Join us for Family Weekend 2012
A not-to-be-missed opportunity to connect with your student and UNC Charlotte

The Office of Parent and Family Services has been working hard preparing for this year’s Family Weekend and the time is near! Family Weekend 2012 is jam-packed with lots of fun activities and sessions designed to help you reconnect with your student and further your connection with our University. Family Weekend will take place September 28 through the 30th - and it’s getting bigger and better every year!

This event officially kicks off on Friday at 6:00pm with registration where parents will pick up registration materials. There will be various activities for you to participate in throughout the evening including a walkthrough of UNC Charlotte’s Police Department mobile command center, watching the movies ‘Hangover 2’ or ‘Ted’ at the Student Union Movie Theater (the first movie begins at 5:00pm), a reception with Chancellor Dubois and his wife Lisa Lewis Dubois, a Spotlight Recital featuring UNC Charlotte students, and a women’s soccer match. The night will be capped off with our exciting Student Union Takeover, filled with games, music and more!

Saturday will be filled with more fun activities. Parents and family members will have the pleasure of viewing a presentation from our very own Dr. Oscar Lansen who was nominated by the student body as their favorite professor. During Saturday morning and afternoon, families will have the option of participating in the Venture’s High Ropes course (which requires a small fee), viewing a presentation by the University Career Center, volunteering in ‘Operation Sandwich’ making peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the Urban Ministry Center, and viewing a study abroad presentation.

Our flagship event on Saturday, the International Festival, will take place from 10:00am- 6:00pm and is one of UNC Charlotte’s and community’s most celebrated events. Participants will have the opportunity to enjoy food, dance, clothing, and culture from dozens of different countries. This is guaranteed to be an experience you will not forget!

The options for the remainder of the evening will consist of a dinner on your own at one of our Student Union eateries, catching a movie at the Student Union Theater or watching the Second City Comedy tour (requires a small fee for non-students). Second City, specializing in improvisation and sketch comedy, has been delighting audiences for over 50 years and is guaranteed to bring lots of laughs and lots of fun to Family Weekend!

Parents can top off their weekend by watching the women’s soccer team who will take on Xavier at the TransAmerica field Sunday afternoon.

The office of Parent and Family Services is dedicated to making this event meaningful and fun for ALL family members. We hope that you join us for Family Weekend to see what UNC Charlotte is all about! If you have not already registered, do so now at parents.uncc.edu.

See you September 28!

The Charlotte Courtyard University and SpringHill Suites University by Marriott Hotels has partnered with the Dean of Students Office to provide Family Weekend participants with a special $104 weekday and $84 weekend preferred rate. Please consider these options when you visit for Family Weekend. Visit parents.uncc.edu for more information.

– Laura Rowland

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Each year, the UNC Charlotte International Festival celebrates the people, places, and cultures represented in our community. The arts, crafts, costumes, food, music, and dance of nearly 50 countries and ethnic groups are presented in colorful booths to create a vibrant atmosphere of global exploration. Visit them all and it is as if you’ve traveled the world in a day!

The entertainment line-up starts at 10:00am and continues throughout the day. Children are invited to explore the world from inside the 22’ Earth Balloon and to document their ‘travels’ throughout the day with the Passport Project.

Food, art, crafts and more are also available for purchase from many of the vendors.

In addition to the hallmark elements, the 2012 International Festival will include a new feature – an international games area for attendees of all ages to participate in and learn about the cultural significance of various games. Participants can learn the rules of bocce, play a game of life-sized chess, or join in on a soccer match.

Last year, Festival attendance was estimated at over 10,000 – a substantial increase over the years from the campus’ first celebration in 1975 which had several hundred in attendance.

Over 700 hours of student volunteer work and countless hours of support from partners across campus and in the community make the event possible. The festival is also made possible, in part, with funding by the Arts & Science Council, the N.C. Arts Council, a division of the Department of Cultural Resources, as well as the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that ‘a great nation deserves great art’.

Rain or shine, the International Festival will be held from 10:00am – 6:00pm in and around the Barnhardt Student Activity Center Saturday, September 29, 2012. For more information, visit http://ifest.uncc.edu or call 704-687-7781. The Office of International Programs looks forward to seeing you there!

Festival Founder’s Reflections

Marian Beane, International Festival founder and director of the International Student Scholar Office in the Office of International Programs, recently shared her reflections on the UNC Charlotte International Festival, from 1975 to present.

“The International Festival was first held in the fall of 1975. It was the inaugural event for the University’s newly created Center for International Studies and had as its central purpose the celebration of the ethnic diversity represented at UNC Charlotte and in the larger Charlotte community. Some 15 countries were represented at the outdoor venue that was attended by a few hundred faculty, students and community members.

With the growth of both the University’s international student and faculty community and parallel growth of Charlotte’s ethnic communities, the International Festival now includes over 50 different countries and cultures presenting cultural displays, tasty ethnic foods, and dance performances.

Added features over the years have included the passport project, the gigantic earth balloon, puppet shows, and more. What has not changed over the years is the rich spirit of the festival as people from around the world now living in Charlotte come together to celebrate the richness of our ethnic diversity, which strengthens our sense of being members of the larger world community.

— Maureen White
STUDENT FEATURE

Dancing My Way through College

A story of motivation, inspiration, and determination

Many people realize early on that college is a very expensive standard in this day and age. Some students use their academics to gain financial assistance for college while others use skills learned through sports. Meet Grace Wallis, a senior from Asheville, North Carolina, who chose to use her skills learned through her dancing in order to pay for college.

Grace has danced in competitions and shows throughout her life. Every weekend she dragged her parents to different events to showcase what she could do on the stage, all the while using their support as motivation. Grace used dance as an escape and as a method of expression. She also used dance as an opportunity to reach out to people through community work.

While some of her peers in high school seemed to struggle with time management, Grace excelled in this area because she had to balance her dancing, academics and social life. She says, “I knew I had to make amazing grades in school to even continue dance, which is a deal I worked out with my parents. Plus I had amazing friends on both sides that allowed me to thoroughly enjoy my younger years, especially in high school. Time management was definitely essential.”

With the skills she learned through dancing and community work, Grace landed a scholarship that took the financial burden of college off of Grace and her family. Like most students that hold scholarships, Grace has to maintain a certain GPA and uphold all of her obligations to the clubs and organizations that she belongs to. “I have learned that being humble is the epitome of being sane. When you are so busy you have to put things in perspective and appreciate every moment and really enjoy your blessings. I have learned how to prioritize and unfortunately I am still working on saying ‘no’ and not trying to do it all, all the time.”

Grace still held that love in her heart for dancing so she auditioned for the university’s dance team, The Charlotte 49ers Gold Dusters, and was successful with gaining a spot. When asked how hard it was to balance dancing, schoolwork and a social life, Grace answered time management as an essential part of her life. With hard work and dedication, Grace eventually earned the position as captain of the Gold Dusters and encourages her team through a realistic approach. “I always try to drill how important school work is and doing the best they can in their classes. I encourage my teammates to go to class and make known to the professors who you are. I love motivating others.” As captain it is tough to criticize others but Grace’s way of doing this is easier for people to hear because she welcomes corrections for herself as well.

As Grace begins her senior year here at UNC Charlotte, she leaves some great words behind to those in the same situation. “I would say to keep a schedule and make sure you stick to it. Surround yourself with people that are worth your time and uplifting, not draining and time consuming. Life goes by so fast and you never want to miss any opportunities that might open doors, so use your talents and gifts to the best of your abilities to succeed and shine. Stay focused and, most importantly, have fun!”

Good luck Grace, in all of your future endeavors.

– Linzey Thompson

TRAVEL THE WORLD IN A DAY.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29th
10 AM - 6 PM  RAIN OR SHINE
"Helicopter" parents are defined as parents who are obsessed with their son/daughter’s education, safety, extra-curricular activities and any other aspects influencing their lives. It is considered the opposite of "free-range" parenting which posits that your child will learn well when they are allowed to make mistakes, spend time in solitude (not isolation), and have fewer and more balanced social commitments. Though both styles come from a place of good intentions and a true commitment to your student’s future, it is important to also recognize that they will need to balance these factors in order to be successful and well-adjusted human beings.

This balance is essential for the developmental issues which arise for college-age students. In a society which values rugged individualism, competition over cooperation, and financial success, it is understandable that parents will want to go to great lengths to ensure their students overall success. However, take note that your student’s academic success is a "mutually agreed-upon relationship" between you and them: you cannot want for another person more than they want for themselves. There are ways that you as committed and invested parents can be connected and "in touch" with your student without being perceived as overbearing, domineering, or overwhelming.

Sending your child off to college is a time of pride and excitement, but also can be a time of fear and uncertainty. For many parents, the experience of fear and uncertainty is always an option. Let them know that you are their biggest fan and most loyal support. Homesickness is a factor for many students and may have them considering their readiness for college. As, parents you can support them through their feelings of uncertainty, but you should also encourage them to stay on campus and get involved with activities or organizations of interest. In fact, higher education studies suggest that students who are involved with extra-curricular activities, kept in balance with their academic responsibilities, tend to have a better college experience, remain in school, get better grades and are more likely to graduate.

3. Do not be afraid to inquire about their college experience. This does not mean that you should constantly interrogate them about their day-to-day events, but instead, have a conversation about their first experience being on their own and managing the daily rigors of college. Support them and provide advice, insight, or referrals to resources that they can approach as a means of maintaining connection, but also empower your child to demonstrate greater responsibility and autonomy.

4. Create a space to both listen and empower your son/daughter. Your son or daughter may pull for you to revert to your automatic roles as protector, nurturer, and caretaker. This is a normal and natural response. However, I would encourage you to be aware of these feelings and figure out ways to truly empower your child. Allow them to develop a budget, grocery shop on their own, do their own laundry, address faculty and staff themselves, and so on. Demonstrate helpfulness without minimizing their ability to problem-solve on their own. Sometimes, listening to them without “fixing” their problems may be the best thing you could do for their self-sufficiency. If you have a more serious concern, contacting our Counseling Center or other university resources is always an option.

At this stage in your child’s development it is important to take note of how your roles are also shifting and changing. In fact, it has to shift in order to create space for your child’s experiences with autonomy, self-determination, and self-efficacy. Your role may have to change from one of being a primary caretaker (e.g. cook, chauffeur, answering service, detective, and banker), to one of mentor/advisor (e.g. career counselor, financial planner). Just as it will be challenging for your student to make their necessary and essential transition, it is also important that you as parents be aware of the transitions you will be going through. If these processes are in the forefront of your awareness and allowed to unfold, the results will be new parent/child relationships based on mutual trust and respect.

Assisting your student in their adjustment to college life can be one of pride and affirmation, and also apprehension and uncertainty. As parents, your desire to ensure their safety is normal and understandable. Be assured that your training and tutelage have provided them with skills and abilities to be successful in this environment. As they immerse themselves in this experience, consider it your gift from them to observe them becoming the autonomous, self-assured, adults you have trained them to be.

— Gene R. Edwards, Ph.D.
Today our son's room at home is in order—no dirty clothes strewn about. His desk is no longer cluttered with mismatched socks, pens, and wadded up paper. The towels in his bathroom are folded neatly on the rack. The counters are spotless. The cap is on the toothpaste.

There's no blaring music from his Jeep pulling into the driveway. No dirty glasses sitting around. No laundry overflowing in the hamper. No “Hi Mom” when he enters the kitchen.

He's GONE, and we miss him! As parents of an only child, we knew this day would come. We knew it would be an important transition.

The first few days without their sons and daughters are hard for parents. However, we feel good about our son being at UNC Charlotte. From the beginning, UNCC seemed a great fit. When we first visited the campus, we all thought it was the perfect size: big enough to provide a broad realm of academic offerings and activities, but small enough for students to receive personal attention. From our initial visit, to the days of SOAR, to moving-in day, knowledgeable and friendly staff and volunteers answered our questions and made us all feel welcome.

During the months before our son left for college, the communications from UNC Charlotte were helpful. College has changed a lot since my husband and I attended. What? We don't have to haul our son's stuff to his room ourselves? The moving-in process went smoother than we ever imagined. What? Wendy’s is on campus? From UNC Charlotte’s own dining facilities to national chains, the university offers an array of choices that I never had.

Through SOAR, UNC Charlotte publications, and the website we learned about the variety of academic resources for students. Our son is in a Learning Community. We think it will provide an excellent foundation to succeed in college. He will have opportunities to explore a career, be part of a network of students in the same field, and receive guidance from faculty. At UNCC it’s reassuring to know there are resources to improve writing and study skills and obtain extra help in a course when needed. Career counseling is available to help him choose a profession. Trained resident advisors are there for guidance.

Also at SOAR our son learned more about the myriad extracurricular activities. (Hey Lee, don’t leave baseball behind. Consider club ball?)

I would be fibbing if I said we are now used to our son’s absence. I occasionally check his laundry hamper. It is empty. I think of him when I unload the dishwasher, which he was so skilled at, breaking only one glass all those years on the job. Perhaps it’s hardest in the evening when we see his empty room.

In “Oatmeal Kisses,” the late columnist Erma Bombeck recalled frustrating occasions when she told her children to “grow up.” “And then they did,” she wrote.

We are happy our son is continuing his “growing up” process at UNC Charlotte.

— Nell Yates

DEVELOPMENT

49ers football center named in honor of Judy Rose

In a surprise announcement, longtime 49ers supporter Dale Halton and Chancellor Philip L. Dubois proclaimed that the recently completed football center would be named in honor of Judy Rose, the University’s director of athletics.

Halton, who was being honored for her gift for naming rights to the facility, said, “Phil and I talked about it. There’s not a better person to have their name on that building. I’m so thrilled that it’s going to have Judy’s name in it. It’s such a pleasure to do this for Judy - to recognize all that she has done for the University and athletics.”

Chancellor Dubois agreed. “There are only a few major naming opportunities left on our campus that could capture the significance of Judy Rose’s leadership in building the 49ers athletic program. Dale Halton and I agreed that this would be the perfect way to recognize that leadership.”

As Rose prepared to unveil a rendering of the field house bearing Halton’s name, the chancellor explained that he and Halton had worked with the UNC Charlotte Board of Trustees to have the facility named for someone other than Halton, but someone who, like Halton, had made enormous contributions and offered a high standard of service to the University.

The rendering was unveiled with the name: Judy W. Rose Football Center. Rose turned and hugged Halton before stepping to the podium.

“I was totally shocked,” Rose said of the honor. “I have gone

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At the heart of learning are those questions that challenge us to see things differently. Perhaps this can be one of those questions: Who expects you to be somebody? That’s a pretty heavy question; after all, few people want to disappoint important people in their lives. Even the simplest response to this question requires self-reflection on (1) what it means to “be somebody” (2) your vision of being somebody may differ from theirs (3) what’s possible and (4) what sacrifices can willingly be made while honoring oneself. Consider that even common visions cause friction. Now imagine trying to answer that question being between the ages of 18-21, transitioning to the next level of education, learning more about yourself, and advancing academic and social skills. Welcome to college; now let’s continue.

The people supporting you may be unfamiliar with your new environment and its processes. As you attempt to address a problem you may find that the actual solution is counter-intuitive to your way of thinking; or you may skip a step, not realizing its importance. You know you’re changing and those you care about are sensitive to subtle changes in you. Lastly, in the midst of this transition, you’re mindful that others are watching you because you’re the first in your household, in your extended family, and/or in your neighborhood to go to college. Again, welcome to college (as experienced by many first-generation students [First-Gens]).

Each year, approximately 36% of UNC Charlotte’s entering freshmen identify themselves as “First Gens”. Over time, this population comprises a significant portion of our student body. Family members who attended Student Orientation Advising and Registration (SOAR) know there are many resources to support student adjustment and success. Building Educational Strengths and Talents (BEST) is a program dedicated to engaging, retaining, and graduating select populations of students, particularly those who are First-Gens.

Another supportive measure can be setting aside the notion of “at-risk” students, instead seeing students who, with support, are brimming with promise. In so doing, we also become open to the contributions First-Gens bring to a community. First-Gens sometimes “live in two worlds” because their home and campus environments are very different. Those differences produce unique perspectives and passions, and add to campus diversity. After learning to negotiate their new surroundings, many thrive. First-Gens create healthy, interdependent mini-communities by sharing knowledge and encouraging students who otherwise may fair poorly because they do not know how or where to go to ask for help. Worldwide, education continues to be a major determinant in improving one’s quality of life and in assessing the well-being of a nation. Sharing their experiences as First-Gens may influence others who don’t readily consider postsecondary education as an option. We need people exploring their possibilities, living purposefully, and being the “somebody” they are destined to be.

Join us in embracing our diverse experiences and creating our strongest ever NinerNation.


### Black Alumni Chapter to host community reception at Harvey B. Gantt Center

On Tuesday, September 25, the UNC Charlotte Black Alumni Chapter will be hosting their annual community reception at the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts + Culture. The theme for this year’s community reception is “Excellence in Education.”

The Black Alumni Chapter will be recognizing graduates of the University who have made impactful contributions to the Charlotte community in the field of education. Recipients of this year’s awards are:

- K-12 Classroom Teacher: Tara Chappell-Powell, Class of 2006
- K-12 Classroom Teacher: Judy Goins, Class of 1997
- K-12 Special Needs Teacher: Kyle Polk, Class of 2003
- K-12 School Counselor: Adrienne Barnette, Class of 2004 and 2007

Special guests and speakers include Dr. Mary Lynne Calhoun, Dean of the College of Education, and Chance W. Lewis, Ph.D., Belk Distinguished Professor of Urban Education and Director, The Urban Education Collaborative, UNC Charlotte.

Alumni and friends are cordially invited to attend. To learn more about this event, please visit [http://alumni.uncc.edu/baceducation](http://alumni.uncc.edu/baceducation).

### Football center named in honor of Judy Rose

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Through every emotion. I’m shocked, extremely honored and humbled. I never envisioned or imagined anything like this.”

Rose, who started her career with the 49ers in 1976, has served as director of athletics since 1990-91. During her tenure as director, she has seen the 49ers add nearly $100 million worth of athletic facilities.

According to Tom Whitestone, Associate Athletic Director for Media Relations, Rose’s focus on academic success, community service and the all-around development of student-athletes have enabled Charlotte 49ers student-athletes to boast a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better for each of the last six years, and they have won eight of the Atlantic 10 Conference’s 14 Male and Female Student-Athlete of the Year awards during the last seven years. Thirty-three of the 49ers 37 Academic All-America honors have been won since Rose became athletics director.

The inaugural season of Charlotte 49ers football begins fall 2013. Football coaches, staff and team members will move into the Judy W. Rose Football Center this week in preparation for the historic first season.

—from campusnews.uncc.edu
Secrets to Success at UNC Charlotte

Joan F. Lorden
Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Secret #1: Engage with the University
All semester is well under way at UNC Charlotte—students are settling into their classes and into campus life. We know that as supportive families, you are invested in the success of your students; therefore we would like to share with you more details about the nine Secrets to Doing Awesome at UNC Charlotte that were introduced to you and your student during the Student Orientation, Advising, and Registration (SOAR) Program this past summer. These “secrets” are of course not secrets at all, but the findings from research we conducted on factors that predict student success, focusing particularly on the behaviors and actions of UNC Charlotte’s most successful undergraduates. In order to enlist your help in making sure our students are successful, we want to share additional information about these “secrets” with you at various points throughout the year. This month, we focus on secrets that can help your student excel early in the semester, secrets 2, 3, 4 & 7.

Secret #2: Go to Class
It may sound obvious, but the first secret to success at UNC Charlotte is to attend class. Our research indicates that, on average, students with excellent attendance records have significantly higher grade point averages than students with excellent attendance records have. However, attending class can be exciting and possibly overwhelming at first; students are surrounded by intellectually stimulating events and activities on and off campus. However, attending class will allow students to:

- Retain information taught in class. The more students hear, see, and interact with course material, the more information they retain.
- Build a relationship with the course professor. Professors want students to demonstrate an active engagement with course material, and showing up to class is the first step in this process.
- Build relationships with other students. Interacting with other students in class is the best way to form support networks and study groups for a particular course. It is in the productive exchange of ideas with peers that students develop as scholars and professionals.
- Understand the culture of the classroom. Attending class enables students to successfully navigate course material, assignments, assessment, and expectations. Classroom culture can vary from course to course, thus it is important to be part of this culture by attending class.

Secret #3: Go to Class Prepared
Of course, it is not enough just to attend class—successful students come to class prepared to engage with the instructor and with their peers. Students are expected to take responsibility for their own learning. The following are hints for preparation:

- Read the syllabus. The syllabus is like a contract between the professor and the students. Students should read the course syllabus at the beginning of the semester so that they understand what is expected of them. Referring to the syllabus a couple of days before class is a great reminder of the themes that will be covered that week and the assignments that will be due. Encourage your student to use a calendaring system to record and monitor important dates and deadlines for each academic course. Professors will not necessarily repeat important deadlines or exam dates already outlined in the syllabus.
- Keep up with Moodle and email. Moodle (http://moodle.uncc.edu) is a course management tool that allows faculty to post course material, facilitate engagement among students, track attendance, and store grades. Your student’s uncc.edu email account is the University’s official means of communication. Students should log into both their Moodle and email accounts daily to stay current on course news or changes to the syllabus.
- The Three Hour Rule: For every hour spent in class per week, a student should spend three hours studying outside of the classroom. In other words, for a typical 15 credit-hour semester, academically successful students spend 15 hours per week in class, and 45 hours per week studying outside of class. Being a student is a full-time job!

Secret #4: Actively Participate in Class
Again, professors want students to be actively engaged in the classroom and with the course material. In order to demonstrate active engagement, students should:

- Sit in the “T-zone.” Studies reveal that students who sit in the front and center their classroom tend to be more successful.
- Offer support in group work activities. Being prepared for class allows students to be effective group members.
- Take notes. Taking notes helps students remain focused during class and allows them to create a document that they can reference later in the semester.
- Interact positively with the professor. If students have questions or if they find a topic particularly interesting, they should ask and answer questions during class. Students should also email the professor outside of class to discuss their questions and interests, and should visit the professor during office hours.

Secret #7: Get Help Early
Three weeks into the semester, students need to do what we call the “3-week double check” to assess their own academic progress. The double check requires an honest evaluation of how things are going in each and every class. Remind your student to ask him or herself if lectures, readings, or assignments make sense. Is he or she making As on quizzes and homework? If the answers are no, then it’s time to get help. Investing time to succeed in a difficult class early will help your student step up their game before it is too late.

Resources for Families and Students
It is important to remember that there are a number of resources on campus to develop a plan for effective classroom engagement. To receive more information about any of the tips or suggestions provided above, please encourage your student to contact the University Center for Academic Excellence (http://ucae.uncc.edu/) for free assistance and academic support. If in doubt, urge your student to talk to his or her advisor (that’s Secret #8!) to get pointed in the right direction.

Ultimately, we want students to understand inquiry as a perpetual pursuit of knowledge driven by curiosity. Experiences at UNC Charlotte must encourage them to develop a sense of ownership of their education, and take responsibility for their own success using the tools provided by the University. During their time at UNC Charlotte, students will establish a foundation for future learning.

Please stay tuned for more secrets to academic success for your student!
Students, faculty, staff and parents alike are all very excited about our inaugural football season in 2013. This season will mark an historic occasion for the UNC Charlotte community and change the culture of this campus forever.

While this is a very exciting time for the Niner Nation, the Department of Police & Public Safety is busy preparing for the new changes the stadium will bring.

The largest facility currently on campus, Halton Arena, seats 9,000 people. The football complex will hold 15,000 people. This means the department will be charged with handling much larger crowds than typical sporting events. The larger facility will also attract performers, events and speakers that will draw large crowds.

Several problems can arise with crowds of this size, including civil unrest or rowdy crowds. In anticipation of these problems, the Police Department has many developed strategies to mitigate these concerns. The Mobile Command Center, a self-sufficient emergency vehicle, will allow the Police Department to respond quicker to emergencies and handle crowd control on game days and at other events. This vehicle will also serve as a method of central communication for emergencies as it is equipped with a conference room, and radio and computer workstations. The Mobile Command Center will allow the campus police to better respond to and manage disasters.

Another strategy in place is the "mule," an all terrain vehicle that will allow the police to patrol areas that cannot be accessed by cars such as football tail-gating locations. The campus police department also has sky towers that can be placed in parking lots near the stadium. These towers serve as a crime deterrent because perpetrators will not know if an officer is in the tower watching or if there is a camera recording their actions.

The Police Department also plans to have a secure office inside the football facility. This room could serve as a holding area for perpetrators or a security office. Having secure areas inside the complex would allow the police to keep bystanders out of harm’s way by having a close location to detain suspects.
Security Preparations continued from page 6

The emergency response resources and capabilities on UNC Charlotte’s campus are limited. The Department has a total of 43 officers and is responsible for a population of 28,000 (including students, faculty and staff). To handle the large crowds our Police Department has a partnership with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department for additional officers on game days and special events. Additional police officers will help direct traffic, handle crowds, deter criminal activity, and to evacuate if necessary.

The addition of the football complex will change the entire culture of UNC Charlotte. It will become the face of the University and rallying point for students, faculty and staff. The Department of Police and Public Safety is dedicated to protecting our community so your students are able to enjoy this exciting time with little to no bumps in the road.

Andrew Dies
Assistant Director for Student Conduct and Outreach

One of the newest faces in the Dean of Students Office is Andrew Dies, the Assistant Director for Student Conduct and Outreach. Andrew has been at UNC Charlotte for just over a year and enjoys the challenges his job brings. Let’s get more acquainted with him.

Andrew hails from a small town called Lehigh in the great state of Kansas. He received his B.S. in Social Work from the University of Kansas in 2003 and went on to receive his Masters in Higher Education Administration from NC State University. After graduating, Andrew worked as a Hall Director at Temple University and then the Director of Residence Life at the Art Institute of Philadelphia. Eager to get back into the traditional higher education setting, he applied for the vacant position in our Dean of Students Office and been in Charlotte ever since.

As the Assistant Director of Student Conduct and Outreach, Andrew hears cases of students that violated the Code of Student Responsibility. What he enjoys most in this role is the amount of interaction he is able to have with students. “You get to have some pretty intentional conversations about a student’s behavior and help them redirect their path.” Andrew has even gotten some emails from students thanking him for a second chance or telling him that he made a difference. While those accolades are rare in student affairs, Andrew appreciates the acknowledgement and is gratified to know he made an impact.

Andrew admits that the student interaction is the best and worst part of his job because he meets with a few students more frequently than he would like to. “The most challenging part is when students don’t recognize that their behavior is not only out of line, but that it could affect the rest of their life.” While Andrew doesn’t enjoy reprimanding students, he recognizes that it is a necessary evil. “We’re all about giving students second chances but at some point we become negligent as an educator because they’re not learning anything. The very last thing any of us want to do is separate somebody from the institution but at some point they have to get the message that their behavior is not acceptable.”

Andrew wants students to understand that regardless of your age or maturity level, the University recognizes you as an adult and you will be treated as such. Andrew wants the parents to know he and the rest of the conduct staff are on their side. Ultimately they want the same thing you do; for your student to graduate and be a contributing member of society. But because they have the challenging job of holding students accountable, they are sometimes viewed as “the bad guy.” But if the students aren’t held accountable, what message does that send?

Andrew says “In conduct we’re reactionary. We don’t go out looking for business, it comes to us.”

Outside of work, Andrew enjoys spending time with Dog, a pit bull-Labrador mix, reading, watching TV and doing whatever else the spirits move him to do. In his words, “I’m a simple man.”

“The most challenging part is when students don’t recognize that their behavior is not only out of line, but that it could affect the rest of their life.”

— Laura Rowland

Share your insight and experiences at UNC Charlotte with other Niner Nation Family members and consider becoming a guest writer for the parent and family member column. To contribute submit your article or essay to parents@uncc.edu.
UPCOMING EVENTS

—— September ——

**Hill Harper: The Conversation**
Hill Harper is an accomplished actor (“CSI:NY”) and author of several published works. “The Conversation” reflects on contemporary relationships which are often riddled with conflict and are hard to define. Harper explores the nature and evolution of love and sex across generations, explaining the keys to communication and how to bridge the gender gap.

**Tuesday, September 18**
7:00pm, McKnight Hall – Cone Center
Free

**Charlotte 49ers Women’s Soccer vs. Francis Marion**
Come watch the Women's Soccer team take on Francis Marion!

**Tuesday, September 25**
7:00pm, Transamerica Field
UNCC Students: Free, Adults: $5, Youth: $2

**Family Weekend**
Every fall, parents and families have an opportunity to join their student on campus for a weekend of fun-filled activities including athletic events, student-led programs, outdoor adventures, and opportunities to meet UNC Charlotte faculty and staff. Registration is available online at parents.uncc.edu

Friday–Sunday, September 28-30
Registration is free, certain events may have a small fee

**Charlotte 49ers Women’s Soccer vs. VCU**
Come watch the Women’s Soccer team take on VCU!

**Friday, September 28**
7:00pm, Transamerica Field
UNCC Students: Free, Adults: $5, Youth: $2

**UNC Charlotte International Festival**
See the world in one day! This cultural feast is UNC Charlotte’s longest running tradition.

**Saturday, September 29**
10:00am - 6:00pm, Barnhardt Student Activity Center
Admission and parking are free; Vendors have food and goods available for sale.

**Charlotte 49ers Women’s Soccer vs. Richmond**
Come watch the Women’s Soccer team take on Richmond!

**Sunday, September 30**
1:00pm, Transamerica Field
UNCC Students: Free, Adults: $5, Youth: $2

—— October ——

**Charlotte 49ers Women’s Volleyball vs. VCU**
Come watch the Women’s Volleyball team take on VCU!

**Saturday, October 6**
7:00pm, Halton Arena
UNCC Students: Free, Adults: $5, Youth: $2

**Charlotte 49ers Women’s Volleyball vs. Butler**
Come watch the Women’s Volleyball team take on Butler!

**Thursday, October 11**
7:00pm, Halton Arena
UNCC Students: Free, Adults: $5, Youth: $2

**Women of Color Conversation Series**
The Woman of Color Conversation Series is an opportunity to create and strengthen connections for women students of color at UNC Charlotte. The Conversation Series will present an ethnically and professionally diverse group of thought leaders, experts, and innovators. Our dialogues will be open to the campus community and will converge around topics that are particularly relevant to women.

**Friday, October 12**
12:30pm, Student Union Room 200
Free

**Charlotte 49ers Men’s Soccer vs. Fordham**
Come watch the Men’s Soccer team take on Fordham!

**Friday, October 12**
7:00pm, Transamerica Field
UNCC Students: Free, Adults: $5, Youth: $2

**Charlotte 49ers Men’s Soccer vs. La Salle**
Come watch the Men’s Soccer team take on La Salle!

**Sunday, October 14**
1:00pm, Transamerica Field
UNCC Students: Free, Adults: $5, Youth: $2

**Charlotte 49ers Women’s Volleyball vs. Saint Louis**
Come watch the Women’s Volleyball team take on Saint Louis!

**Sunday, October 14**
1:00pm, Halton Arena
UNCC Students: Free, Adults: $5, Youth: $2

**Charlotte 49ers Men’s Soccer vs. Massachusetts**
Come watch the Men's Soccer team take on Massachusetts!

**Friday, October 19, 2012**
7:00pm, Transamerica Field
UNCC Students: Free, Adults: $5, Youth: $2

**Charlotte 49ers Women’s Volleyball vs. Duquesne**
Come watch the Women's Volleyball team take on Duquesne!

**Friday, October 19**
7:00pm, Halton Arena
UNCC Students: Free, Adults: $5, Youth: $2
Experience the Niner Spirit with the whole family during

**NINER NATION FAMILY WEEKEND**

**SEPTEMBER 28 - 30, 2012**

Enjoy a full weekend of memorable activities including:

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- Mix & Mingle event with Chancellor Philip and Lisa Lewis Dubois
- Union Take-over • 49er Athletic Events
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