News Digest
October 2, 2017

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New Degree Programs

The Office of Academic Affairs is pleased to announce that the University of North Carolina Board of Governors has approved a request to establish a new degree program: M.S. in Architecture (enrollment begins Fall 2018). Please make changes to your records accordingly.

Religious Accommodation for Students

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte is committed to diversity, non-discrimination and inclusiveness, and to supporting its students, regardless of religious affiliation or non-affiliation, in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations. As part of this commitment, the University makes good faith efforts to accommodate a student's religious practice or belief, unless such accommodation would create undue hardship. As a reminder, UNC Charlotte established University Policy 409, Religious Accommodation for Students. This policy (1) authorizes a minimum of two excused absences each academic year for religious observances required by the faith of a student; and (2) provides students the opportunity to make up any tests or other work missed due to an excused absence for a religious observance. For details, please review the policy in the link above. Additionally, a Calendar of Major Religious Holidays is available on the UNC Charlotte Diversity website. A link to this webpage is also available from the Academic Calendar on the Office of the Registrar’s website.

Faculty Phased Retirement

UNC Charlotte is pleased to offer faculty the flexibility of the Phased Retirement Program. Phased Retirement enables a faculty member to enjoy the benefits of retirement while still teaching part-time for a three year period. Enrollment for 2018-2019 begins October 1. For details and eligibility requirements, visit the Phased Retirement website.

Library Happenings

Atkins as Art Contest

Atkins is calling student artists to submit images of the Atkins Library building, in any medium, that reflects its role in their academic experience and/or the community! The deadline to enter is October 31. Submitted artwork will be judged by a panel of UNC Charlotte faculty members. Judging will be completed by Thanksgiving. Details at library.uncc.edu/AtkinsAsArtContest. Faculty - please share with your students!
Green Delivery Bags
Atkins Library’s supply of Express Delivery Bags is running low! If you have any of the library’s green canvas bags in your office, please send them back to us as soon as possible via campus mail. We appreciate your help!

Recreational Services Updates

SAC/Belk Membership Survey
The Department of Recreational Services would appreciate your feedback on SAC/Belk Memberships. Let them know what you think by completing the survey. Rec Services will use this information to make the best decisions possible for future programs and schedules.

Dedicated Faculty/Staff Workout Times
Rec Services is providing a dedicated workout time in the SAC Fitness Center from now through October 5, 6:00-7:30 AM. This exclusive Faculty & Staff workout time is only open to those who currently have a Gold or Green (SAC/Belk) Membership. If you would like to purchase a membership, please review the membership package information online at or stop by the Recreational Services office (Belk Gym 108).

Free Faculty/Staff Use of Belk Gym
During school breaks such as Fall Break, Winter Break, Spring Break, and Spring/Summer Interim Break, Rec Services provides a trial period for faculty and staff to use the Belk Gym for free. Upcoming fall break free gym periods are:

- Monday, October 9, 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM
- Tuesday, October 10, 7:00 AM - 11:00 PM
- Group fitness classes will be held both days at 12:00 PM and 5:15 PM.

Upcoming Training Opportunities

Personal Digital Archiving Workshop
Learn basic strategies for personally saving your important photos, videos, documents, messages, social media posts, blogs, websites, etc. from accidental (or malicious!) loss.

- Wednesday, October 4, 5:30 - 7:00 PM, Atkins 125

What Is Contract Cheating and What Can We Do About It?
Contract cheating is an emerging threat to the academic integrity of institutions of higher learning. Join Turnitin and the International Center for Academic Integrity (ICAI) for a webcast in support of the 2nd Annual International Day of Action Against Contract Cheating. Dr. Tricia Bertram Gallant will overview the phenomenon known as contract cheating, what institutions can do to prevent it, and what faculty can do to detect it.

- Tuesday, October 10, 3:00 PM (Register)

Writing a Competitive Grant Proposal
Identical sessions are planned. The workshop will cover the following topics: developing “fundable” ideas, understanding the expectations of external sponsors, matching your ideas to sponsors’ needs, understanding the characteristics of a good proposal, writing for review panels, and creating a timeline for proposal development. Information is at an introductory level and is not intended for those with extensive proposal-writing experience.

- Wednesday, October 11, and Thursday, October 12, 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM, Student Union 263

Designing Your Proposal Budget
Identical sessions are planned. This session will help you learn how to calculate project costs. It will provide an introduction to budgeting terminology used by funding agencies, including a discussion of allowable costs, cost sharing, and the difference between direct and indirect costs. We will also discuss the importance of writing a strong budget justification. While this session is intended for those who are new to writing proposals, it may also be useful for those who want a refresher on allowable costs, cost sharing and other issues related to proposal budgets.

- Wednesday, November 1, and Thursday, November 2, 11:00 AM - 12:15 PM, Student Union 263

**Funding for International Education Week Programming**

Limited funding is available through OIP to support and co-sponsor departmentally-organized initiatives which advance campus internationalization for inclusion in International Education Week 2017. Faculty are encouraged to submit programs for inclusion in this week of lectures, presentations, and performances organized each November to celebrate our campus commitment to global and international understanding. Find event submission and funding request forms as well as listings of events from previous celebrations at global.uncc.edu. Deadline: Friday, October 20.

**Craft Beer Business Essentials Certificate**

Business is brewing in the Queen City . . . UNC Charlotte Continuing Education launched a new noncredit certificate, [Craft Beer Business Essentials](https://global.uncc.edu), in response to this industry boom in the region and state. Registration is open for classes starting Spring 2018. The certificate is designed as an accelerated entrepreneurship or business fundamentals curriculum for homebrewers or others interested in brewery or related business start-up as well as those who are seeking employment within the craft beverage industry. The courses cover business law/legal issues; business plan development/financing/accounting; marketing and brand management; and operations and personnel management. [Read more >>](https://global.uncc.edu)

### Upcoming Events

**THIS WEEK:**

- **Oct 2** Fall Workshops and Classes in the Botanical Gardens
- **Oct 2** Sean Caulfield: Air Bleeder (Art)
- **Oct 3** Textual Recycling
- **Oct 5** New South Storytellers in the Afternoon: Legacies of Slavery in Mecklenburg County
- **Oct 5** International Coffee Hour
- **Oct 6** Arabic Calligraphy Workshop
- **Oct 6** Ethical Challenges and Biosurveillance

**NEXT WEEK:**

- **Oct 11** Staff Council Fall Festival
- **Oct 11** Brown-Bag Botanicals: Fabulous Fall Containers
- **Oct 13** Fall Plant Sale at the UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens
- **Oct 14** International Festival

**UPCOMING:** https://provost.uncc.edu/about-academic-affairs/weekly-news-digest/upcoming-events

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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.