MARGARET ARBUCKLE '74 MED, '84 PHD received UNCG's 2022 Holderness/Weaver distinguished service award. (See p. 14.)

GINGER CARROLL '77 retired as chief executive officer of Citrus Memorial Hospital.

DEBRA DECKER '77 was appointed Executive Secretary of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

JAY MANCINI '77 PHD received the 2021 Career Achievement Award from the College of Health and Human Sciences at Kansas State University, where he received his MS degree prior to studying at UNCG. 🏆 5

LETITIA WRIGHT BERLIN '78 and her wife, Frances Blaker, received the Distinguished Achievement Award from the American Recorder Society. Both have spent the last 31 years as freelance musicians, playing and teaching the recorder to children and adults and organizing music. 🏆 6

PAUL LEROY FULTON, JR. '78 MBA retired as Forsyth County's chief financial officer after a career with the county that spanned 47 years. Honoring his retirement, State Treasurer Dale Folwell made a special trip to a meeting of the Forsyth County Board of Commissioners to present Fulton The Order of the Long Leaf Pine award.

KRISTINE FRITZ '79 received the Hall of Fame Award from the Society of Health and Physical Educators of America.

RITA PICKLER '79, '81 MSN, the FloAnn Sours Easton Endowed Professor of Child and Adolescent Health and Director of the PhD and Master's in Nursing Science Programs at the Ohio State University College of Nursing, received OSU's 2022 Distinguished Scholar Award.

1980s

BEN HONEYCUTT '80 was elected to the Hildebran, N.C., Town Council and was named Mayor Pro Tem.

LYNN BRESKO '82 and Tom Corrigan established the Mary Corley Duffy Scholarship in UNCG's School of Education. 🏆 16

ROBIN MAXWELL '82 MA received UNCG's 2021-22 Advising Excellence Award.

NEIL UNDERWOOD '82, '87 MM, a former band director of East Lincoln and North

Lincoln High Schools, was inducted into the N.C. Bandmasters Hall of Fame.

KARL MCKINNON '84 received The Order of the Long Leaf Pine award from Governor Cooper for professional and community service rendered to the citizens of North Carolina. Karl also was presented the North Carolina Museums Council Professional Service Award for 41 years of leadership in North Carolina's museum community. 🏆 19

HARRIET SUTTON '84 wrote and published her first book. "Riley Rae's Pronouns" is an introduction to personal pronouns and non-binary people written for children age 2-7. 🏆 10

JOSEPH LANGOWSKI '85 became HR Director of the Bensalem Township School District.

ANN RESNICK '86, an artist and curator, showcased her "Chapter & Verse" solo exhibition at the Ulrich Museum of Art at Wichita State University, earlier this year.

ELIZABETH BOND '87 EDD is the first inductee to the new Watauga County Historical Society Hall of Fame.

KAREN EBERENZ '87 was named runner-up Farm Bureau-Pitt County Schools Teacher of the Year.

LESLIE HAIRFIELD '87 ran for Burke County Board of Commissioners.

GARY INMAN '87 was appointed Designer in Residence at High Point University.

KATHLEEN KINKEMA '87 MS, '98 PHD retired as professor emeritus of exercise and sport science from Western Colorado University.

TERI BROWN '88 released her debut novel, "Sunflowers Beneath the Snow." 🏆 4

ROBERT SHACKLEFORD, JR. '89 MS, '93 PHD retired as president of Randolph Community College.

JULIA WEAVER '89 has published a book called "Hoopspeak: The Xs and Os of Leading Through the Language of Basketball." 🏆 15

1990s

JEFF HIBBARD '90 was promoted to Chief Digital Officer of Truliant Credit Union. 🏆 17

ANDREA HANLEY EARLES '91 became the first member of Rockingham Community College's new cross-country track team.

JAMES G. MERRILL '91 EDD officially began serving as interim superintendent of the Alamance-Burlington (N.C.) School System on January 1, 2022.

IAN "PHILLIP" SNIDER '91 MS started in February 2022 as the Chair for Primary Care in Rural and Underserved Populations and Assistant Professor of Family Medicine at the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, Auburn, Alabama. 🏆 8

MELISSA WHITE ATKINSON '92 MED was appointed to the Surry County (N.C.) Schools Board of Education.

BRIAN CARROLL '92 published "Shakespeare's Sceptered Isle: Finding English National Identity in the Plays" with McFarland & Co.

CHRIS FLORY '92 MFA presented an exhibition of her art at Artworks Gallery in Winston-Salem.

DENISE RHEW '92, '99 MSN, '16 PHD was named director of Cone Health's new free-standing emergency MedCenter Greensboro.

CAROLE WEATHERFORD '92 MFA was the keynote speaker for The North Carolina Writers' Network 2022 Spring Conference.

ERNEST GRANT '93 MSN, '15 PHD was named one of 2021's "100 Most Influential People in Healthcare" by Modern Healthcare. Grant was the commencement speaker for Duke School of Nursing's Spring 2022 graduation ceremony. He also recently received an honorary degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

MELISSA SELLERS-BARNWELL '93 saw her oldest son, Wyatt Barnwell, marry his high school sweetheart May 27, 2021. Her daughter, Margaret Barnwell, graduated from UNCG in May 2022 with a degree in professions in deafness.

BRENDAN SLOCUMB '93 released his debut novel, "The Violin Conspiracy."

BYRON BASSETT, JR. '94 MBA, '05 PMC was named the new president and CEO of Chesapeake-based synthetic paper manufacturer Yupo Corp. America.

CHRISTINE "CHRY'S" EGAN '94 MA earned the International Leadership Association (ILA) Women and Leadership Outstanding Practice with Local Impact Award for her years of mentoring work with several organizations. She received the award at the annual Women and Leadership Conference in June 2022 in Portsmouth, England. Chrys is the associate dean of the Fulton School of Liberal Arts and a professor of communication at Salisbury University in Maryland. 🏆 11

GREGORY HUGH FERGUSON '94 MPA was appointed deputy city manager of High Point, N.C. He had worked in High Point government as the Assistant City Manager for Community Services since 2019.

Here in fall 2022, we send our best wishes for each of you. Reach out and share your news.

Visit us at alumnimagazine.uncg.edu and click on "Submit a class note."

You can also mail your information to **Class Notes, UNCG Alumni Engagement, PO Box 26170, Greensboro, NC 27402-6170.**

ALL TOGETHER

ENJOY "SPARTAN SCENES" AT ALUMNI EVENTS ACROSS THE STATE AND BEYOND.

Alumni Engagement Director Mary Landers spent time over the summer meeting with Vanguard members from New Bern and Wilmington, as well as a group in Raleigh.



New Bern: (l-r), Jane Ellen Horner '66, Janet Hall Doughty '74, Mike (husband) and Sue Capalbo McIntyre '84, Frances Parker Barron '67 and (husband) John, Bob (husband) and Carol Jenkins Mattocks '62, Mary Landers



Wilmington: Barbara Billings Hoffman '67, Ann Tissue Carroll '65, Jennifer Smith Hooks '76, Mary Landers, Eloise Natalie Eller '65



Raleigh: Anne Hayes Tate '68, Betsy Farrior Buford '68, Sarah Langston Cowan '65, Mary-Owens Fitzgerald '55, Sarah Sherrill Furlong '55, JoAnne Smart Drane '60, Alice Joyner Irby '54, Elisha Gutloff '92, Mary Landers, Jane Ann Ward Hughes '68



Batter up! Spartans spanning a wide range of class years came together for two great games at the Durham Bulls and Winston-Salem Dash stadiums this past summer.



The first in-person gathering of Alumni All Access was a huge success, with more than 20 presentations from faculty and alumni on a wide range of topics. Mark your calendars for Alumni All Access 2023: April 22.



TALMADGE BLEVINS '96's restaurant **MACHETE** placed #18 on Yelp's Top 100 US Restaurants 2022.

MEKA DOUTHIT EL '96 was sworn in as president of the North Carolina Nurses Association.

MILTIA GRADY-WHEATLEY '97 was named executive director of the Northeastern N.C. Chapter of the American Red Cross.

KATE RULEY '98 MS became executive assistant to the head coach of Wake Forest Football.

KAMILAH BLOUNT WILLIAMS '99 was inducted into the 2021-22 Hall of Fame at ECU School of Nursing.

2000s

SAMANTHA AMMONS '00 MA joined the University of Nebraska Omaha's Master's Program in Creative and Critical Thinking as faculty member.

BARRON LLOYD THOMPSON '01 was tasked with drafting new Local Rules of Practice for Civil District Court for the North Carolina 19B Judicial District (Randolph County).

TRACY MYERS '02 was named one of the Triad Business Journal's 2022 Outstanding Women in Business. 🏆 1

ZACHARY NICHOLS '02 was appointed Vice President, Commercial Market Executive, Triad at Truiliant Federal Credit Union.

EVANGELA Q. OATES '02 was named the University of Minnesota's Associated University Librarian for Student Success.

MATTHEW PLAIN '02 MED was named Co-Managing Partner of the law firm Barton Gilman.

AIMEE POKWATKA '02 MFA is releasing her debut novel, "Self-Portrait With Nothing," on October 18, published by Tor.

KASEY STONE STAMEY '02 MFA's design firm Clerestory Design was featured in Greenville's The Daily Reflector.

TERRICA WILLIAMS '02 joined the business faculty at Rockingham Community College.

TIFFANY ATKINS '03 published the article "Clair Huxtable Was My Guiding Light": How Ketanji Brown Jackson Will Inspire a Generation" in USA Today.

STACEY BRAKE '03, after over 17 years working in mental health, has created

DESERVES AN A+

For **ANITA HIRSCH FRIEDMAN '68**, a UNCG project for her home economics program turned into a priceless heirloom.

"My granddaughter Alana Slade is wearing the outfit that I made in the fall of 1967 in my Design & Construction class as part of my BSHE degree," Anita says. "This outfit has been worn by me, my daughter, and now my granddaughter, to many special occasions since 1967!"



Alana was wearing it to her second Bat Mitzvah, in 2021, when this photo was taken. (The first, in 2020 in the pandemic's early days, was a video celebration.)

(l-r) Anita, Alana Slade, and Renee Slade.

an online course to help people reduce anxiety.

ASHLEY BRYANT '03, '05 MSN was appointed assistant director of Cancer Research Training Education Coordination at UNC's Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center.

MELISSA MIDGETT DICKERSON '03, appointed interim town manager of Manteo, N.C., last December, is now Manteo town manager.

SARAH JUSTICE '03 MLIS was inducted into the Gamma Upsilon Chapter of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International.

JESSICA MCCALL '03 MA, '09 PHD received UNCG's 2021-22 Anna Maria Gove Award for Teaching Excellence.

JONATHAN UNDERWOOD '03 was elected grand secretary of the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free, and Accepted Masons of North Carolina.

EREKA WILLIAMS '03 PHD was named the vice president of impact at Dogwood

Health Trust Foundation after more than 20 years in higher education in the UNC System.

VANESSA CORNETT-MURTADE '04 DMA was named a Fulbright Scholar for the 2022-23 academic year and will be teaching and researching in Turkey during the period.

SARAH LUCILLE FRANCIS '04 was awarded the Jane Armstrong Endowed Chair of Food Science and Human Nutrition at Iowa State University.

MAGDALEN RICE STANLEY '04 was recently appointed a major gifts officer at the Stamps School of Art & Design at the University of Michigan. She has relocated to Ann Arbor, and she married Matthew Larson on October 2, 2021.

APRIL ALBRITTON '05 was named Assistant to the City Manager of Greensboro.

JOY COOK '05 was named Associate Vice Chancellor for Strategic Communications at Fayetteville State University.

CARLA FULK '05 was featured for her nursing work in a Greensboro News & Record article.

YOLANDA NEAL '05 MSN was appointed president of The North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics Watts College of Nursing.

DR. DONYELL ROSEBORO '05 PHD was named chief diversity officer at The University of North Carolina at Wilmington after having served as interim since July 2020. He is the recipient of the 2022 John L. Sanders Student Advocate Award, the highest honor bestowed by the University of North Carolina Association of Student Governments.

KILEY BROWN '06 was named Director of Accountability and Testing for Chatham County Schools.

SEAN CALLAHAN '06 was welcomed as an associate in the real estate group of HunterMaclean, a leading business law firm with offices in Savannah and St. Simons Island, Georgia. 🏆 14

LEAH CARPER '06, an English teacher at Northern Guilford High School, was named the Piedmont-Triad Region (N.C.) Teacher of the Year.

CHARLON TURNER EVERETT '06 is now co-director of the North Carolina Black Film Festival, which returned for its first in-person screening since 2019.

KAREN EVERETT '06 MLIS became manager of the Williams Family Seymour Branch Library in Sevier County, Tennessee.

NOEL KEENER '07 MED is the new principal of Parkland High School.

STEPHANIE MILLER '07 MA, '12 PHD was named the inaugural Provost Faculty Research Scholar for Institutional Transformation at the University of Mississippi.

REGINA DOROTHY SCHOENBERG '07 joined the Connolly Gallagher firm as a new attorney. She previously served the Delaware Department of Justice for ten years as a deputy attorney general.

SHAWNA SPENCER '07 was recognized as a Lifetime Afterschool Champion of the YMCA of Greensboro.

SONIA ARCHER-CAPUZZO '08 DMA, '11 MLIS published the book "Metaldada," a bibliography of heavy metal resources.

SARAH BLIZZARD '08, '10 MA was named the Coordinator for the Multicultural Affairs, Diversity, and Engagement Center at Berkshire Community College in Pittsfield, Massachusetts.

WHITNEY OAKLEY '08 EDS, '11 EDD is now superintendent for Guilford County Schools.



1 Tracy Myers '02 with Deborah Hooper 2 April Franklin '15
3 William Lake, Jr. '18 DMA 4 Teri Brown '88 5 Jay Mancini '77 PHD
6 Letitia Wright Berlin '78 7 Shemeka Thorpe '11, '20 PHD 8 Ian
"Phillip" Snider '91 MS 9 Barbara Ayers Best '71, UNCG; Peter Hans,
President, The University of North Carolina System; Ted Mitchell,
President, American Council on Education

gradtidings

LAETITIA ULICK '08 became design manager at the Law Offices of James Scott Farrin.

WARREN MILTEER '09 MA was appointed to the Historic Commision of Bath, N.C.

SHERRILL ROLAND '09, '17 MA opened his exhibition "The Odds" at The Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art.

THOMAS TROYER '09, '12 MED was named one of the Triad Business Journal's "40 under 40," 2022.

PATRICK WILLIS '09, '10 MS was named a partner at the accounting and consulting firm Smith Leonard.

2010s

ALAN BUCK '10 received a Fulbright Specialist Program award to complete a project in the field of journalism at the University of Eswatini.

CAMILA PULGAR GUZMAN '10, '21 PHD was awarded a Venture Winston Grant.

CANDACE HECKSTALL '10 began working as a Newcomer Specialist at Denver Public Schools.

JOHN PELL '10 PHD was appointed Whitworth University's dean of the College of Arts & Sciences.

SANDRA VANNOY '10 PHD was named dean of Appalachian State's Walker College of Business.

CARRIE ROSARIO '11 MPH was appointed chair of the North Carolina Institute of Medicine Board of Directors.

JASMINE SIMPSON '11, '12 MS was one of Triad Business Journal's "40 Under 40" 2022.

SHEMEKA THORPE '11, '20 PHD, whose research focuses on the sexual well-being of Black women, was the 2021 Health and Human Sciences Emerging Leader Award recipient. She recently accepted a position as a tenure-track Assistant Professor in Health Promotion at the University of Kentucky. 📍 7

JESSIE CRAFT '13 received the 2021 Society for Classical Studies Award for Excellence in Teaching Classics at the K-12 Level.

JENNIFER RENEE PATTERSON '13 MLIS was named Library Services Director for The City of Thousand Oaks, California.

AMANDA RICHARDS '13 was awarded Teacher of the Year of Carroll High School (Southlake, Texas) for the 2021-2022 school year.

COLIN TRIBBY '13 became principal of Ward Elementary School.

NORMA HONEYCUTT '14 was named one of the Salisbury Post's "Ten to Watch in 2022."

KATRINKA BROWN '15 was named Piedmont-Triad Regional Principal of the Year for her work at Jackson Middle School in a surprise ceremony on June 7, 2021.

JUSTIN DYSON '15 was approved by the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County (N.C.) School Board of Education as Executive Director of Facilities/Maintenance.

APRIL FRANKLIN '15 published a tip book and journal aimed at millennial caregivers titled "The Millennial's Guide to Caregiving - It's All About You!" 📍 2

LONDON MARSHALL '15 joined Carolina Caring's Palliative Medicine Clinic in Newton, N.C., as a nurse practitioner.

RACHEL FETZER '16 MLIS became branch manager of the Reidsville Library.

KATHLEEN FOWLER '16 PHD was the Spring 2022 recipient of Surry Community College's Servant-Leadership Recognition Award.

WAYNE MARSH '16 MS, a supplier compliance analyst, was named a Triad Business Journal "20 in their 20s" honoree, an award "celebrating the business people in the Triad who are leveling up."

SARAH PRITCHARD '16 had a collection of her paintings, titled "The Zoo," displayed at the Mebane Arts and Community Center.

RUSSELL VERNON '16 EDS was named Rockingham County (N.C.) Schools' Principal of the Year. He is praised for guiding one Rockingham County elementary school off the state's failure list and leading another elementary school as one of the first to pilot the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support state program.

BRANDI APPLE '17 MSN became the Clinical Assistant Professor in nursing at UNC Chapel Hill.

KAYLA BAKER '17 MED won the Social Sciences, Education, and Business category of UNCG's 2022 Graduate Research and Creativity Showcase.

JOSEPH MICHAEL GRAY '17, '20 DNP, a board-certified adult geriatric nurse practitioner, was welcomed as a new provider at Cone Health in Rockingham County, N.C.

NORMA HERNANDEZ '17 was featured in a Greensboro News & Record piece on Siler City's Immigrant Community Advisory Committee, where she is vice president.

CHRISTINA PEOPLES '17 MS was a keynote speaker at the fifth annual Creative Age Conference.

CHANTAL SARJI '17, '19 MBA, an IT project manager at Volvo Group North America, was named a Triad Business Journal "20 in their 20s" honoree, an award "celebrating the business people in the Triad who are leveling up."

ELIZABETH "JO" KLEIN '18 MLIS, a GIS and data visualization librarian and assistant professor at UNCG, was awarded a 2021 iBelong grant from UNCG's Campus Climate Committee.

WILLIAM LAKE, JR. '18 DMA was recently appointed Director of Concert Bands and Assistant Professor of Music at George Mason University in Fairfax, Virginia. In this position, Dr. Lake will conduct the George Mason Wind Symphony and Concert Band – and mentor graduate conducting students. 📍 3

SAMANTHA FELLMAN '19 joined the architectural firm LS3P.

BLAKE MOYER '19 MPA was one of Triad Business Journal's "20 in their 20s" 2021 and recently accepted a position as Director of Industry Relations for the Henderson County Partnership for Economic Development.

ALEXANDRA ROBINSON '19 became activities coordinator at the Person County Senior Center.

JAYME SHERROD '19 PHD and UNCG Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Lynne Lewallen appeared as guests on the National League for Nursing podcast, "Nursing EDge." In the two-part episode, they discussed their research related to Jayme's dissertation.

2020s

SHEEBA DAWOOD '20 PHD was featured in the Triad Business Journal for her role as CEO and co-founder of Minerva Lithium. The company was named to the journal's Triad Inno's Startups to Watch, a new program that highlights early-stage companies primed for a big year.

CLAY HOWARD '20 joined the SBTDC as Director of the Triad East Regional Center based in Greensboro. 📍 15

KICHELE JOYCE '20 was a finalist for the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching 2022 Prudential NC Beginning Teacher of the Year Award.

SUSAN STRONG '20 received the Beginning Teacher of the Year Award for Montgomery County (N.C.) Schools.

NICHOLAS LYERLY '21 has been ranked as high as 47th in the World Amateur Golf Rankings this year.

JARIAH MORRIS '21 joined Rockingham

Community College as a transition advisor in the Student Development Division.

JANE STREET SIMMONS '21 and Dylan Ratledge welcomed a daughter, born on May 14, 2021. They currently make their home in Greensboro. 📍 13

BEVIN STRICKLAND '21 was featured in a front page Washington Post story about people who have not contracted COVID-19.

ANDREA TIFFANY '21 MM accepted the position of day manager at UNCG's Harold Schiffman Music Library.

SHELBI WEBB '21 MLIS was appointed UNCG's 2021-2023 Diversity Resident Librarian.

IN MEMORIAM

ANNA KORNEGAY GUILL '35

ISABELLE PERRY '37

NANCY NICHOLAS '39

MARY ELLEN DEMPSEY '41

MARIE SANBORN '42

GERALDINE PITTMAN '43

REBECCA SISSON '43

JEAN GREGORY '44

MILDRED ANNIEBELLE AYDELETTE FLAVIN '45

VIRGINIA HARTZOG '45

SUSAN OVERMAN '45

CONNIE PARKER '45

MARY TAYLOR '45

MARGARET WILSON '45

MARY WILSON '46

ANN OSBORNE '47

OLA RUTLEDGE '47

IRENE VANDIVIERE '47

ELIZABETH BRANDON '48

SHIRLEY GLOVER '48

VAIL ELLIS '49

BETTY HOFFMAN '49

JEWELL HARRELL KOREN '49

LYNDA BOWERS '50

JANE GROSS '50

BARBARA SANDERS BOOTH KAUFFMAN '50

RUBY PAUL '50

JANE READE '50

BELLA BOUHUYS ADAMS '51

OPALEENE BEAMER '51

BEULAH COLLINS '51

ANN DOUGLAS '51

PATSY FARRIOR '51

DORIS BERNHARDT '52

FRANCES HALL '52

CAROLINE MCSORLEY '52



10 Harriet Sutton '84 11 Christine "Chrys" Egan '94 MA 12 Beth Deisher '68 13 Jane Street Simmons '21 14 Sean Callahan '06 15 Julia Weaver '89 16 Lynn Bresko '82 and Tom Corrigan 17 Jeff Hibbard '90 18 Clay Howard '20 19 Karl McKinnon '84

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU. WE'D LIKE TO SEE YOU TOO.

UNCG Magazine is now publishing pictures of your milestones, such as weddings, births and reunions. All you have to do is send us your photos. Please send your pictures using the "Submit a Class Note" form at alumnimagazine.uncg.edu. Or you can mail a print to Class Notes Photo, Alumni Engagement Office, Alumni House, P.O. Box 26170, Greensboro, NC 27402-6170. Mailed photos cannot be returned.



CORRECTIONS

An incorrect "Elizabeth Davis" photo was used in the spring issue's Legacies spread. (Woman's College had two Elizabeth Davises in the mid-1930s.)



Jennifer Hooks notes that her aunt, Frances Elizabeth Davis '38, was the oldest of four sisters and she endowed the Elizabeth Davis Hall Crumpler Scholarship. This is her photo from Pine Needles.

Latoya Jordan '06, seen in the spring issue's "Where Are They Now" feature, received a Certification of Completion from the University of Northern Colorado's Project CLIMB (Cultivating Legal Interpreters from Minority Backgrounds). This is not to be confused with the Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf, Inc.'s Specialist Certificate: Legal, which she does not hold. The testing for the latter certification has been on moratorium since 2016.



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The UNC Greensboro athletic department is
on probation for a four-year period which
began July 25, 2019, and will end on July 24,
2023. UNCG received a decision on July 25,
2019, on its Level I Mitigated case involving
NCAA violations of sports wagering. On April 7,
2020, UNCG received a decision on its Level II
Mitigated case involving impermissible recruit-
ing contacts by its former head men's soccer
coach. Both cases were resolved under the
negotiated resolution agreement approved by
the Division I Committee on Infractions panel.
For more details, visit www.uncgspartans.com.



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FORMER FACULTY/STAFF

JOHN EATMAN passed away February 3, 2022. Born in Wadesboro, N.C., he graduated with a mathematics degree and worked as a computer programmer for the U.S. Navy Defense Department. He taught business at a number of institutions, eventually settling into a long-time position at the Bryan School's Department of Information Systems. Since he was young he had a passion for tennis and both coached and played through most of his career.

AUBREY GARLINGTON died December 9, 2021. He was noted as a musicologist, opera expert, teacher, and author. He held a bachelor's degree in music from Baylor University, a master's degree in music history from the University of Chicago, and a PhD in musicology from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. In 1977, he joined the UNCG faculty, where he served as a professor of musicology until he retired in 1997.

DR. GEORGE KIORPES died April 27, 2022. He was professor of piano for 45 years at UNCG, where he received the Outstanding Teacher Award from the School of Music in 2002. Dr. Kiorpes published articles in national periodicals and for four years was editor of the North Carolina Music Teacher. As a pianist, he participated in solo, ensemble, and concerto performances throughout the United States and East Asia. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees as well as a performer's certificate in piano performance from the Peabody Conservatory of Music, and a doctorate of

musical arts from Boston University. He received the coveted Paul Thomas Prize for Outstanding Pianistic Achievement. For 57 years, Dr. Kiorpes was the Music Director at Greensboro's First Moravian Church.

DR. KAY ANN LOVELACE died November 23, 2021. She was an associate professor in the Department of Public Health Education for 26 years. Both a researcher and teacher, she was also a mentor to many undergraduate and graduate students, and she expressed the themes of equal access and social justice in her scholarship and in her teaching. In 2015, her work received a prestigious Robert Wood Johnson Foundation grant, which supported her investigation into the prevalence and efficacy of the use of evidence-based decision-making by local public health organizations. She is survived by her husband, Richard Bardolph Jr.

MARTHA RANSLEY passed away December 23, 2021. She retired from UNCG in 1997 as a librarian emeritus of Jackson Library, where she had served as head of the Reserve Division and later as head of the Circulation Department. While at UNCG, she was active in faculty government, serving as executive officer for the Academic Cabinet (now the Faculty Senate) and on many University committees. Upon her retirement, she set up the Jackson Library Staff Service Award, given annually to a support staff member who has given outstanding service to the library and the students and faculty of the University.

JOHN DAVID SMITH died January 9, 2022. After acquiring a doctoral degree from Teachers College, Columbia University, he served in various positions at different universities over his decades-long career. Before his retirement, he was faculty at UNCG. Over the course of his career, he published 14 books and nearly 100 articles on special education and intellectual disability. He was honored as a Fellow of the American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities and received the Burton Blatt Humanitarian Award from the Council for Exceptional Children.

JOAN FEENEY WESSMAN passed away December 17, 2021. A nurse and medical professional, she was executive vice president and chief nursing officer at Moses Cone Health System for a period of time. She had a bachelor of science degree in nursing from Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and a master of science in nursing administration from Ohio State University. At UNCG she was an adjunct instructor in Health and Human Sciences.



MYSTERY PLATE

Have you seen this plate? Perhaps one is hanging on a relative's wall – or your own?

We asked the experts of vintage tableware at Replacements, Ltd. to tell us what they knew.

"We still have a few of (those) plates in stock," said marketing and media relations manager Keith Winkler. A limited number are even available for purchase on their site. Their curating team receives 9,000 requests monthly to identify unique and older patterns.

"Prior to the 19th century, plates were primarily used as a utensil for holding and serving food," says Steve Hyatt, curator at Replacements, Ltd. "It was not until the mid to late 1930s that collectible commemorative plates became popular in the United States."

Journalist Jim Schlosser in a 2003 News & Record article reported on the Woman's College commemorative pieces, with Foust Building in the center and five other notable campus buildings inset around the perimeter. Produced by Adams China, they were sold at The Corner on Tate Street between 1955 and 1970. He interviewed UNCG professor emerita Dr. Kate Barrett, who'd collected 44 dinner and 12 salad plates for the University.

UNCG's Martha Blakeney Hodges Special Collections and University Archives has samples of several varieties of commemorative plates from the Woman's College era. In addition to the Adams China pieces, there are plates that feature the Alumni House produced by English earthenware makers Wedgwood circa 1940.



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