



## News Digest

March 20, 2017

### IN THIS ISSUE

- Graduate Student Loan Qualification Change
- Undergraduate Research Conference
- Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program
- Center for Teaching and Learning
- Guest Speakers: EPIC Energy Seminar, International Women's Day, Analytics Frontiers Conference
- Faculty Invitation to Visit Fort Jackson
- Information Technology Services Guidance

### Graduate Student Loan Qualification Change

#### Graduate Student Half-Time Enrollment Definition has Changed

UNC Charlotte's definition of graduate school half-time enrollment is changing beginning in Fall 2017. To help you prepare for questions you may receive from students on the change, please review the [posted information](#). Students with questions may contact the Office of Financial Aid at 704-687-5504 or [email their question](#). Graduate Program Directors may contact Johnna Watson in the Graduate School by email or at 704-687-7231.

[Read more >>](#)

### Undergraduate Research Conference

The 2017 UNC Charlotte Undergraduate Research Conference registration is open until Friday, March 24, 5:00 p.m.! Faculty, please encourage your undergraduate students who are involved with research to [apply for the URC](#).

The Undergraduate Research Conference (URC) is a university-wide showcase of research projects completed by undergraduate students of all levels from all colleges and departments in the university. The URC will be held on **Friday, April 21** in the **SAC**. The URC is sponsored by Academic Affairs, the Atkins Library, Charlotte Research Institute, the Honors College, and the Levine Scholars program.

The work presented can range from in-class projects to year-long honors theses and everything in between. In addition to departmental awards, sustainability, and Honors College awards, students have an optional opportunity to apply for an Atkins Library Undergraduate Research Award. Five Atkins awards of \$1000 each are awarded annually.

[Read more >>](#)

### Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program

The 2018-2019 competition for the [Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program](#) is now open. The Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program offers teaching, research and combination teaching/research awards in over 125 countries for the 2018-2019 academic year. Opportunities are available for college and university faculty and administrators as well as for professionals, artists, journalists, scientists, lawyers, independent scholars and many others. Interested faculty and professionals are encouraged to learn more about core Fulbright U.S. Scholar opportunities by visiting the online [Catalog of Awards](#).

## Center for Teaching and Learning

### Using Feedback to Improve Teaching & Learning

Join your colleagues, Dr. Kim Buch, Industrial/Organizational Psychologist in the Psychology Department, and Sam Eneman, Center for Teaching and Learning, as they provide an overview of tools and strategies for giving and receiving feedback – both traditional and technology-based – that can be easily incorporated into any course.

- Tuesday, March 21, 9:30 - 10:45 AM ([Register](#))
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### Students' Pathway to Success: A Faculty Guide – Learning How to Learn

In this session, we describe the goals associated with learning how to learn: learning basic academic skills, learning to inquire and construct knowledge, and learning how to be a self-directed learner. Leading this session from the Department of Geography & Earth Sciences are Jamie Strickland, Senior Lecturer and Bill Garcia, Senior Lecturer.

- Friday, March 24, 11:00 - 11:30 AM ([Register](#))

## Guest Speakers



### Opportunities for Growth in the BioEnergy Sector

There is tremendous growth opportunity in the BioEnergy sector. In fact, North Carolina ranks 3rd in the country in biogas potential in the country. Come hear Beth Anne Clark, Project Development Manager for Blue Sphere Corporation, discuss how Blue Sphere Corporation is leading the way in Waste to Energy (WTE) project development, harnessing the inherent value of our waste streams to power our world. In this presentation you will learn about the global problems addressed by WTE technology, and Blue Sphere's business model for bringing this technology to the U.S. and abroad. With a spotlight on anaerobic digestion, we will learn about the technology behind Blue Sphere's Charlotte facility. The largest facility of it's kind in the country, it is designed to generate 5.2 megawatts of electricity which is enough to power 2,500 homes and businesses year round. You will learn about policy drivers, strategic partnerships, and our focus on the agricultural waste resources prevalent here in NC. Finally we will take a look at how to derive the greatest value from biogas resources and evaluate where the BioEnergy market is headed.

- Tuesday, March 21, 12:30 - 1:30 PM ([Register](#))
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### International Women's Day Film Screening and Discussion with Dr. Eylem Atakav

Dr. Eylem Atakav is Senior Lecturer in Film and Television Studies at the University of East Anglia, United Kingdom, where she teaches courses on women, Islam media, and Middle Eastern media. She is the recipient of 2016 Society for Cinema and Media Studies Outstanding Contribution to Pedagogy Award, and has recently been selected as a HEA National Teaching Fellow. She is the author of *Women and Turkish Cinema: Gender Politics, Cultural Identity and Representation* (2012) and editor of *Directory of World Cinema: Turkey* (Intellect, 2013). She is the director of *Growing Up Married* - an internationally acclaimed documentary about forced marriage and child brides in Turkey. Join the Office of International Programs in collaboration with the 2017 International Film Festival as we watch and discuss *Growing Up Married*.

- Monday, March 27, 6:30 - 8:00 PM

[Read more >>](#)

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## Analytics Frontiers Conference

Nate Silver, renowned statistician, data journalist, and best-selling author, will be in Charlotte as a keynote for the Analytics Frontiers Conference, hosted by UNC Charlotte's Data Science Initiative. This unique event is open to UNC Charlotte students, faculty and staff. No RSVP is required but seating is limited. First come, first seated. Doors open at 7:30 pm.

- Wednesday, March 29, 8:30 PM

[Read more >>](#)

## Faculty Invitation

### Invitation for Faculty to Visit Fort Jackson

Like to see Army training up close? Spend time with Army Education Service Officers? Understand the experiences your veteran students bring to the classroom? Consider the Army Educator Tour to Fort Jackson, S.C., May 23-25, 2017. You'll travel by charter coach to Fort Jackson (about 90 minutes). You'll speak with soldiers, observe various types of training, visit the Education Center, and attend a basic training graduation. Lodging will be in a Columbia, S.C., hotel. All meal and lodging expenses reimbursed by the U.S. Government. To register, contact Graduate School Assistant Dean Alan Freitag, [arfreita@uncc.edu](mailto:arfreita@uncc.edu) or x77312 by noon Thursday, Mar. 23.

## Information Technology Services



### IT Project Submissions

Considering a small, medium or large-scale technology project over the next 18 months? There's a quick, easy way to do it through April 17! Even if you think your idea won't happen until next year, ITS wants to know so they can start a conversation with you. To learn more: [see this message](#).

## Dissertation Defenses

The dissertation defense is one of the ways a new scholar demonstrates readiness to join the academy and is an opportunity to share their research widely.

Topics include:

- The Butterfly Highway: Connecting People and Nature
- Theory, Characterization and Applications of Infrared Hyperbolic Metamaterials
- There are Two Sides to Every Story: The Veteran's Perspective on Socialization

[View All Dissertation Defense Announcements](#)

## Upcoming Events

- Mar 20** [International Film Festival \(listings\)](#)
- Mar 21** [Personally Speaking with Peter Thorsheim](#)
- Mar 21** [Spring Study Abroad Fair](#)
- Mar 23** [This Muslim American Life in the Age of Trump](#)
- Mar 23** [Global Origins of the Great War](#)
- Mar 24** [Religion and Power Conference](#)
- Mar 24** Registration Deadline: [Undergraduate Research Conference](#)
- Mar 25** [Chancellor's Fishing Derby](#)
- Mar 27** [Growing Up Married Screening and Discussion](#)
- Mar 28** [12th Annual UNC Charlotte International Women's Day Celebration](#)
- Mar 29** [Dixie Airey Retirement Reception](#)
- Mar 29** [Celebration of Confucius Institute](#)

- Mar 30** [Lecture: William Worthy's Passport](#)  
**Mar 30** [US-China Relations Under Trump Administration](#)  
**Apr 4** [International Career Panel](#)  
**Apr 6** [International Coffee Hour](#)
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*The OAA News Digest is distributed each Monday to Academic Affairs Faculty and Staff.  
Deadline for submission is 11:00 a.m. every Friday.*