Welcome to Campus Weekly

Vote-ready! Election season resources for Spartans

The 2020 election season is in full swing, and UNC Greensboro is working to ensure that Spartans are informed and supported during the voting process, especially for those who are voting and developing civic habits for the first time.

Following are resources and information to help faculty, staff, and students navigate socially-distanced voting options and participate in civic engagement activities and workshops.

Voting locations and crucial information

The UNC System recently shared employee voting policy updates. See a summary of those policies here.
Early voting is available at UNCG’s Leonard J. Kaplan Center for Wellness, in Conference Room B, through Saturday Oct. 31. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. – 7:30 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., except for Oct. 31 when the site closes at 3 p.m. If you didn’t register before the Oct. 9th deadline you can do same-day registration and vote at the same time at an early voting site.

See a full list of Guilford County early voting sites [here](#).

Election Day voting is available at UNCG’s Elliott University Center in the Dail Room, Tuesday, Nov. 3, 6:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. for individuals registered in Guilford County. No registration changes or new registrants will be accepted on Election Day.

Complimentary parking will be available for voters in any unreserved spots in Walker Deck.

Curbside voting will be available at the Alumni House Service Drive. Once parked in a designated curbside space, voters will need to call the number listed on the posted sign to have an official come out to assist.

The deadline to request a NC absentee ballot and vote by mail is Oct. 27 at 5 p.m. To request an absentee ballot, you must have registered to vote by Oct. 9. Persons who met the Oct. 9 deadline may request their ballot [here](#). You can check the status of your absentee ballot request or submission [here](#). Persons who did not meet meet the Oct. 9 deadline, or who are not yet registered in a county, may register to vote, and vote, during the early voting period. This process is called “same-day registration”. If you do choose to register during early voting you will need to fill out a voter registration form and provide a valid form of identification. In some cases, you may need to bring proof of residency. Learn more about proof of residency [here](#).

**Events**

The Office of Leadership and Civic Engagement will host the following events leading up to, during, and after the election. Halloween-themed “Voting Isn’t Scary” station Moran Commons, Oct. 29, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Election Day information station College Ave, Nov. 3, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

“Voting 101” workshops. Faculty and students are encouraged to sign up for these sessions with trained student voter engagement fellows and OLCE staff. Workshops cover the importance of voting, UNCG voting rates, current voter registration requirements, and how and where voting takes place. Participants will have the opportunity to register to vote during this workshop. All content is non-partisan and friendly to all political ideologies. This
program can be tailored to fit a 15 or 30-minute time block. To schedule a workshop please contact Kristina Gage at kristina.gage@uncg.edu or (336) 256-1406.

**Post-Election Dialogue** Nov. 4 and 5, 4 – 6 p.m. Students can access the Zoom link and RSVP on Spartan Connect. Students are invited to connect with other students for a post-election dialogue to debrief, reflect, and process the results of the election (even if they aren’t final). In addition to this space for civil dialogue, participants will also learn about further ways to engage civically and find resources to help cope with stress and anxiety. This event is co-hosted by the Office of Leadership and Civic Engagement, Office of Intercultural Engagement, and the Dean of Students Office. Please email Kristina Gage at kmsnader@uncg.edu with any questions or accessibility needs.

**Civic Engagement Academy (Spring 2020).** This semester-long academy is designed to grow student’s civic engagement knowledge, skills, values, and actions through a series of workshops and programs, which are now offered online. Through this workshop, students can build connections with other civically-minded students from across campus while learning more about their role as an engaged community member. Spring Academy dates coming soon.

**Resources**

For detailed information about early voting procedures, voter registration, researching your ballot, and other frequently asked questions please visit and encourage students to visit [https://olce.uncg.edu/students/voting/](https://olce.uncg.edu/students/voting/).

The University Teaching and Learning Commons has built a page of resources for faculty regarding pedagogy related to difficult dialogues and self care.

UNCG has a specific Chalking Policy that applies to any and all messages on University sidewalks, including those by students, registered student organizations, UNCG community members, faculty, staff, and external businesses and individuals. Find the policy here.

Follow the Office of Leadership and Civic Engagement’s social channels @UNCG_OLCE or visit the OLCE voting webpage at [https://olce.uncg.edu/students/voting/](https://olce.uncg.edu/students/voting/).

The UNCG Counseling Center will host several drop-in Zoom support groups that may help students navigate stress related to the elections. Their regular Friday “What’s Going On” group that meets at 2 p.m. will have the following themes

- Friday Oct. 30: Coping with election stress
Friday Nov. 6: Political stress and post-election processing

There is also a Weekly Mindfulness & Meditation group, Thursdays at 1 p.m.

The Counseling Center offers same-day services for crisis situations and can be reached at (336) 334-5874.

A new Election Stress Kit is available from the UNCG Counseling Center that gives tips and resources on coping with current national political discourse. Find it here.

Remember to download the UNCG Mobile app, where you will receive urgent notifications, access resources, and stay informed with this useful tool. Download from the Google or iTunes app store app to receive push notifications directly to your phone.

The Healthy Relationships Initiative produced the 90-minute program “How to Maintain Healthy Relationships During Election Season” via Facebook. In the session, a panel of UNCG experts shared insights and strategies to help people understand and navigate tension and conflict during a time of heightened political tension.

Questions related to elections or political activity on campus can be directed to Nikki Baker, nikki.baker@uncg.edu, 336-209-1643.

Compiled by Susan Kirby-Smith and Matt Bryant, University Communications
Photography by Jiyoung Park, University Communications

UNCG receives Dollar Tree funding for local literacy program
Cottage Gardens Resource Center staff Deanelle Thompson (left) and Tiarra Brown (right)

UNC Greensboro’s Center for Housing and Community Studies (CHCS) has been awarded a Dollar Tree Literacy Foundation grant to support an after-school reading enrichment program in Greensboro.

The new program will be part of the CHCS Cottage Gardens Resource Center, a community space that addresses education and health and wellness needs in the Cottage Grove neighborhood.

Just 17% of third-grade students in Cottage Grove read at grade level. Studies show that if a student is not at reading level by the third grade, it becomes increasingly difficult to catch up. Additionally, poor literacy skills have a ripple effect across the life course – approximately 75% of high school dropouts and at least 50% of youth with justice-involvement report some degree of difficulty reading.

The Dollar Tree funding will be used to create a virtual library to supplement the Cottage Gardens Resource Center’s lending library. UNCG will provide 10 Amazon Kindle Fire tablets, which feature a library of 20,000 books, apps, videos, Audible books, music, and other materials.

“Having access to age-appropriate, graduated reading materials is a key part of building literacy,” said Dr. Stephen Sills, principal investigator on the grant, CHCS director, and
professor of sociology. “After-school programs like the one at Cottage Gardens are a good venue for literacy programming. By making reading materials easily available and engaging, as well as providing youth a variety of fun reading activities, we are motivating them to read more.”

The program has four primary components:

- A daily 30-minute “read-a-loud” time led by UNCG student workers
- One-on-one university and community volunteer reading pals
- Monthly “readers’ theater” for great comprehension through dramatization of stories
- Quarterly library fields trips and family literacy events

This fall, Sills and his research team are purchasing books, tablets, and other instructional materials and conducting a benchmark assessment of students’ literacy. In November, the team will begin programming. The program will be monitored and evaluated by UNCG’s Dr. Kenneth Gruber.

The Dollar Tree grant award is part of more than $4 million in grants awarded this fall to nearly 850 nonprofit organizations, libraries, and schools across 46 states.

To learn more about CHCS, visit chcs.uncg.edu. If you are interested in volunteering with the literacy program, please contact Deanelle Thompson via email at dvthompson@uncg.edu.

Story by Alyssa Bedrosian, University Communications
Photography by Martin W. Kane, University Communications

**LGBTQ history course embarks on virtual field trips**
Dr. Parsons and her students used Google tools to virtually “visit” the Pauli Murray House in Durham, North Carolina. Students explored how Murray, a civil rights and women’s rights activist, crossed gender boundaries throughout her life, including changing her name from Anna to Pauli and partnering with a woman.

How can an in-person course be transformed into an exciting, engaging online experience? That’s the question that professors across the country have been grappling with this semester.

At UNC Greensboro, history professor Dr. Anne Parsons is taking a page out of her “aunt playbook.”

Over the summer, Parsons created virtual field trips for her niece and nephew. They used Google Maps and Google Street View to “visit” Paris, London, and Venice, participated in 3D museum tours, and had discussions about their virtual experiences.

As she prepared to launch a new LGBTQ History and Public Memory course this fall, Parsons decided to take the same “virtual field trip” concept she used with her family and adapt it for college students. She worked closely with Anita Warfford, instructional technology consultant for the College of Arts and Sciences, to frame the course – originally designed for face-to-face instruction – around these virtual trips. Parsons also participated in an 8-week online learning training for faculty offered by UNCG’s University Teaching and
“Who doesn’t love a good field trip? There’s something about the spirit of visiting a place, even if it’s from our couch,” Parsons said. “Instead of just reading about these people and places, we’ve been able to visit houses and cities and really explore the sites where history happens.”

Throughout the semester, Parsons and her students have visited key sites of LGBTQ history. They’ve taken advantage of 3D tours offered by the sites themselves, as was the case for the Jane Addams Hull-House Museum in Chicago.

“We were actually their very first virtual tour group ever,” Parsons said. “A tour guide took us around the 3D space. We learned about the history of Jane Addams, the settlement house reform movement, and the history of gender and sexuality and lesbian relationships.”

For sites that don’t have their own 3D tours, such as the Pauli Murray House in Durham, Parsons has employed Google tools and other online content, in addition to interviewing museum staff and sharing those recorded conversations with her students.

Earlier this month, students participated in a newly-created 3D virtual tour of the Stonewall Inn, a site that is recognized as the birthplace of today’s LGBTQ rights movement.
Jorgensen was widely known for having underwent gender reassignment surgery in the 1950s.

Not only are students learning about the key people, places, and moments of LGBTQ history, but they’re critically thinking about how this history is interpreted and remembered.

“We’re talking about how historians, preservationists, and curators remember things,” Parsons said. “How do they make markers, interpret buildings, and create tours? How are they grappling with LGBTQ history?”

For student Nakia Johns, a senior majoring in women’s, gender, and sexuality studies, it’s been an impactful course that has really come alive thanks to the virtual field trips.

“You can read all you want, but to truly understand something, you really need to see it and have that tangible experience,” Johns said. “The virtual tours and exhibits have been monumental. This has been one of my favorite classes at UNCG.”

Parsons has worked hard to develop an engaging, multimodal course. But above all, she’s focused on creating a positive experience for her students during what has been a semester unlike any other.

“My hope is that we’re learning about LGBTQ history, we’re learning about what gets remembered and what doesn’t, and we’re also just having some fun. It’s such a difficult time right now as we try to teach and learn during a pandemic. I’m really trying to create an inquisitive, fun learning environment for my students.”

Story by Alyssa Bedrosian, University Communications

UNCG professor selected by UNC System for Literacy Fellows program
Dr. Christie Cavanaugh (School of Education, Special Education Services) has been selected by the UNC System as one of eight Literacy Fellows as part of the UNC System Literacy Framework Development Initiative. The initiative is a result of the Board of Governors’ Resolution on Teacher Preparation. The resolution calls for the UNC System Office to develop a common framework for literacy instruction in teacher preparation, to be adopted by all educator preparation programs in the System.

The Literacy Fellows will work together to develop a detailed framework for what graduates of UNC System educator preparation programs should know and be able to do when they begin teaching elementary school students to read. The framework will be based on the latest scientific research into the essential components of reading and will align with statutory requirements and other statewide literacy initiatives.

“All children need knowledgeable and skilled teachers if they are going to learn to read during early elementary grades and receive appropriate support when it’s not so easy for them. We can help make this happen, and I am honored and committed to playing a meaningful role,” explained Dr. Cavanaugh, a Fellow from UNCG’s School of Education.

The new framework will ensure that graduates of elementary and special education general curriculum programs in the UNC System have an in-depth understanding of reading as a process involving the ability to hear and create sounds, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

The Fellows are drawn from across the UNC System’s educator preparation programs. The individuals were selected from a robust pool of applicants and represent a wealth of experience, research, and knowledge of evidence-based literacy practice.
Expanded Biographical Information is available at:

These Fellows began developing the framework for teaching literacy in educator preparation programs within the UNC System in August 2020. Once this framework is finalized, the Fellows will support the System-wide implementation of this new tool to help North Carolina’s newest educators teach their future students how to read and write. The Fellows will also develop a self-assessment tool, which educator preparation programs can use to evaluate their implementation of the new framework.

Research shows that students who are able to read on grade-level by the end of 3rd grade are more likely to graduate from high school, enroll in post-secondary education, earn a college degree or credential, and experience economic success in adulthood. Currently, only 36 percent of North Carolina’s fourth graders scored proficient in reading in 2019, with just over 20 percent of low-income fourth-graders reading on grade level, according to the 2019 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP).

Story by Eden Bloss, University Communications

**October concerts: virtual and socially-distanced**
Andy Hudson

As the semester continues, UNCG is hosting a number of performing arts events. See information on a selection of Zoom concerts and discussions, a live-streamed play, and a socially-distanced performance at the Tew Recital Hall.

- Assistant Professor of Clarinet, Andy Hudson, will perform an in-person recital October 2. The performance will have limited audience spots to ensure proper social distancing, and will require face coverings at all times. Oct. 2, 7:30 p.m. [See for more details.]
- Beyond the Keys: Unlocking Piano Works. Students of Annie Jeng’s Piano Pedagogy course UNCG Music Teacher’s Student Association Collegiate Chapter will perform a series of solo piano works linked to discussion and storytelling, with two virtual concerts on Oct. 2. [Read more.]
- UNCG Theatre’s performance of Marisol, by José Rivera, will be available for on-demand streaming October 15-17. The play, described as an “apocalyptic comedy of urban realities and guardian angels” by Playbill.com, will also be the subject of a Zoom Frame/Works discussion October 19. Tickets are only $5. [See more information and how to buy tickets.]
- October 16, the Red Clay Saxophone Quartet will perform the world premiere of Martin Bresnick’s Mending Time, as well as other pieces. They will be joined on some pieces by Jia-Yu Yang and Lewis Lu. The performance is free, but pre-registration is required. [Register here.]
- Jennica Swanston Baker, Assistant Professor of Ethnomusicology at the University of Chicago, will give a presentation titled “Armed with Sound: Noisy Women and the Beginning of the West Indies Labor Movement” on October 16 as part of the Irna Priore Music and Culture Lecture Series. [See more information here.]

Compiled by Avery Campbell
Photography courtesy of Andy Hudson

School of Nursing hosts drive-through flu shot clinic during Homecoming
A School of Nursing student administers a flu shot during the drive-through clinic.

A gray SUV carrying three generations of the same family pulled into the parking lot behind the Weatherspoon Art Museum on Saturday morning.

Daniela Chala ‘16 had heard about the free flu shot clinic that the UNC Greensboro School of Nursing hosts every year as part of Homecoming festivities.

She decided to bring her partner, mother, aunt, and grandmother with her this year, so all five of them could get flu shots as the family prepares to welcome its newest member.

“My sister is pregnant, and they recommended that everybody have the flu shot since the baby is almost due,” Chala said. “That was very helpful.”

A dozen UNCG nursing students set up tables, chairs, and two canopies and turned a portion of Lot 7 on UNCG’s campus into a drive-through flu shot clinic last Saturday. They gave out 58 free flu shots that Cone Health provided during the clinic.

The first participants arrived around 10:30 a.m., and they remained in their vehicles with face coverings on to limit any possible exposure to the coronavirus.

Working in small teams, the nursing students – all but one of them a senior – spoke with participants and had them answer a series of health and coronavirus-related questions. They
then administered the flu shots and monitored the participants for any adverse reactions to it.

Dr. Audrey Snyder, the School of Nursing’s associate dean for experiential learning and innovation, and nursing faculty members Dr. Carolyn Hoskins and Dr. Timothy Sowicz stood by to assist the students.

“With COVID-19, it is important to get a flu shot this year to protect yourself, your family, co-workers, and community. There were some first-time flu shot participants, and we applaud them for coming out,” Snyder said. “This event provided the opportunities to build student skill and confidence and to share the importance of giving back to UNCG alumni and the greater community.”

The School of Nursing has traditionally held a free flu shot clinic during Homecoming week. Close to 900 flu shots have been given out at the event over the past six years.

*Story and photography by Alex Abrams, School of Nursing*

**CVPA Virtual Masterclass Series presents Danny Glover**
UNCG’s College of Visual and Performing Arts Virtual Masterclass Series presents actor Danny Glover on Friday, October 30, 2020 from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. The virtual session can be viewed at go.uncg.edu/danny.glover

The event is open to all UNCG faculty, staff, and students only, and will be co-moderated by School of Theatre director Natalie Sowell and professor of acting and directing Jim Wren.

Danny Glover is an award-winning actor, producer, and humanitarian with a performance career that spans more than 30 years. From the blockbuster Lethal Weapon franchise in film, to hit television shows such as ER, Glover has portrayed a myriad of popular roles and has distinguished himself as one of his generation’s most consummate actors. Glover’s performances in such classic motion pictures as The Color Purple, Witness, and Places in the Heart, have not only showcased his talent and versatility but have also brought him critical and audience acclaim. Honored with Awards from the NAACP, BET, and SAG, Glover has also received several Emmy nominations for his work in such Television hits as Lonesome Dove.
Christina Endres

Christina Endres (SERVE Center) received new funding from the Indiana Department of Education for the project “McKinney Vento Liaison Certification.”

The SERVE Center staff will develop an online training course for the Indiana Department of Education to provide professional development for all McKinney Vento district liaisons. This online course will review the requirements of the assigned role and provide resources to help execute the role responsibilities with a focus on compliance and best practice when supporting homeless children and youth in the school and community setting.

Kathelene Smith

Kathelene Smith (University Libraries) received new funding from the State Library of North Carolina, Department of Natural and Cultural Resources for the project “Building Partnerships for Student Success.” Tammy Gruer is co-principal investigator on the project.

North Carolina educators have a documented need for professional development resources to effectively find and evaluate primary sources and incorporate the use of primary sources in their classrooms. The NC Government & Heritage Library and the UNC Greensboro University Libraries have partnered to create a project that will address this need by developing a program that provides teachers the opportunity to attend workshops delivering
expert instruction on primary sources that can be customized to the needs of school districts statewide.

Through this project, and in consultation with an advisory group that will be established, the planning committee will identify K-12 district partners, create workshop curriculum and assessment tools, and develop application and selection criteria. Once K-12 partners are identified, schools in the district or region will be invited to send teams of teachers (Media Specialist, English Language Arts, and Social Studies) to the workshop; this team attendance format will help schools develop their own multi-disciplinary approach to implementing the knowledge gained in the workshop. The K-12 partners will come from regions of highest need and will be identified through the Hometown Strong Initiative and NC Department of Commerce County Distress Rankings.

Dr. Arthur Murphy

Dr. Arthur Murphy (Anthropology) received new funding from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services for the project “Recipe for Success in North Carolina.”

Recipe for Success, in collaboration with public and private entities in Guilford, Randolph, Rockingham, Davie, Davidson and Stokes counties in North Carolina, provides direct nutrition and obesity prevention education, social marketing, and policy, systems and environmental change programs to individuals and households who are SNAP recipients/eligible, specifically targeting:

1. Individuals over the age of 18 from a variety of socio-economic groups who participate in programs hosted by mental health associations, veteran’s associations, faith-based organizations, etc.
2. Children under age 18 who attend Title 1 schools and their associated after school and summer recreational programs.
3. Households with children under the age of 18 through nine direct mail lessons in cooperation with county DHHS offices.

Dr. Paul Davis
Dr. Paul Davis (Kinesiology) received new funding from Cone Health System for the project “BELT Program (2020-2021).” The goal of this project is to continue operation of an ongoing sustainable exercise component of the Bariatric Surgery Program known as the Bariatric Exercise Lifestyle Transformation Program.

Dr. Stephen Sills

Dr. Stephen Sills (Center for Housing and Community Studies) received new funding from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation for the project “CHCS Cottage Gardens Resource Center – Afterschool Reading Enrichment Program.” Dr. Kenneth Gruber is co-principal investigator on the project.

The low socio-economic status in the Cottage Grove neighborhood has resulted in a cycle of poverty, perpetuated by poor academic achievement. Only 17% of third grade students were reading on grade level in 2017 (EOG scores, Hampton Elementary, Guilford County Schools). Accordingly, if a student is not at reading level by the third grade, it becomes increasingly difficult to “catch up” with their peers, putting the student at a significant disadvantage for the remainder of their schooling and on to their professional careers and social development (GCS, 2009).

The effects of poor literacy skills can have a ripple effect across the life course. According to
a study conducted by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association, there is a
collection between adverse life conditions and poor reading and writing skills (2019).
Approximately 75% of school high school dropouts and at least 50% of youth with justice-
involve ment report some degree of reading difficulty.

The UNCG Center for Housing and Community Studies (CHCS) Cottage Gardens Resource
Center (CGRC) opened in June 2019 in a low-income apartment complex in the center of the
Cottage Grove neighborhood. The CGRC offers a nursing clinic and counseling outreach, as
wel l as a children’s after-school educational, enrichment, and entertainment (aka, E3
program) three days a week throughout the year for children between Kindergarten and 6th
grade.

Drawing upon best practices from the Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory (NREL)
and the National Center for Quality Afterschool (NCQA), the researchers are further
advancing their efforts to promote an engaging and high-quality literacy program to raise
reading achievement. Targeted after-school programs have been found to be a good venue
for literacy programming as they provide an environment that respects the local
community’s interests, validates neighborhood voices, affirms existing social connections,
and celebrates a community’s unique culture (Halpern, 2003).

Their program will include: a daily 30 minute read-a-loud time led by student workers from
education and human development majors, grouped by reading skills, and designed to
“model fluent and expressive reading, and to build important literacy skills such as
comprehension” (NCQA); one-on-one university and community volunteer reading pals to
practice fluency (NREL); a monthly “readers’ theater” for greater comprehension through
dramatization of stories (NCQA & NREL) led by our AmeriCorps worker; and quarterly
library field trips and family literacy events for greater community engagement around
reading (NREL) supervised by CHCS staff.

Newsmakers: Wahlheim, unsung Civil Rights heroes,
student voting, Kuperberg, Dunkin’ collaboration

Whether researchers with timely insights or students with outstanding stories, members of
the UNCG community appear in print, web and broadcast media every day. Here is a
sampling of UNCG-related stories in the news and media over the week:

• A study by Dr. Christopher Wahlheim and his research team on the relationship
  between memory and fake news, was featured in Forbes. The piece.
• WUNC 91.5 interviewed Atigre Farmer, Matthew Barr, and Dr. Torren Gatson about
  the “Unsung Heroes of the Civil Rights Movement” project. Listen here.
• Several UNCG students spoke to MyFox8 about the importance of the youth vote. The piece.
• Dr. Arielle Kuperberg was quoted in a piece in the Fayetteville Observer about political disagreements in families. The article.
• The News & Record highlighted the UNCG collaboration with Dunkin’ to raise money for the Spartan Open Pantry. Read more.