Family Weekend 2013 Recap

UNC Charlotte students and family members participated in a full weekend of activities together.

Friday was also celebrated by the talents of our very own students. The Music Department directed a concert which featured some of our highest caliber students. The ensemble showcased their musical abilities to a packed audience. All donations received went towards the students musical.

The Women Charlotte 49er soccer team took on James Madison University. Although the women lost (3-2), parents, family members, students and Norm the Niner were there to cheer them on and appreciated their efforts.

Saturday Morning provided a full day of food, fun and football. The 49er spirit was in operation early that morning. Starting at 8:00 a.m., with greetings from the Charlotte drumline outside of the Student Union, parents, family members and students proceeded to the Chancellors Football Brunch. The drum line was also getting everyone excited for the “Team Walk” towards Jerry Richardson football stadium. The 49er cheerleaders, Norm, and the Gold Dusters were also there to get the fans ready for the game.

Over 500 parents, family members and students participated in the Chancellor’s Football Brunch, hosted by Chancellor and Mrs. Dubois in the Multipurpose Room of the Student Union. The Student Union Multipurpose room was decorated with football memorabilia. The Chancellor and Ms. Dubois greeted every family member who walked through the door. Parents and family members also had the opportunity to mix and mingle with deans, faculty and other administrators of UNC Charlotte. It was a beautiful, catered meal which included a doughnut station, and a make-your-very-own 49er green cookie. Chancellor Dubois shared with parent and family members all the new developments within the university and also challenged the parent and family members with a little bit of trivia to win his coveted “Chancellor’s pin.”

Family Weekend continued on page 2
The highlights of the Chancellor’s brunch were the giveaways. Attendees were entered into a raffle to win the use of the Chancellor’s parking space for week, a $1000 tuition credit, a free semester of parking, a gift certificate to Barnes and Noble, a free Marriott hotel stay, and an iPad from Niner Tech.

The Chancellor’s football brunch prepared everyone for 49er football against North Carolina Central Eagles University and for tailgating with alumni, and students. Many parents attended the game at Jerry Richardson Stadium while other parents and family members were just as satisfied watching the football game during the 49er viewing in Norm’s Lounge and in the movie theatre in the Student Union. They also enjoyed popcorn, soda and hot dogs. There was plenty of crowd support and ambiance. Unfortunately, the Charlotte 49ers suffered their first loss of the season, 40-13. Yet the 49er spirit was never broken.

Family Weekend was a huge success providing parents and students to share in some quality time while experiencing life on the campus. It was a beautiful weekend for such a visit and families are already anticipating next year’s event.

Kesha Williams, Assistant Director for Parent and Family Services agrees: “Family Weekend overall was a huge success! Every year my staff enjoys meeting and interacting with all the family and parent members of UNC Charlotte. It’s always a pleasure to finally meet parents and family members face-to-face that prior you have only e-mailed or spoke to on the phone. I value and am so appreciative hearing the parents and family members’ suggestions, recommendations and compliments of the entire weekend. It has also been wonderful to witness how excited parents, family members and students are about football. We hope to continue with this momentum for next year and our programs continue to get bigger and better.”
The UNC Charlotte campus turned into a world of nations on Saturday, September 28, for our 38th annual International Festival (IFEST). IFest brought together over 50 nationalities to represent their culture and educate others on their country and customs.

Marian Beane, the festival’s founder and co-chairwoman, said that 65 countries were represented at the festival this year and over 20,000 people were in attendance. She was pleased to see that the event has grown with Charlotte and has welcomed the city’s diverse culture.

IFest began in 1975 when UNC Charlotte’s Center for International Studies attempted to promote its new program and department. At the time, a few international organizations were formed in Charlotte. Now, international communities individually showcase several events throughout the year. International Festival allows all these groups to come together as one.

Attendees were encouraged to pick up an event ‘passport’ and get it stamped at all of the countries represented by a booth – each ‘country’ would stamp the passport after a visit to their tent. Every country had something different to share with the guests. All countries showcased items depicting their heritage and offered information regarding their culture and customs. Each group brought along something unique to them to share with the IFest attendees and were able to offer a look at their culture through food, art, architecture and dance.

Uganda sold lucky bamboo plants to the attendees while Italy sold Italian inspired t-shirts along with Italian ice and cannoli. The Scandinavians had a café and the Greeks sold their traditional pastries as well. Many other countries sold their country’s custom clothing and traditional jewelry.

The festival invited several international dance schools and groups dressed in elaborate traditional attire to present their country’s dance to the attendees. Children of all ages performed and danced for the public, including the Polish School of Charlotte.

Ricky Tolbert, 55, of Charlotte brought two of his middle-school age grandchildren to the festival and said he’s made the festival a family event for the past five years. Tolbert said, “I want my grandkids to understand there’s more to the world than just America.”

—Christina Nesbit
October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The Women’s Programs and Gender Studies department once again hosts their annual Clothesline Project and a Domestic Violence Art Exhibit. The purpose of the Clothesline Project is to increase the awareness of violence against women, to celebrate a woman’s strength to survive and to also provide another avenue for her to courageously break the silence that often surrounds the experience. The campus community comes out to show their support and/or share their stories through making a shirt. The shirts hang on campus near the Belk Tower for the duration of the month.

The Clothesline Project is a national campaign that started in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, in 1990 to address the issue of violence against women. “It is a vehicle for women affected by violence to express their emotions by decorating a shirt. They then hang the shirt on a clothesline to be viewed by others as testimony to the problem of violence against women. With the support of many, it has since spread worldwide.” (clotheslineproject.org)

The Domestic Violence Art exhibit, held until November 1st, focuses on increasing awareness of the impact of domestic and sexual violence on individual lives, on communities, and on society as a whole. The exhibit will be an attempt to place a real look at those affected by domestic violence. The pieces showcased in the exhibit represent the works of students, faculty, staff and community affiliates as they continue on their journey of healing and recovery.

More information about Women’s program:
About Domestic Violence Awareness Month:

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the first “Day of Unity” observed in October, 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The intent was to connect battered women’s advocates across the nation who were working to end violence against women and their children.

The Day of Unity soon became a special week when a range of activities were conducted at the local, state, and national levels. These activities were as varied and diverse as the program sponsors but had common themes: mourning those who have died because of domestic violence, celebrating those who have survived, and connecting those who work to end violence.

In October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. That same year the first national toll-free hotline was begun. In 1989 the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month Commemorative Legislation was passed by the U.S. Congress. Such legislation has passed every year since with NCADV providing key leadership in this effort.

Information taken from www.ncadv.org

STUDENT FEATURE

When entering a university for the first time, getting to know new people can be difficult. Every student feels those same first day jitters. To help with that UNC Charlotte has a program called SAFE. The SAFE (Student Advising for Freshman Excellence) Program is designed to minimize academic, social, and economic challenges for first year students. Geared toward minority students, students are paired with an upper-classmen mentor with the same major that can advise them before school starts and throughout the semester. Alvin Martin, a junior at UNC Charlotte and Student Coordinator for the SAFE program, started out as a mentee in the program.

Martin is majoring in Public health and is working towards a minor in Sociology. Post-graduation, he plans to attend graduate school for journalism to begin a career in communications as either a health columnist in written communications or a health correspondent for television. With a passion for health education, Alvin wants to share this passion with others. Alvin says “I have always been interested in maintaining a healthy lifestyle and the hustle and bustle of today’s world makes it difficult.”

Originally from Raleigh, NC and a graduate of Broughton High School, Alvin believes it was fate that led him to UNC Charlotte. In April 2011, violent tornadoes roared through the Raleigh area. Alvin and his family were headed to UNC Charlotte for a visit during open house. Upon their return their house had been severely damaged. Displaced for about seven months, Alvin believes his family could have been injured if they did not leave town that day.

Alvin was informed about the SAFE program through mail correspondence. He originally was indifferent about his participation but through further discussion with his parents he realized the benefits and decided to accept the support. Because of his great experience in the program and having an awesome mentor, he decided he wanted to give back to the program. “Giving back is important because the experience I gained in the program was crucial to my success at UNC Charlotte. I want to create that same experience for other students.” It was also a way of saying ‘thank you’ to his mentor by using what he learned and in turn, recreating those experiences for other students. During his time as a mentor Alvin wanted to become more involved in the program. When he heard about the position as Student Coordinator for SAFE being available, he immediately applied and was excited to hear he got the job. As the Student Coordinator it is his responsibility to set up training for mentors, contact potential participants, and develop programs for the mentees to attend the week before school starts. Some successful programs Alvin has put together are “Topics after Dark”, “How to Be a Male/Female on Campus”, and “Battle of the Sexes”.

Along with producing successful programs for SAFE, Alvin has made the Dean’s List three semesters and the Chancellor’s list one semester. Achievements like this do not come easy and Alvin prides himself in being

Student Feature continued on page 5
The Surreality of Letting Go

Alvin Martin continued from page 4

proactive about studying. With all the success he has had, Alvin wants to give thanks to the director of the program, Princess King, and his co-workers, Jacquay Reel, Shae Miller, and D’Shawrna McLucas for their support and dedication to the SAFE program. Many student leaders like Alvin have gone through the SAFE program. They all agree that they would not have had a smooth transition into leadership if it were not for the SAFE program. Reel, believes that “Future leaders blossom through SAFE hands,” a theme that is apparent through the actions of its participants and those who come back to be a mentor.

Alvin wants parents to continue encouraging their students to seek out and accept mentoring opportunities. “Even if your children oppose, continue working to stress the benefits to them. My parents are the reason I joined and I am indebted to them because of their encouragement.” His advice to students: “It’s good to be involved in programs like this because they provide a great head start, an older mentor on campus you can look up to, networking opportunities, and it sets a great foundation for the next four years.”

~Jadora Ross

It is so hard for me to believe that the time has come for me to send my oldest son off to college. I can just sit back and reminisce about the day he was born, his first steps, first day of kindergarten, my, oh my, how the list could continue on and on! I must say it has truly been a journey watching him grow into the young man he has become. It couldn’t make a mother more proud! The choices he has made throughout his school career have made me extremely proud! He has been diligent in everything he has participated in including academics, clubs, and sports!

Without hesitation I was very excited when he told me he wanted to apply to UNC Charlotte after all it is my alma mater (class 1993). We had visited other North Carolina university campuses but showing up at UNC Charlotte felt right! It felt like home even though the campus has changed tremendously since I attended. I was impressed with how everyone took the time to answer our questions and made us feel so welcomed! I thought to myself I know they will take care of my son even though mom can’t be right by his side.

The excitement of graduating high school has led to the excitement of being accepted to a university and attending college and getting everything ready to live on campus! It truly has been a whirlwind of events. Somewhere in the mix I know I have shed some tears but I keep telling myself I have done better than I thought I would. I’m not sure if Dr. Phil would believe I have done well with “letting go” but it is a process and not something one can achieve overnight. I am going to refer to it as a “hand up” instead of letting go!

A parent always will have this strong bond, inner connection with their child! We want what is best for them no matter if they are an infant or older adult. We can never stop caring – even though it may seem like we are a nuisance at times – we promise we will give you that “hand up” and let you be the bright and shining star you are.

My son has always been a shining star to me. He has made me proud beyond words and continues to do so. I am very proud of the choices he has made in his faith, education, and musical talents. We have had wonderful times full of laughter and memorable moments that will be cherished for a lifetime. I am looking forward to creating many more memorable moments with him as he pursues his adult education and this new adventure in his life. Mom will be here to give you that big “hands up” and cheer you all the way!

~Lila Allmond

Important message to parents who have students on a meal plan

The North Carolina tax reform bill (H998) SL 2013-316 repeals the exemption in G.S. 105-164.13(27) on “meals and food products served to students in dining rooms regularly operated by State or private educational institutions or student organizations thereof,” effective January 1 2014.

Therefore, the University has been advised that meal plans will be subject to tax effective Spring semester 2014. We are still working with various State agencies to finalize the amount of increase.

UNC Charlotte Business Services will coordinate updates to affected students with Housing and Residence Life. Be advised though that for planning purposes, an additional 8.25% (which is the state and local sales tax on prepared food) may be added to the existing rates.

When additional information is known it will be posted at aux.uncc.edu/mealplans.
Cultivating Awareness

Joan F. Lorden
Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Service-learning develops self-awareness as a student outcome, and students who partner with community members typically find the experiences rewarding.

Academic Approaches to Awareness

Students can work toward self-awareness in their academic experiences in many ways. Part of this process requires students to critically and honestly explore their own value systems, viewpoints, and tendencies. We all have different ways of synthesizing information and learning from experiences in our everyday lives. When students have a strong understanding of themselves and their interactions with the world around them, they are capable of further developing their strengths and identifying and addressing areas for improvement.

As freshmen start to build their dreams about their college career, some will begin thinking about exploring opportunities for travel and study abroad. Closer to home, service-learning is one of many ways in which students work toward self-awareness through academic experiences. An experiential learning approach, service-learning allows students to work with community partners, using information they learn in the classroom to address pressing societal issues. The key characteristics for service-learning include:

1) meeting needs in the community;
2) incorporating reflection and academic learning; and,
3) contributing to students’ interest in and understanding of community life.

Research tells us that service-learning develops self-awareness as a student outcome, and students who partner with community members typically find the experiences rewarding. It is also true that service-learning can be very challenging for students because this work pushes them to examine their own assumptions and explore new perspectives. In this way, service-learning students gain knowledge about themselves and the world beyond the classroom.

Some examples of service-learning activities in academic courses include gerontology students who are trained to engage in conversations with older adults living with dementia at local assisted living facilities, elementary education students who work on literacy skills in under-resourced schools, and community planning students who collaborate with local neighborhood associations on social justice issues. If your student is interested in participating in a service-learning course, there are numerous opportunities within most colleges to do so. Community-centered coursework is required in a number of undergraduate majors, including education, nursing, social work, sociology, gerontology, community planning, and architecture. All service-learning courses are designated with SL in the undergraduate course catalogue. In 2011-12, 13 departments or programs in five colleges offered courses with a service-learning distinction.

We believe that, in order to achieve their full potential, students must be fully engaged in the academic, developmental, and social aspects of their college experience. Please encourage your student to explore the many academic opportunities on campus to become locally engaged and self-aware. In next semester’s Academic Corner, we will discuss opportunities to develop cultural awareness at UNC Charlotte.
Are College Extracurricular Activities Really “Extra”?

Why Your Student Should Participate

Many high school students participate in numerous extracurricular activities. For some high school students, these extracurricular activities are what keep them active and interested in school. Many high school students participate in extracurricular activities because they reflect their true interests. Some high school students, however, participate in extracurricular activities because they know that college will consider these activities when they review their admission applications.

Once these high school students reach college, they may feel that they no longer “need” to participate in extracurricular activities. However, participation in activities outside of the classroom may prove to be equally as important as what happens in the classroom. Most colleges express the mission to develop the whole student, to take a holistic approach to helping the student become a well-rounded, mature individual. Colleges recognize that much of this process happens outside of the classroom.

Many colleges have expressed this importance by no longer referring to these activities as “extracurricular”, but referring to them as “co-curricular”. This acknowledges that many activities promote important learning and benefits alongside the regular curriculum rather than outside of the curriculum. Co-curricular activities are seen as equally important to a student’s development as his classroom experiences. It may seem a subtle difference in semantics, but it reflects an important difference in the perception of the importance of these activities.

As a college parent, you may need to remind your student of the benefits of participating in co-curricular activities. Some students are reluctant to participate, either because they have “burned out” in high school or because they feel that involvement may negatively impact their studying.

Several studies, one most notably conducted at Harvard University, suggest that participating in one or more activities during college has a positive impact on student satisfaction with the college experience. In his book, Making the Most of College, Richard J. Light, one of the researchers in this study, reports, “We now have concrete data on how outside-of-class activities relate to academic success. The big finding is that a substantial commitment to one or two activities other than coursework – for as much as twenty hours per week – has little or no relationship to grades. But such commitments do have a strong relationship to overall satisfaction with college life. More involvement is strongly correlated with higher satisfaction.”

At UNC Charlotte there are over 370 organizations for students to choose from. Visit studentorgs.uncc.edu for more information.

Specific benefits of co-curricular activities

In addition to overall satisfaction with the college experience, there are many benefits to your college student through involvement in outside-of-the-classroom experiences during college. You may want to discuss some of the following benefits with your student.

• Your student will have fun.
• Your student will have a richer college experience.
• Your student will be able to follow a dream or passion.
• Your student will have new skills.
• Your student will have the opportunity to develop leadership skills.
• Your student will be able to give back to the community – either his college community or the wider community.
• Your student will establish the “habit” of involvement which may follow him throughout his life.
• Your student will be able to follow a dream or passion.
• Your student will have a richer college experience.
• Your student will have fun.

As a college parent, you need to remember that extracurricular activities may not be “extra” or outside of the mission of college. These activities are an integral part of the experiences and development of college students. Encouraging your student to be involved, often in more than one activity, will benefit them both directly and indirectly. As a parent, you may be surprised to see the directions in which your student’s interests take them. Ask about their activities. Learn more about your student.

www.collegeparents.org

PARENT RESOURCE CORNER

— Conversation Starters —

1. Staying healthy: Have you had your flu shot?

Students have a lot going on and they can easily forget to get their flu shot. It is important to get a flu shot in college due to living in tight quarters and sharing interactions which can lead to the transfer of various germs that can break down the immune system.

UNC’s Student Health Center offers flu vaccinations. Encourage your student make an appointment with the Student Health Center for his/her vaccine. The cost is $10; 704-687-7400.

2. Did you have any midterms?

This is a great opportunity for parents and students to discuss whether or not the habits they have developed thus far are working and whether adjustments need to be made to their study time and if they need a better balance to their classes. Parents should seize this opportunity to discuss with their student how they are feeling about their coursework and subsequently whether or not they have established a good balance between social and academic commitments. Talk about your expectations and encourage your student to visit the Undergraduate Tutorial Center to get help and remind them to access as many of the UNCC support services and resources as needed. Tutorial Services: 704-687-7845.
Comprehensive Pro-Gun Bill Impacts UNC Charlotte

Sandy Hook. Aurora. Virginia Tech. Columbine. The mentioning of these names reminds us of terror and rage and the increase in school shootings has left many desperate to prevent future incidents. In spite of this, North Carolina lawmakers recently approved a gun bill expanding where concealed handguns would be allowed. Effective October 1, 2013, concealed handgun permit holders are able to lock their handguns in their cars when they park on college campuses, including all public community college and UNC campuses. The handgun must be kept in a closed compartment or container within the permit holder’s locked vehicle. Independent colleges and universities in North Carolina have the choice of whether to allow firearms on campus but would have to post a prohibition.

House Bill 937 moved through the House of Representatives and the Senate, it was signed by Governor Pat McCrory on June 29, 2013. Guns are also now allowed on greenways, playgrounds and other public recreation areas, and in bars, restaurants and other places where alcohol is served, as long as the owner does not expressly forbid it.

UNC Charlotte Chief of Police Baker said “We are working to get the word out and encourage people to abide by the law.”
With a variety of residence hall options which students can choose from - from the traditional high-rise dormitory style, to suites, to single rooms, to on-campus apartments –, choosing to live on campus during college significantly contributes to greater satisfaction and success in college, according to National research. Living on campus is an essential part of the UNC Charlotte experience.

With 19 buildings, including a new residence hall opening in 2014 and new Greek Village opportunities, UNC Charlotte has a lot of on-campus living options. Many students and their families choose to live on campus because of the convenience but soon they learn that they are offered much more than just a place to study and sleep. UNC Charlotte believes that while campus living should include a variety of comfortable, convenient, and economical living arrangements for a student's physical comfort, the personal growth of a student through the process is just as important.

Jacklyn Simpson, Associate Vice Chancellor and Director Housing and Residence Life offered some of the benefits to UNC Charlotte's Housing and Residence Life and how the housing department operates:

“Living on campus allows you to be more connected. On-campus students can have more contact with faculty and staff, can be more engaged in clubs and organizations or activities that are going on in the residence halls, have easier access to library, tutors, or whatever students might need to help support them in accomplishing and reaching their goals – [it] is all available right here. But most importantly, it introduces students to more diversity.”

Simpson discusses measures taken by HRL regarding maintenance and safety:

“We have our own maintenance within housing, our own tradesmen, our own staff. Every minute of every day of the year somebody [is] on call for students, whether it is a Resident Advisor, Residence Coordinator or another critical staff member. Safety here at UNC Charlotte is a community effort and is of paramount concern to us. Our buildings are locked 24/7. The only people who have access to them are, of course, staff, police, fire department, and students who have an access card.”

A lot of people play a part in making the on-campus living experience beneficial for students. Key staff supporting all of the Housing and Residence Life Office's efforts includes Residence Coordinators (RC) and Resident Advisors (RA). Residence Coordinators are adults living in the residence halls who have earned a Master's degree, usually in counseling or student personnel related fields. RC's manage buildings and help students with transitioning and development. RA's are students living on each floor of the building that have been trained to address student concerns, problems and assist with roommate issues.

A vital component to the on-campus living experience is involvement in on-campus activities. UNC Charlotte has a Resident Student Association that represents all the residential students. Each hall elects people within their building to serve on the board, meet on a regular basis and plan activities for residents campus-wide. Also each individual hall has a hall council which develops programs for that specific building. Lastly, the RA's have programming requirements to get students out of their rooms and get them interacting and engaged.

Students are encouraged to apply to become RA's because the position offers many benefits including a private room, a meal plan stipend, and a cash amount for the semester. However, the biggest benefit is the leadership opportunity.

When asked what makes UNC Charlotte's Housing and Residence Life stand out among other schools, Simpson replied with pride: “Two things - one is our facilities, I’ll match our facilities against any in the country and I certainly will match them against any in the state of North Carolina. Our facilities are outstanding and I think that they are a piece of decision making that people use when they try to decide where to go to school. The other is our residence life program. It is of excellent quality; done with thought, philosophy, and student development at its core. It’s not haphazard, were not just throwing things together. The structure is a great foundation for us to be able to try to help students grow and to help them accomplish what they came here to do. That’s really what it’s all about.”

On campus living at a glance:

- Apartments: Elm, Maple, Martin (2014), Pine
- Suites: Cedar, Hawthorn, Hickory, Hunt, Lynch, Oak, Sycamore
- High-rise Halls: Holshouser, Moore, Sanford, Scott
- Apartment and Suite Blend: Belk, Miltimore, Wallis, Witherspoon

Unique housing opportunities:

- Global Gateways Program/International House: With an international emphasis, the Global Gateways Program provides an opportunity for both U.S. and international students to experience, appreciate, and learn about new and different cultures in a fun, engaging environment.
- Greek Village: Greek Village is home to several fraternity and sorority organizations and is reserved for members of organizations assigned to the houses.

Housing and Residence Life, continued on page 11
Belk Foundation Awards $50,000 to Charlotte Teachers Institute

CHARLOTTE – Sept. 5, 2013 - The Belk Foundation has awarded $50,000 to support the Charlotte Teachers Institute (CTI), an innovative partnership among UNC Charlotte, Davidson College and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) to strengthen teaching and learning in local public schools by cultivating content knowledge, creativity, leadership skills and collaboration among CMS teachers.

“We know that teachers are the single most important in-school factor to improving student achievement,” said Katie Morris, Board Chair of The Belk Foundation. “More is expected of teachers than ever before and we believe in supporting them as much as we can.”

The Belk Foundation has supported CTI since 2010 to help grow the institute’s intensive, long-term seminar program for CMS teachers and expand its evaluation efforts. In announcing this most recent grant, Belk Foundation Executive Director Johanna Anderson applauded CTI Fellows and faculty. “The Belk Foundation is inspired by the passionate educators involved in Charlotte Teachers Institute, from the CMS teachers to the Davidson College and UNC Charlotte professors,” Anderson said. “They are clearly committed to improving their craft.”

CTI Executive Director Scott Gartlan noted, “The Belk Foundation continues to demonstrate an unwavering commitment to improving public education in Charlotte-Mecklenburg.” Gartlan said this year’s Belk Foundation grant will support general program operations. A 2011-13 grant funded CTI’s extensive program evaluation, including quantitative data analysis; interviews with teachers, professors and students; and seminar and classroom observations. “Through this impactful partnership, CTI will continue to improve teacher quality, retention and student academic outcomes,” said Gartlan.

About Charlotte Teachers Institute

Through seminars led by UNC Charlotte and Davidson College faculty, CMS teachers learn new content, work collaboratively with other teachers, and develop new curricula for their students. Teachers serve as leaders in the institute and choose seminar topics they deem most important and engaging for current CMS teachers and their students. To date, more than 260 CMS teachers have participated in CTI seminars teaching more than 50,000 students.

An affiliate of the Yale National Initiative at Yale University, CTI provides high quality teacher professional development led by expert university and college faculty. Programs include seven-month long, content-rich seminars and special events for teachers, as well as community presentations such as the popular Exploding Canons cultural collaboration series.

Currently, 104 CMS teachers in grades K-12 are enrolled in eight, multidisciplinary seminars that continue until December. The seminars’ weekly meetings begin in April and recess during the summer, while teachers immerse themselves in reading and research related to the curriculum units they are developing for their students. These curriculum units generate learning beyond each teacher’s classroom, as the final units are shared with teachers’ school colleagues and are also published on the CTI and Yale National Initiative websites, making them accessible to teachers worldwide.

CTI programs are made possible by a joint commitment of resources from CMS, Davidson College and UNC Charlotte and through the generosity of private funding institutions such as The Belk Foundation. The institute is housed at UNC Charlotte within the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

Gun Bill Impact continued from page 8

We will make sure there is an educational component because there are misunderstandings and we want people to truly understand the law.”

There has been a national debate on whether or not to allow guns on college campuses. One side of the debate says guns would make college campuses safer and the other side says there is much higher potential for more harm. For North Carolina, there is pushback from educators and student groups and chiefs of police at all seventeen institutions in the UNC systems schools are in opposition.

Chief Baker shared his opposition and some of the measures which were taken prior to the passing of the law. All UNC system schools Chief of Police collectively spoke to a Senate sub-committee regarding guns on campus. He noted their biggest concerns were regulating tailgating and larceny from vehicles. “There are thousands of larcenies from automobiles in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area and the number one item stolen from vehicles is firearms.” With this information, Chief Baker highly advocates that people with concealed carry permits take the proper precaution to secure their weapon in the vehicle. He recommends having lockboxes installed, especially for vehicles without trunks, like pickups.

The Office of Student Conduct’s responsibility is to educate students about the policies, rules, and regulations that will impact their time here at UNC Charlotte. Andrew Dies, the Associate Dean and Director of Student Conduct & Outreach, believes the biggest issue their office may face is students not knowing or completely understanding the law. Both Chief Baker and Mr. Dies admonish the community to become knowledgeable of the laws and they stress that ignorance is not an excuse.

Chief Baker consistently emphasizes that this issue is no cause for alarm. He assures the UNCC community and parents and families "Our campus is safe and we strive to make it safe and eradicate crime.”

In interviews with students regarding their feelings on the law changes, Jerica Brown, a graduate student in Education says:

“I believe all Americans should have the right to carry handguns. However, our state should recognize the potential dangers that come with the law. Initially I was against the changes, but after doing research I realized that the law does come with a heavy list of requirements for people to even obtain a gun permit. Every citizen of the US should be able to protect themselves if they feel they are in danger, but we have to remain aware of when to use and the consequences that come with using a firearm. I will say I do not agree with the lawmakers adding more places that permit holders can carry their firearms. Restaurants, playgrounds, and greenways…Really?! That is ridiculous to me, and there will never be a need for a student to have a gun on campus even if it is inside a vehicle. Hopefully citizens will not take this constitutional right for granted and only use guns when they are necessary.”

It is important to note that this legislation prohibits guns in classrooms, dorms, and administrative buildings on college campuses and it only applies to pistols.

—Tempestt Adams


**Housing and Residence Life continued from page 9**

- Greenhouse Communities: The Greenhouse communities are tailored to meet the unique needs and interests of first-year students. The Greenhouse communities offer a unique Residential Freshman Curriculum which focuses on four areas of critical importance to freshmen students: academic success, personal development, active citizenship, and social connectedness.

- Honors in Residence: The Honors Residence, located in Witherspoon Hall, the most unique residence hall on campus, is for students who are accepted into the Honors Program at UNC Charlotte.

- Learning Communities: Of 16 learning communities available, there are eleven residential communities students can choose from. These “living and learning communities” enhance undergraduates’ experiences by providing focused communities which promote growth and learning through curricular and co-curricular activities.

UNC Charlotte becomes a home away from home and Housing and Residence Life works diligently to be sure that students are offered a “once in a lifetime” experience.

—Chase Propst

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Important Dates**

- Monday, October 28, 2013: Last day to withdraw from a course with a ‘W’ grade (and retain other courses)
- Monday, November 4, 2013: Registration for Spring 2014 begins

**— OCTOBER —**

**Fall Plant Sale at the Botanical Gardens**

Come shop the cornucopia of plants offered for your home landscape. Hardy shrubs, perennials, wildflowers, ferns, and cool weather annuals get off to their best start when planted in October. All these and more can be purchased at the UNC Charlotte Botanical Gardens. All proceeds support the operations of the greenhouse and gardens and experts are on hand to answer questions.

**Thursday, October 17, 2013 - Saturday, October 19, 2013**

McMillan Greenhouse 8:00 am – 3:00pm each day

Cash and checks accepted.

**Actors from the London Stage present “Othello”**

Shakespeare’s master study of jealousy, vengeance and the pressures of race and gender is brought to life in this intense, claustrophobic and extraordinary powerful play.

**October 16, 2013 - October 19, 2013**

**Robinson Hall, Anne R. Belk Theater 7:30pm**

$18 general admission / $9 UNC Charlotte faculty, staff & alumni / $9 senior citizens / $6 all students

Buy Tickets

**Charlotte 49ers Soccer vs. University of Alabama at Birmingham**

Head out to Transamerica Field to see your Charlotte 49ers Women’s Soccer team take on University of Alabama at Birmingham.

**Friday, October 18, 2013**

Transamerica Field 7:00 pm

Free for UNC Charlotte students; Adults: $5; Youth: $2

**Charlotte 49ers Volleyball vs. University of Tulsa**

Head out to Halton Arena to see your Charlotte 49ers Volleyball team take on University of Tulsa.

**Friday, October 18, 2013**

Halton Arena 7:00 pm

Free for UNC Charlotte students; Adults: $5; Youth: $2

**Hoedown for Levine Children’s Hospital**

A casual country-dance with food, music, and games! All proceeds go to the Levine Children’s Hospital.

**Friday, October 18, 2013**

**Cone University Center (Lucas Room) 7:00 pm - 10:00 pm**

Cost: $10

**Friday Night Live: Gina Brillion**

Come join CAB at our Friday Night Live Comedy Series. This month Gina Brillion will be taking the stage for a night of laughs and unforgettable jokes.

**Friday, October 18, 2013**

**Cone University Center (After Hours) 8:00 pm**

**FREE**

**Trip to Renaissance Festival**

The Renaissance Festival is in town and the Campus Activities Board invites you to join us as we take this trip back in time! Enjoy tent crawls, great jousting events, and everything else the Renaissance has to offer!

**Saturday, October 19, 2013**

**Student Union Loading Dock 11:00 am - 6:00 pm**

**FREE**

**R.A.D Wellness Passport Event**

Join us for this nationally recognized class. You will learn numerous situational prevention options as well as some hardcore but easy to learn defensive techniques. You can’t afford to miss this class. Certificate issued upon successful completion of class. UNC Charlotte Police and Public Safety will host this program.

**Saturday, October 19, 2013**

**Student Union 261 9:00 am - 6:00 pm**

**FREE**

**49er Social and Ballroom Dance Club Halloween Dance**

The Halloween Dance is an amazing Ballroom event open to the campus community — this is a great way to unwind after classes that day, and just have a blast learning to ballroom dance with your fellow 49ers. We will also be providing free food and drink to keep your energy up and keep you all dancing.

**Saturday, October 19, 2013**

**Cone University Center Lucas Room 6:30pm - 10:30pm**

**FREE**

**About The Belk Foundation**

The Belk Foundation is a family foundation based in Charlotte, N.C., that supports public education by strengthening teachers and school leaders, and ensuring that students are achieving on or above grade level by the third grade. Now in its third generation of family leadership, The Belk Foundation serves as the public expression of gratitude and commitment shown by the family that created the Belk department store organization, founded by William Henry Belk and Dr. John Montgomery Belk in 1888. Over the years, the Foundation has received generous contributions from Belk, Inc., which directs some of its support for education through the Foundation. While The Belk Foundation is a separate entity from Belk, Inc. and its department stores, the two organizations sometimes collaborate on philanthropy and community service projects. The Belk Foundation had assets of more than $50 million as of May 31, 2013. Since 2000, The Belk Foundation has distributed more than $37 million to charities across the Southeast. More information is available at belkfoundation.org.

For more information, contact: CTI Executive Director Scott Gartlan at scott.gartlan@uncc.edu, phone 704-687-0078, or visit the CTI website at charlotteteachers.org.

—www.uncc.edu—

**Belk Foundation Gift continued from page 10**
UPCOMING EVENTS continued from page 11

Charlotte 49ers Soccer vs. University of Kentucky
Head out to Transamerica Field to see your Charlotte 49ers Men's Soccer team take on University of Kentucky.
Saturday, October 19, 2013
Transamerica Field 7:00 pm
Free for UNC Charlotte students; Adults: $5; Youth: $2

Charlotte 49ers Volleyball vs. Middle Tennessee
Head out to Halton Arena to see your Charlotte 49ers Volleyball team take on Middle Tennessee.
Sunday, October 20, 2013
Halton Arena 1:00 pm
Free for UNC Charlotte students; Adults: $5; Youth: $2

Veteran's Group
This 7-week group will provide an opportunity for student veterans to come together to build their community and discuss the transition from military to civilian and university life with others who can understand. The Veteran's Group will meet on Mondays, 1-1:50 p.m., and run Oct. 14–Nov. 18 in the Multipurpose Room at the Counseling Center.
Monday, October 21, 2013
Counseling Center Multipurpose Room 1:00 pm - 2:00 pm
FREE

Wind Ensemble
Join us for an amazing night of music.
Monday, October 21, 2013
Robinson Hall, Anne R. Belk Theater - 7:30 pm
Bay Tickets
$6 general admission / $5 UNC Charlotte faculty, staff & alumni / $5 senior citizens / $4 all students

12 Step Open AA meeting
Feeling alone? Need support? Please join us every Monday night for a meeting and fellowship.
Monday, October 21, 2013
Student Health Center 121 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm
FREE

Charlotte 49ers Soccer vs. Clemson
Head out to Transamerica Field to see your Charlotte 49ers Men's Soccer team take on Clemson.
Tuesday, October 22, 2013
Transamerica Field 7:00 pm
Free for UNC Charlotte students; Adults: $5; Youth: $2

Re-Colonizing: Using the Fight for Gay Rights to Divide the Black Community
Nationally-known faith leader and social activist Rev. Dr. Yvette Flunder will explore race, sexuality, religion and politics in her lecture, “Re-colonizing: Using the Fight for Gay Rights to Divide the Black Community.”
Tuesday, October 22, 2013
Cone University Center McKnight Hall 7:00 pm - 8:30 pm
FREE

The Kevin Hurley Show
The Kevin Hurley Show has amazed audiences all over the world! Kevin’s unique stage hypnosis, comedy, and magic have been requested by Fortune 500 companies, celebrities, royalty, a former U.S. president, and now over 400 college campuses. Bring your friends and prepare to be amazed!
Tuesday, October 22, 2013
Student Union 340 7:00 pm
FREE

Jazz Ensemble
Join us for an amazing night of music.
Tuesday, October 22, 2013
Robinson Hall, Anne R. Belk Theater - 7:30 pm
Bay Tickets
$6 general admission / $5 UNC Charlotte faculty, staff & alumni / $5 senior citizens / $4 all students

12 Step Open AA meeting
Feeling alone? Need support? Please join us every Wednesday afternoon for a meeting and fellowship.
Wednesday, October 23, 2013
Student Health Center 121 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm
FREE

To Withdraw or Not to Withdraw
Before withdrawing from that class, make sure you’re considering the academic and financial implications of your decision.
Wednesday, October 23, 2013
Fretwell 310 2:00pm - 2:15pm
FREE

Al-Anon meeting
Strength and hope for families and friends of problem drinkers, every Wednesday evening from 6–7 p.m.
Wednesday, October 23, 2013
Student Health Center 293 6:00 pm
FREE

NC Activist Series: “All of Us North Carolina” film screening
“All of Us North Carolina” is a documentary about the fight against Amendment 1. After the screening, the filmmakers will be leading a discussion about the film and activism in North Carolina.
Wednesday, October 23, 2013
Student Union Theater 6:00pm - 8:30 pm
FREE

Kayak Roll Session
Whitewater kayaking is more fun when you can roll yourself back up! These sessions in the Belk Pool will progress from wet exits and basic boat control to learning how to roll your boat upright. Already have a roll? Come to the session to practice, help others learn, and maybe learn a new skill, like an offside roll or a hand roll.
No pre-registration required, just drop in. Meet at the Belk Pool every other Wednesday.
Wednesday, October 23, 2013
Belk Gym Pool 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
UNC Charlotte students: $5 per night; Faculty, Staff, Alumni: $10; Community: $15

12 Step Open Narcotics Anonymous Meeting
Need support? Please join us on Thursday afternoons, 5–6 p.m. for a meeting and fellowship.
Thursday, October 24, 2013
Student Health Center 293 5:00 pm
FREE

Panthers Watch Party
Who’s ready for some football? Come out, kick back, and watch the Panthers play in a competitive regular season game against the Tampa Bay Buccaneers! Enjoy refreshments as you watch, and don’t forget to come in your Panthers gear!
Thursday, October 24, 2013
Student Union Norm’s 6:00 pm
FREE

Kirsten Swanson, Viola
Join us for an amazing night of music.
October 24, 2013
Rowe Recital Hall - 7:30 pm
FREE

The Jeffrey James Project
Come out and enjoy the smooth and memorable voice of Jeffrey James. His unique style mixes blues, rock, and pop. This is a performance you don’t want to miss!
Friday, October 25, 2013
Student Union Rotunda 12:00 pm
FREE

Upcoming Events, continued on page 13
Student Art Showcase
The Student Art Showcase Reception & Awards Ceremony will be Oct. 31 from 5-7 p.m. in the Student Union Art Gallery. Come enjoy refreshments while exploring the amazing student art. Join us as we announce the winners and get a chance to mingle with the artists.

Thursday, October 31, 2013
Student Union Art Gallery 5:00pm
FREE

The Evasons: Mentalist Duo
Jeff and Tessa Evasion perform mind-blowing feats of interactive psychic magic and uncanny mind reading demonstrations in a unique, entertaining, and fun show that you do not want to miss!
Saturday, October 26, 2013
Student Union 340 (Multipurpose Room)
FREE
Charlotte 49ers Soccer vs. Florida Atlantic
Head out to Transamerica Field on Sunday, Oct. 27, to see your Charlotte 49ers Women’s Soccer team take on Florida Atlantic.
Sunday, October 27, 2013
Transamerica Field 1:00pm
Free for UNC Charlotte students; Adults: $5; Youth: $2

Friendly Peer Training
This training is designed for undergraduate students as a way of educating them about the lived experiences of LGBTQ individuals on campus. Students will walk away from the training with a better sense of the lives of LGBTQ people, a list of campus resources, and the tools to become a better Ally.
Monday, October 28, 2013
Student Union 200 5:00pm - 6:00pm
FREE

The Rubens Trio
The Faculty and Friends Concert Series presents The Rubens Trio. David Russell, violin; Mihai Telét, cello; Elizabeth Schwimmer, piano
October 29, 2013
Robinson Hall, Anne R. Belk Theater- 7:30 pm
Buy Tickets
$9 general admission / $7 UNC Charlotte faculty, staff & alumni / $7 senior citizens / $6 all students

Love the Doctor
This intricate and marvelous 17th-century comedy by Tirso de Molina is presented for the first time ever in English, as translated by UNC Charlotte Department of Theatre alum Sarah Brew.
October 30, 2013 - November 10, 2013
Robinson Hall, Black Box Theater 7:30 (show times vary by day)
Buy Tickets
$14 general admission / $9 UNC Charlotte faculty, staff & alumni / $9 senior citizens / $6 all students

Symphonic Band
Join us for an amazing night of music.
Tuesday, November 5, 2013
Robinson Hall, Anne R. Belk Theater - 7:30 pm
Buy Tickets
$6 general admission / $5 UNC Charlotte faculty, staff & alumni / $5 senior citizens / $4 all students

Scarletta
What sets country music apart from every other genre is its ability to tell a story. What sets Scarletta apart from every other band is the fateful way in which it all came together. Come join us as we enjoy the music styles of a band that was meant to be! Check out their music at www.scarlettamusic.com.
Thursday, November 7, 2013
Cone University Center After Hours 7:00 pm
FREE

Battle of the Bands
Who is the best band on UNC Charlotte's campus? Join CAB and Conertos for Causes at Battle of the Bands to find out! Battle of the Bands allows students to showcase their talent and rock out as they compete for a monetary prize. Come witness your classmates as they battle it out on stage!
Friday, November 1, 2013
Cone University Center After Hours 7:00 pm
FREE

Charlotte 49ers Volleyball vs. University of Texas at El Paso
Head out to Halton Arena to see your Charlotte 49ers Volleyball team take on University of Texas at El Paso.
Sunday, November 3, 2013
Halton Arena 1:00pm
Free for UNC Charlotte students; Adults: $5; Youth: $2

Charlotte 49ers Soccer vs. Texas Southern University
Head out to Halton Arena to see your Charlotte 49ers Men’s Soccer team take on Texas Southern University.
Sunday, November 10, 2013
Halton Arena 7:00pm
Free for UNC Charlotte students; Adults: $5; Youth: $2
Relatively Speaking

The newsletter from the Office of Parent and Family Services

Black Balsam Backpacking
Come enjoy cooler-weather backpacking and some of the most amazing views in Western North Carolina. Challenge yourself to learn the skills for backpacking in cool weather, see for miles from the top of bald mountains, and explore the beauty and peace of the outdoors.
Pre-Trip Meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 5, 6:30–8:30 pm, Venture Office
Saturday, November 9, 2013 - November 10, 2013
UNC Charlotte Students: $45; Faculty, Staff, Alumni: $70; Community: $96

Charlotte 49ers vs. Wesley College
Be part of history as the Charlotte 49ers continue their inaugural season of football against the Wesley College Wolverines!
Saturday, November 9, 2013
Jerry Richardson Stadium 12:00pm

“American Transgender” with Eli Strong
“American Transgender” is a documentary following the lives of several Trans* identified people living, working, and surviving in the United States. One of the film’s subjects, Eli Strong, who is a Trans* activist in Washington, D.C., will be at the screening to answer questions about his life and work.
Monday, November 11, 2013
Student Union Theater 6:00 pm - 8:30 pm
FREE

Safe Zone 2.0: More Complex Than Marriage
The Safe Zone 2.0 program is designed to actively engage existing Safe Zone Allies in conversations that will deepen their knowledge about LGBTQ issues on campus and around the country. These Brown Bag style talks will be conversations led by experts that will help facilitate continuing education for Allies on campus as we try to broaden the support for LGBTQ individuals in our community.
Tuesday, November 12, 2013
Student Union 267 12:00 pm - 1:30 pm
FREE

Chamber Ensembles
Join us for an amazing night of music.
Wednesday, November 13, 2013
Rowe Recital Hall- 7:30 pm
FREE

Safe Zone Training
The Safe Zone Program is designed to help educate faculty, staff, and students about the lives of LGBTQ identified people. This four-hour training will culminate in the opportunity to become a Safe Zone Ally to help connect LGBTQ students to resources at UNC Charlotte.
Thursday, November 14, 2013
Student Union 261 12:00 pm - 4:00 pm
FREE

Jazz Combo
Join us for an amazing night of music.
Thursday, November 14, 2013
Rowe Recital Hall - 7:30 pm
FREE

Charlotte 49ers Volleyball vs. Southern Mississippi
Head out to Halton Arena to see your Charlotte 49ers Volleyball team take on Southern Mississippi.
Friday, November 15, 2013
Halton Arena 7:00 pm
Free for UNC Charlotte students; Adults: $5; Youth: $2

UPCOMING EVENTS continued from page 13

USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS

Niner Nation Family .......................... 704-687-0341
Student Health Center .......................... 704-687-7400
Housing and Residence Life .................. 704-687-7501
Office of Disability Services ................. 704-687-4355
University Career Center ..................... 704-687-0795
University Counseling Center .............. 704-687-0311
Dean of Students ............................. 704-687-0345
University Center for Academic Excellence .. 704-687-7837
University Advising Center ................. 704-687-7717
Writing Resource Center .................... 704-687-1899
University Police .............................. 704-687-8300
University Library ............................ 704-687-0494

Colleges
Belk College of Business ...................... 704-687-7577
College of Arts & Architecture .............. 704-687-0100
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences ........... 704-687-0088
College of Computing & Informatics .......... 704-687-8450
College of Education ........................ 704-687-8722
College of Health & Human Services ........ 704-687-8374
Graduate School .............................. 704-687-5503
Lee College of Engineering .................. 704-687-8244
The Honors College .......................... 704-687-7197
University College ........................... 704-687-5630

You are receiving this email because you signed up to receive parent communications from UNC Charlotte at an orientation session or through our Web site. To unsubscribe, email parents@uncc.edu. For questions, comments or suggestions, contact parents@uncc.edu.