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New School

UNCG performing arts combining

UNCG has announced plans to combine its Departments of Theatre and Dance with the School of Music to create a unit that will enhance and bring more visibility to the institution's performing arts programs.

Chancellor Linda P. Brady and Provost David H. Perrin notified faculty and staff of the new initiative on Dec. 17. The new organization will create a "vibrant and thriving" performing arts unit at UNCG with School of Music, Theatre and Dance as its working title.

An open meeting for faculty and staff of the School of Music and Departments of Theatre and Dance to discuss the new initiative will be held at 4 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 27, in the Weatherspoon Art Museum auditorium.

Dr. John Deal, who is UNCG's music dean, will remain dean of the reconfigured school. Oversight for Aycock Auditorium and the University Concert & Lecture Series will be transferred to the new school from the Division of Student Affairs.

Chancellor Brady and Provost Perrin have appointed a committee to identify and address the organizational and administrative issues related to the transition. Its members are Alan Boyette (chair), Kelly Burke, Don Hodges, Jim Fisher, John Wolf, Jan Van Dyke, Jill Green, David Vaughan, Laura Pitts, Daniel Winkler and Bruce Michaels. The initiative will rename UNCG's School of Music, which was founded in 1921. The effective date for implementing the change is July 1, 2010.

Based on fall 2008 figures, combining the three academic units will assemble a full-time faculty of 88, who will teach 800 undergradu-

Its working title: School of Music, Theatre and Dance.

ates and 226 graduate students. The School of Music has 60 full-time faculty members, 411 undergraduates and 184 graduate students. The Department of Theatre has 16 full-time faculty, 267 undergraduate majors and 20 graduate students. The Department of Dance will add 12 full-time faculty, 22 graduate students and 122 undergraduate majors.

Reconfiguration of UNCG's performing arts programs has been discussed for several years, most recently in 2007-08 by the Campus Arts Committee which brought in two consultants. The committee and the consultants proposed strategies to raise the visibility of the university's arts programs.

Combining the performance resources of the School of Music and the Departments of Theatre and Dance will enhance the visibility of each. It will also encourage new and larger private gifts, essential for facility enhancements, the chancellor and provost said.

"A stronger case can be made (both to the General Assembly and donors) for capital improvements for a unit that houses all of the performing arts," they added.

The new organization will create a 'vibrant and thriving' performing arts unit.

Save the Date

Installation is May 5

Chancellor Linda P. Brady's installation is set for Tuesday, May 5, with a formal ceremony beginning at 10 a.m. in Aycock Auditorium. This celebration is being planned by a university committee chaired by Dr. Virginia Karb, associate dean of the School of Nursing, and David Vaughan, assistant vice chancellor for academic resources. It is anticipated that the formation of an academic procession will commence around 9:30 a.m. Look for further information, but mark your calendars for this important campus event.

Where's My Campus Weekly?

By the start of the next academic year, it'll be available only online.

This will save the university money. The printing costs for Campus Weekly have been about \$20,000 a year. Those financial resources – and many reams of paper – will be conserved, as our budget-tightening dictates.

Look for more information about this online version later in the semester.

campus weekly

Deadline for news and attachments is noon the Wednesday before publication.

This issue as well as archived issues are available at campusweekly.uncg.edu.

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1100 W. Market St.

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The University of North Carolina at Greensboro is a diverse, student-centered research university, linking the Triad and North Carolina to the world through learning, discovery and service.



Reorganization in Academic Affairs

Units within the Division of Academic Affairs are being reorganized to enhance UNCG's programs in undergraduate education, university assessment and planning, and research.

The changes were announced by Provost David H. Perrin, and will be effective July 1.

"This reorganization will create two new offices from existing units that are designed to make our planning and undergraduate education efforts more efficient and effective," said Perrin. "We're being sensitive to the university's budget constraints and the state's tight economy, and therefore this process won't involve creation of any new position lines."

Perrin outlined details of the changes:

- The current Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education position will transition to a Dean of Undergraduate Studies, reporting directly to the provost. A national search to fill the position is under way. The search committee will meet this semester, with review of applications starting Feb. 1.

- The resulting Office of Undergraduate Studies will be the central home for UNCG's undergraduate curriculum, and its programs in academic enhancement and student support. Several areas from the current Enrollment Services unit will be reconfigured into Undergraduate Studies, including Student Achievement, Student Academic Services, and the Student Success Center. UNCG's Teaching & Learning Center, Living-Learning Communities, and the Communication Across the Curriculum program will remain within Undergraduate Studies.

- Enrollment Services' Academic Systems unit will be merged with the existing Academic Technology staff. This office and the remaining functions within the current Enrollment Services division (Admissions, Financial Aid and University Registrar) will report to Vice Provost Alan Boyette.

- With the retirement this summer of Dr. Cindy Farris, the position of Associate Provost for Enrollment Services will be transitioned to a new position titled Associate Provost for Assessment and Planning. The primary responsibilities of this post will include university strategic planning, academic program planning, institutional research and assessment, academic reporting, and serving as the primary liaison to SACS and UNC General Administration on academic programs and other related matters. An internal search will be conducted for this position.

Additional Academic Affairs Items

Provost Perrin also commented on other important organizational developments in Academic Affairs. These changes involve international programs, the honors college and research.

- The search for the associate provost for international programs will be postponed for a year, and Dr. Penelope Pynes' interim appointment to the position will be extended. This postponement will allow the university to confirm its international programming aspirations through the current strategic planning process.

- The director of the Lloyd International Honors College has, since Fall 2008, reported directly to the vice provost, but the director will work directly with the Provost on strategic program issues.

- Chancellor Brady has received authorization from the UNC Board of Governors for the establishment at UNCG of the new position of Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic Development. This post, which will report directly to the provost and serve on the chancellor's Executive Staff, will be created using the existing position of Associate Provost for Research and Public/Private Sector Partnerships. It is anticipated that a search will be initiated later this semester.

MLK Celebration

Sharpton headlines Jan. 27 event



The Rev. Al Sharpton will headline UNCG's 2009 Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration.

The event begins at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 27, in Aycock Auditorium. His speech will be preceded by the presentation of UNCG's MLK Service Award to a faculty or staff member.

The event is open to the public, and tickets are free but required. Obtain them by visiting the University Box Office, located in the EUC.

Tickets are limited to two per person. Seats not occupied by 6:45 p.m. will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

Sharpton, a civil rights leader, lists "Godfather of Soul" James Brown, former congressman Adam Clayton Powell and fellow activist Jesse Jackson as his major influences. Sharpton rarely shies away from controversy. He has been accused by some of racial divisiveness while others salute him as a human rights pioneer.

He was a presidential candidate in the 2004 Democratic primaries.

Sharpton's work on human rights issues has taken him in past years to Sudan, Israel and Europe.

Sharpton's visit is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs. For more information, contact Alta Mauro, assistant director of multicultural affairs, at Alta_Thornton@uncg.edu or 4-5090.

Energy Conservation

Made your New Year's resolution?

"Let's resolve to conserve energy at UNCG and help accomplish our goal of 5 percent energy reduction per year," says Ronnie Overton, energy engineer in Facilities Operations.

Over the past three fiscal years, our campus area and our student population have increased. Yet, our overall campus energy consumption was reduced by 5 percent, he notes.

Energy costs will continue to rise in the future. Do your part for energy conservation at UNCG. Turn off the lights and your computer when you leave at the end of each day.

For more information, visit www.uncg.edu/ppo/energy.

In Memoriam

Dr. Stephen Stallcup, an assistant professor of English at UNCG from 2001 to 2008, died Thursday, Jan. 8. A memorial service is planned for Feb. 21.

looking ahead

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 21

Noon – Brown bag lunch, on credit card debt, Room 416, Bryan Building.

2 p.m. – Ribbon-cutting, Spartan Market, Spencer Hall.

4 p.m. – Artist's Gallery Talk, Ann Gale, about her current exhibition, Weatherspoon.

5:30 p.m. – Auditions for "Vagina Monologues," EUC Auditorium.

8 p.m. – Talk, "The French Paradox," about red wine and health, The Green Bean, 341 S. Elm St. Free.

THURSDAY, JAN. 22

4 p.m. – Lecture, "Financial and Economic Crisis: Where We Stand Now and How Do We Fix the Problems," Dr. Lyle E. Gramley, Room 160, Bryan Building.

5:30 p.m. – Art Lecture, Ann Gale. Weatherspoon. Free.

7 p.m. – Men's basketball vs. Chattanooga.

7 p.m. – Screening, "Silent Choices," about abortion and birth control from perspectives of African Americans. EUC Auditorium.

FRIDAY, JAN. 23

5:30 p.m. – Oral examination in defense of dissertation, Grace Anderson, "Beethoven's D Major Sonata for Cello and Piano, Op. 102 No. 2: An Annotated Performer's Edition Based on the Suggestions of Bernard Greenhouse," Organ Hall, Music Building.

6 p.m. – Artist reception, for Mark Stephenson, Reading Room, Jackson Library.

SATURDAY, JAN. 24

2 p.m. – Men's basketball vs. Samford.

SUNDAY, JAN. 25

12:30 p.m. – Music, Double Reed Day, Music Building. To register, 4-5879.

1 p.m. – Wrestling vs. Chattanooga.

MONDAY, JAN. 26

Art Exhibition opening, Linda Cordell, Gallery at the Gatewood.

7:30 p.m. – Music, Christopher Sales, Bassoon Recital, Organ Hall, Music Building. Tickets, 4-4849.

TUESDAY, JAN. 27

7 p.m. – MLK Celebration, Aycock Auditorium. Free tickets at UNCG Box Office.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 28

7:30 p.m. – Music, Juan-Pablo Andrade, piano recital, Recital Hall, Music Building. Tickets, 4-4849.

THURSDAY, JAN. 29

8 a.m. – Interfaith prayer breakfast, APMC, 500 Stirling Street. Questions, 4-5090.

4 p.m. – Talk, "Describing Music, Interpreting Music, Explaining Music," David Huron, Room 221, Music Building. Free.

6:30 p.m. – Film, "Waste=Food," Weatherspoon Auditorium. Free.

7:30 p.m. – Lecture, "Remnants of a Colonial Past," Dr. Kent A. Ono, CCI Visiting Scholar, Room 201, Sullivan Science Building.

8 p.m. – Reading, Steve Cushman, Faculty Center.

FRIDAY, JAN. 30

8 p.m. – Screening, "With These Hands: The Story of an American Furniture Factory," Matt Barr's documentary of last days of Hooker Furniture Company's Martinsville plant. EUC Auditorium. Free.

8 p.m. – Music, African Children's Choir, part of UCLS, Aycock Auditorium. Tickets, 4-4849.

SATURDAY, JAN. 31

3 p.m. – Women's basketball vs. Chattanooga

SUNDAY, FEB. 1

1 p.m. – Art Exhibition Opens, "Jeff Shore and Jon Fisher: Reel to Reel." Weatherspoon.

2 p.m. – Lecture, artists Jeff Shore and Jon Fisher, Weatherspoon. Free.



Factory worker
John Goad

Factory Finished

"With These Hands"
screening Jan. 30

The campus community is invited to the free screening of Prof. Matt Barr's documentary film *"With These Hands: The Story of an American Furniture Factory,"* at 8 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30, in the EUC Auditorium.

The film looks at Hooker Furniture's shutdown of its sole remaining manufacturing plant in Martinsville, Va., last year. Dr. Charles Bolton (History) will introduce the film and a reception will follow.

Barr (Broadcasting & Cinema), who created the 79-minute documentary, tells the story of the factory through the words of 10 employees and interviews with others to put the closing into historical and economic context.

"With These Hands" follows the last case goods running through the production line. It also shows the aftermath as state employment officials discuss future "options" with the workers, whose faces convey their bewilderment at the plant closing.

Barr said his film has been accepted for April's RiverRun International Film Festival in Winston-Salem, and was submitted to the Full Frame International Film Festival in Durham.

A trailer for the movie is at www.youtube.com/watch?v=2_gKYolUUU_A.

African Children's Choir Jan. 30

Following the brutal reign of Idi Amin in Uganda, during which hundreds of thousands of children were left orphaned and starving, the African Children's Choir was born.

The choir — founded to show the world what Africa's most needy children have to offer, and to break the cycle of poverty and hopelessness — will perform Friday, Jan. 30, at 8 p.m. in Aycock Auditorium. It is part of the University Concert and Lecture Series.

Human Rights activist Ray Barnett,

inspired by the singing of one small boy, founded the choir in 1984, in the midst of Uganda's bloody civil war. The first group of singers was selected from orphaned and vulnerable children in Uganda. After the choir trained to perform and prepared to live in new cultures, they toured North American church communities. The proceeds from this tour built an orphanage from which the second choir was selected.

To date, more than 700 children have gone through the choir program. The funds they have generated have helped to provide education and hope for thousands like them in the most desperate and needy parts of Africa.

To purchase tickets, call 4-4849.



Pianist Nakamatsu Feb. 3

Jon Nakamatsu, winner of the gold medal at the 10th Van Cliburn International Piano

Competition, will be the featured performer during the second annual Daniel Ericourt Piano Artist Residency at UNCG.

The residency honors the legacy of world-renowned pianist Daniel Ericourt, who from 1964-67 was the first artist-in-residence at the School of Music.

The concert will be held Tuesday, Feb. 3, at 7:30 p.m. in the Recital Hall of the School of Music. Tickets can be purchased at 4-4849.

The residency was made possible by a gift by Bill Heins, a longtime friend of Daniel and Jayne Ericourt.

As a child prodigy, Daniel Ericourt knew the Debussy family and appeared in concert with the composer Claude Debussy. In his career, Ericourt played in 35 countries. While at UNCG, he produced and hosted "The Ericourt Forum of Music and Arts," a weekly public television program.

Nakamatsu was named the Debut Artist of the Year by NPR's Performance Today in 1998, and he has been profiled by "CBS Sunday Morning" and Reader's Digest.

'Shades of Color' in March

The annual Shades of Color Conference (SOCC) is set for Saturday, March 28, in the EUC.

The event focuses each year on an aspect of race/ethnicity, interculturalism and multiculturalism. This year, the conference theme is "Financial Literacy in Communities of Color."

"We will focus our attention on how critical it is that people of color are taught the benefits of establishing a healthy financial well-being," says Alta Mauro, assistant director of the Office of Multicultural Affairs. "We hope to both educate participants on the importance of acquiring such knowledge and equip them with the skills and tools to establish a sound financial portfolio for themselves now and in the future."

The keynote speaker will be Meizhu Liu, author of *"The Color of Wealth,"* a book detailing the decisive influence of government on Americans' net worth. Ms. Liu will share her perspective on why many people of color lack assets.

"We hope that members of our campus community will help us to understand how people of color and all people of lesser means can reverse trends and begin to accumulate wealth," Mauro said.

The office encourages faculty support for the conference. This includes faculty members and graduate students presenting papers, leading round table discussions and offering short workshops for attendees.

Complete "call for proposals" information can be found at maf.dept.uncg.edu/SOCC/.

news¬es

Spartan Market

Grand Opening 2 p.m. today

Big changes are brewing beside the Dining Hall Atrium's Java City Coffee.

The grand opening of the Spartan Market, consisting of the former Atrium Shops and C-Store, will take place today, Wednesday Jan. 21, at 2 p.m. Chancellor Linda P. Brady and SGA president Michael Tusso will be present for the ceremony.

Spartan Market is a combined c-store and retail location, offering convenience items as well as Chick-fil-A, Spartan Grill and Java City Coffee. The space available for the c-store will be almost double the previous space, allowing for more products to be offered. The Spartan Market will focus on providing essential items for residential students as well as an expanded selection of "grab and go" items.

During the Grand Opening, Dining Services will hand out more than 500 reusable shopping bags to promote sustainability by encouraging customers to limit use of plastic bags. The reusable shopping bags, made from recycled content, will also be available for purchase in dining locations. A discount will be given to customers using the reusable bag.

Additional specials, sales and giveaways will be offered during the Grand Opening.

CCI Summer Fellowships

Submission deadline is Feb. 16

UNCG's Center for Critical Inquiry is soliciting applications for the CCI Faculty Summer Fellowships for summer 2009. These fellowships are provided to foster interdisciplinary collaboration and the planning of future interdisciplinary programs which may be supported by CCI. They provide up to \$6000 per group (\$2000 per faculty member) during May or June 2009 for faculty in the College of Arts and Sciences to develop such programs.

Information about the fellowships and application forms are avail-

able at www.uncg.edu/cci/fellowship.html. Funds are available for College of Arts and Sciences faculty only, and the applications must be submitted online. Preference will be given to projects that connect to the upcoming CCI theme: "Individuality, Community, Sustainability and Democracy." More information about the 2009-10 theme is at www.uncg.edu/cci/theme2009.html.

Those with questions may contact Dr. Heather Gert at hjgert@uncg.edu.

Faculty Phon-a-thon

Do you want the best and brightest students in UNCG's classrooms? Then help recruit them. Faculty contact is a proven and effective part of the recruitment process and the Undergraduate Admissions Office needs your help.

The annual Faculty Phone-a-thon will be held Feb. 2-5. The phone-a-thon will allow faculty and staff to contact admitted freshman students and tell them more about their departments

and the university. The office will also be encouraging these students to confirm their intent to enroll at UNCG. Volunteers are needed from all academic departments and the Admissions Office will provide a script, training materials, a light dinner and small gift as a thank you for your participation. Volunteers will begin contacting students at 5 p.m. and end at 7 p.m. each day.

Those interested may contact Andre Hill in the Undergraduate Admissions Office at 4-5243 or arhill@uncg.edu.



Wear Blue and Gold Feb. 5

The big men's basketball game vs. Davidson is Feb. 5 at 7 p.m. at the Coliseum.

That day on campus marks the second "Blue and Gold Day" at UNCG. At the end of the day, SpartanFest kicks into gear at the Coliseum's Pavilion. See next week's issue for details.

RECOGNIZE YOUR TOP STUDENT EMPLOYEE!

The Student Employment Office (SEO) is accepting nominations for the 2009 "Student Employee of the Year" award. UNCG Faculty and Staff are invited to nominate a student employee who has exhibited exemplary service.

- One undergraduate and one graduate student nomination may be submitted by each supervising faculty or staff member.
- One undergraduate and one graduate student will be selected based on the following criteria: Reliability, quality of work, attitude, initiative, professionalism and uniqueness of contribution.
- Eligible students must have been employed for a minimum of 6 months part-time between July 1, 2008 and June 30, 2009 (anticipated), or worked the equivalent of 240 hours during this timeframe.
- All UNCG nominees will be honored on Thursday, April 16, 2009 as part of National Student Employment Appreciation Week. The ceremony will take place in EUC Auditorium Pre-function Area.
- One nominee will have the chance to win a \$1,000 money order and plaque in the regional competition and a \$1,000 cash award in the national competition.

To nominate a student, please download a form at www.uncg.edu/csc/seo/oncampusemployers/supervisorforms
All nominations must be submitted electronically by

Friday, February 6, 2009

to Jessica Majkowycz (jtmajkow@uncg.edu).

For questions, contact:
Student Employment Office
#1 Elliott University Center
(336) 256-0394

Community, Economic Engagement: Are You an ICEE Partner?

Last spring, the Institute for Community and Economic Engagement (ICEE) was approved by the Board of Trustees to serve as a virtual organization to identify and coordinate all activities at UNCG associated with community engagement and economic development.

ICEE provides a structure that communicates internally and externally about economic and community engagement activities. Campus groups or individuals engaged in community or economic engagement activities that affiliate with ICEE are known as an ICEE Partners.

Each ICEE Partner functions within its own division/unit/department while simultaneously contributing to and receiving recognition for being part of the campus-wide community engagement initiative. ICEE Partners will enhance their opportunities for collaborative activities both within the campus community and the region.

Faculty/groups/offices/centers that engage in community or economic development activities and would like to request designation as an ICEE Partner, which includes being listed on the ICEE Partners web page, should

complete the ICEE Partners Designation Request Form. Locate it at iceepartner.html and return it electronically to research_partners@uncg.edu or mail it to the Office of Research and Public/Private Sector Partnerships, 1601 MHRA Building, Campus.

Colonial Repercussions

Kent A. Ono, professor of communications and Asian American studies at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and a visiting scholar in communication and cinema studies at UNCG, will speak Thursday, Jan. 29, on "Remnants of a Colonial Past:

Remembering and Forgetting Colonialism in Contemporary Culture."

Ono's lecture, sponsored by the UNCG Center for Critical Inquiry, begins at 7:30 p.m. in Room 201, Sullivan Science Building.

His research focuses on rhetoric and discourse, media and film, and race, ethnic, and cultural studies. His publications include the co-authored "Asian Americans and the Media" and "Shifting Borders: Rhetoric, Immigration, and California's Proposition 187."

Girls in Sport Symposium

Early registration ends Feb. 6

Dr. Maureen Weiss, co-director of the Tucker Center for Research on Girls & Women in Sport at the University of Minnesota, will be the keynote speaker at the first annual Girls in Sport Symposium Feb. 20.

The symposium, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Friday, Feb. 20, in EUC Auditorium, will help promote the positive development of girls and young women through sport and physical activity. In addition to Weiss' address, it will include panel discussions with female athletes, coaches, teachers and community leaders.

The cost of the symposium is reduced for those registering before Feb. 6. The registration form and details are at www.uncg.edu/hhp/cwhw/events.html.



THE UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA
GREENSBORO

STAFF SENATE NOMINATION FORM

Permanent SPA and EPA non-faculty staff are sought to represent the following areas:

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

College of Arts & Sciences
Bryan School of Business & Economics
School of Education
School of Health & Human Performance (HHP)
School of Human Environmental Sciences (HES)
School of Music
School of Nursing
Office of Research
University Libraries
Undergraduate Education

BUSINESS AFFAIRS

Auxiliary Services
Business Services
Facilities Operations
Financial Services
Human Resource Services

STUDENT AFFAIRS

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES
UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT
CHANCELLOR'S STAFF

NOMINEE: _____

DEPARTMENT: _____ PHONE: _____

Please submit nominations to: Ann Perdue, Jackson Library.
Questions? Please call 256-1200 or email ann_perdue@uncg.edu.

NOMINATION DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 26, 2009.

Elections will be held in March for terms beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2011.

Departmental areas not listed above have representation continuing 2008-2010.

For more information about UNCG Staff Senate, please visit
<http://www.uncg.edu/staff.groups/senate>

MEMORANDUM

Date: January 12, 2009
To: Members of the Faculty
From: Jerry Pubantz, Director
Re: Student Excellence Award Nominations for 2009

Lloyd International Honors College is now inviting nominations for the **Student Excellence Award**. Student Excellence Award winners are chosen annually by the Lloyd International Honors College's Honors Council to recognize those students whose academic careers are the best of the best based on demonstrations of creativity and originality; motivation, initiative, and perseverance; analytic, synthetic, and critical thinking skills; and the ability to communicate both orally and in writing. Evidence of these accomplishments can be found both inside and outside the classroom and typically includes such activities as independent research and other creative activities, study abroad, and community involvement that is linked to the student's academic studies. The Student Excellence Award is conferred each spring on Excellence Day at the Undergraduate Honors Convocation. The Convocation this year will take place on the evening of Wednesday, May 6, 2009 (Reading Day) in the Auditorium of the Elliott University Center.

Each department (or school) may nominate up to two students for the award. In addition, individual faculty members may nominate a student on their own.

Nominated students must have at least a 3.65 GPA and at least 90 s.h. (with at least 45 s.h. earned at UNCG) as of January 2009. Students who graduated in December 2008 are not eligible unless they had less than 90 s.h. in January 2008. Hours of academic credit earned abroad while a student at UNCG should be included as UNCG hours.

The deadline for receiving nominations is Friday, February 27, 2009, at 5:00 p.m. Each nomination should include the following:

1. **A completed nomination form** providing all the information requested.
2. **One letter of nomination** that speaks to the criteria listed on the nomination form.
3. **At least one additional supporting letter** from a faculty member.

Please send the completed nomination package including the two letters of recommendation to Lloyd International Honors College's office (205 Foust Building). If you have any questions regarding the Student Excellence Awards, please call 334-5538.

Nomination forms can be found on our website at <http://honorscollege.uncg.edu/faculty/student-awards.htm>.

January 13, 2009

MEMORANDUM

To: UNCG Faculty and Staff

From: David H. Perrin, Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Jim Clotfelter, Vice Chancellor for Information Technology Services

Re: Laptop ownership requirement

UNCG's Student Laptop Initiative (SLI) has provided many benefits to students, but unfortunately, the national and State financial situation requires us to rethink all UNCG programs. This memorandum describes steps to be taken regarding the SLI.

Provost A. Edward Uprichard announced on February 25, 2005 that he was instituting a laptop computer ownership requirement for all UNCG full-time undergraduates. The Student Laptop Initiative began with a recommendation for all full-time incoming freshmen to purchase a laptop beginning Fall 2006, with the requirement in effect beginning Fall 2007. At the same time, UNCG began a significant expansion of the campus wireless network.

To support the laptop requirement, Information Technology Services (ITS) created a Laptop Support Center and negotiated contracts with Lenovo and Apple to allow students to purchase high-quality laptops at significantly discounted prices. From the launch of the student laptop sales site in May 2006, through December 2008, over 3,600 laptops have been sold through the SLI. The faculty on the Academic Technology Coordinating Committee have provided leadership in identifying hardware and software features that would be helpful to faculty and students across the campus. A number of faculty members have required that students bring laptops to class and are giving students in-class assignments and exams that require laptop use.

Due to anticipated State budget cuts, Academic Affairs in consultation with Faculty Senate leadership has concluded that the University can no longer afford to provide grants to assist the neediest students to make laptop purchases. Because the University does not want to continue a requirement for all undergraduates to own laptops without providing grants, Academic Affairs is abolishing the university-wide laptop requirement, effective immediately. This will permit the University to save \$700,000 a year in Financial Aid grants.

Some academic departments will continue to require laptop ownership, and they will communicate this requirement to their students.

As the University committed to do, ITS will provide technical support for laptops purchased through the SLI for four years from purchase date. ITS will continue to provide a discounted purchase opportunity for students who seek appropriately-equipped, high-quality laptops at a reasonable cost. ITS also will continue to support use of the UNCG wireless network for students whose laptops meet recommended minimum specifications.

Overall, UNCG will continue to utilize technology in instruction, research, and student life, so as to enrich the academic and student life experiences. Questions about technical support and laptop purchase opportunities can be directed to Kevin Latimer, ITS.