Provost's Report

Educational Planning and Programs Committee
UNCW Board of Trustees
29 April 2021
Overview

❖ Welcome

❖ Faculty Senate Report
Nathaniel Grove, Ph.D., Professor of Chemistry and Faculty Senate President

❖ Academic Affairs Update
James J. Winebrake, Ph.D., Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

❖ Student Affairs Update
Brian Victor, Ph.D., Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

❖ Student Highlights
Drew Davey, Undergraduate-Coastal Engineering
Mariko Polk, ’15M, Ph.D., Marine Biology

❖ International Education
Michael Wilhelm, Associate Vice Chancellor for International Programs

❖ Discussion/Q&A
A Sad Update...

Dr. Jeffrey Brudney
Professor, PIA
Updates

- Continued Conversation and Collaboration
Updates
Updates

- Continued Conversation and Collaboration
- Thank you’s are in order!
Academic Affairs Updates

Dr. James J. Winebrake
Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Academic Affairs Updates

- Highlights & Recognition
- New Program Status
- SACSCOC/QEP Update
- Fall Academic Update
- Policy Changes for Board Approval
Highlights & Recognition
Watson College of Education

**Cindy Wiseman**, director of the Office of Professional Experiences, is the 2020 recipient of the Robert E. Tyndall Service Award.

Dennis Kubasko and Amy Taylor have partnered with CAS professor Lucas Layman and North Carolina State Park rangers to develop **Coastal Eco Explorer**.

Amy Moody, Sharon Richter and James Stocker are part of an accelerated research team, initiated by UVA, addressing Autism.

The Watson College partners with UNC Pembroke to host a four-day virtual recruiting event titled “*Walk Toward Your Purpose: Becoming a Teacher of Color*”
UNCW students were awarded nine scholarships by the North Carolina CPA Foundation in 2020. The scholarship competition is open to Accounting students in all North Carolina colleges and universities, and UNCW was tied for the most awards to any institution.

The Chartered Financial Analyst Investment Challenge competition, featuring over 1,200 teams from universities in 98 different countries, provides students with hands-on experience in extensive financial analysis and presentation skills. This year’s UNCW CFA Investment Challenge team advanced to the NC State Finals and finished 3rd runner up and ahead of most other state universities.
Center for Healthy Communities
The Center for Healthy Communities has received a $330,000 grant from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust to assist in slowing the spread of COVID-19 in southeastern North Carolina.

Research & Innovation
A portion of Dr. Martin Meyerson and Deborah Meyerson’s $500,000 gift to the University will facilitate research and innovation efforts in CHHS. In honor of the Meyersons’ support of these initiatives, the CHHS Office of Research and Innovation will be renamed in their honor.

School of Nursing
The School of Nursing has applied for a National League for Nursing (NLN) Center of Excellence in Nursing Education designation. Each year since 2004, the League has invited nursing schools to apply to become a Center of Excellence, based on their ability to demonstrate in concrete, measurable terms sustained excellence in faculty development, nursing education research, or student learning and professional development.
The College will celebrate the first graduates of the online M.A. in Integrated Marketing Communication program this year and the first Psychology Ph.D. graduate.

The college is completing a cluster hiring process that will bring eight successful hires to build strengths in the study of race, racism, racial justice, and Africana studies.

Professor Jake Warner (BIO) received a major grant from the NIH ($415,850), for a project entitled “Constructing High Resolution Gene Regulatory Network of EMT.” Jake studies the earliest developmental processes in the embryos of sea urchins. These spiny sea creatures are in the same superphylum as humans and have similar developmental patterns (which is why NIH funds this research).
Center for Marine Science

• UNCW’s Undersea Vehicles Program (J. White, E. Glidden) completed a month long remotely operated vehicle (ROV) survey in the Florida Keys for NOAA-National Center for Coastal Ocean Science.

• CMS researchers, (D.W. Freshwater, K.A. Woodworth, C.E. Miller, Frankovich, T.A. M. Wynne), including undergraduate students, have described three new species of marine algae discovered growing on endangered Manatees.

• CMS researchers (M. Shimizu, R. Mott, A. Potter, J. Zhou, K. Baumann, J.D. Surratt, B. Turpin, G.B. Avery, J. Harfmann, R.J. Kieber, R.N. Mead, S.A. Skrabal, J.D. Willey) published the first measurements of atmospheric deposition of PFAS (e.g. GenX) from rain.
Virtual Spring Showcase of Research & Creativity

110 Student Virtual Presentations April 12-21
Virtual Reception April 21
Recent Awards  |  Selected Examples

A comparison of the effects of ingested cotton and synthetic (polyester) microfibers on growth performance, health, and intestinal tissue morphology in the black sea bass, a commercially important marine finfish from coastal waters of the eastern US. ($122,618)
   Wade Wantanabe, Alison Taylor, Carolina Priester, Md Shah Alam, Patrick Carroll

Assessment of the Impact of Gear Modifications on Diamondback Terrapin (*Malaclemys terrapin*) and Blue Crab (*Callinectes sapidus*) catch in the North Carolina Commercial Crab Fishery ($112,905)
   Amanda Williard

How do sharks localize sound? ($87,907)
   Kara Yopak Shaw

Computational methods to better inform drought vulnerability assessments ($59,139)
   Narcisa Pricope, Kerry Mapes

Tools to support the shellfish Aquaculture Industry ($64,459)
   Troy Alphin, Diane Durance, Martin Posey

Constructing a high-resolution gene regulatory network of EMT ($415,850)
   Jacob Warner
Recognizing Success

James F. Merritt Million Dollar Club, FY20 Inductees

Kristen DeVall, Department of Sociology and Criminology

Christina Lanier, Department of Sociology and Criminology

Jeanne Persuit, Department Communication Studies

Sally MacKain, Department Psychology

Catharina Alves de Sousa, MARBIONC

As of July 1, 2020
Recent Publications | Selected Examples

Enhancing Film Education Learning Outcomes With Virtual Experiences

Publisher: IEEE  Cite This  PDF

Brittany Morago, David Monahan  All Authors
Page(s): 99 - 105  DOI: 10.1109/MCG.2021.3050949
Date of Publication: 17 March 2021  Publisher: IEEE

Elevating Education in Virtual Reality Environments

Communications in Statistics - Simulation and Computation
Latest Articles
Submit an article  Journal homepage

Hidden truncation in multivariate Pareto (II) data: properties and inference

Publisher: IEEE  Cite This  PDF

Indrani Ghosh  All Authors
Received 27 Feb 2021, Accepted 25 Feb 2021, Published online: 14 Mar 2021

Thank you to the Librarians for continuing to identify and acknowledge UNCW publications
New Program Status
Academic Programs – Coming this Fall!

School of Health and Applied Human Sciences

Respiratory Therapy (B.S.)

What is Respiratory Therapy?
Respiratory Therapy is a specialized health care field where practitioners are trained in pulmonary medicine in order to work therapeutically with people suffering from pulmonary disease.

Why Study Respiratory Therapy?
According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, employment of respiratory therapists is projected to grow 19 percent from 2019 to 2029, much faster than the average for all occupations. Growth in the middle-aged and elderly population will lead to an increased rate of respiratory conditions such as chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and pneumonia.
## Academic Programs – in Queue at System Office (or Expected There Soon)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Program Title</th>
<th>Type of Proposal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAS</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>Pharmaceutical Chemistry</td>
<td>Request to Establish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMS</td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>Applied Coastal &amp; Ocean Sciences</td>
<td>Request to Establish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS</td>
<td>BS</td>
<td>Intelligent Systems Engineering</td>
<td>Request to Establish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS/CSB</td>
<td>BS</td>
<td>Cybersecurity</td>
<td>Request to Establish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WCE</td>
<td>BS</td>
<td>Workforce Education Development</td>
<td>Request to Establish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Academic Programs – Under Development in Various Stages

• Undergraduate
  – BA in Africana Studies
  – BFA in Studio Art
  – BS in Biochemistry

• Graduate
  – MS in Biotechnology
  – MS in Forensic Science
  – MS in Supply Chain Management
  – PhD in Computer Science
Academic Programs – Guiding Principles

• Offers Distinction and Competitive Advantage
• Enhances Diversity and Inclusion
• Uses Resources Efficiently
• Includes High Impact Practices
• Focuses on High Quality
• Provides Interdisciplinary, Integrative, and Innovate Opportunities
• Supports Research Activities and Goals
• Aligns with Strategy and Mission
• Considers Workforce Issues
• Recognizes Role of Technology
SACSCOC/QEP Update
SACSCOC Accreditation Update

SACSCOC 10th Year Reaffirmation Co-chairs

Dr. Andy Mauk
Associate Provost for Institutional Research & Planning

L.J. Randolph, EdD
Associate Professor Spanish and Education
QEP Update

QEP Selection Committee Co-Chairs

Dr. Carol McNulty
Special Assistant to the Provost

Dr. Narcisa Pricope
Associate Professor, Earth and Ocean Sciences

Dr. Kate Nooner
Professor, Psychology
Fall Academic Updates
Spring 2021 Graduation Numbers

Spring 2021 Graduates by College

- CAS: 1194
- CHHS: 855
- CSB: 530
- WCE: 282

Spring 2021 Degree Types

- Bachelor's: 2224
- Master's: 563
- Certificate: 43
- Doctorate: 31

UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA Wilmington
# Undergraduate Applications & Enrollment

## Application Totals (4/15/21)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Type</th>
<th>Fall 2021</th>
<th>Fall 2020</th>
<th>Fall 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Year</td>
<td>16,021</td>
<td>14,169</td>
<td>14,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer (Deadline June 15)</td>
<td>2,473</td>
<td>2,283</td>
<td>2,234</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Enrollment Goals

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Type</th>
<th>Fall 2021 Enrollment Goal</th>
<th>Fall 2020 Final Enrollment</th>
<th>Fall 2019 Final Enrollment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Year</td>
<td>2,350</td>
<td>2,025</td>
<td>2,348</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfer</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>1,953</td>
<td>2,006</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Graduate Enrollments (Spring) & Applications (Fall)
Fall 2021 Course Modalities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modality</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F2F</td>
<td>2450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online</td>
<td>854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid</td>
<td>307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unknown</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Faculty Recruitments 2020-2021

**Anticipated start date of August 2021**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recruitments</th>
<th>Accepted Offers</th>
<th>% Minority</th>
<th>% Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>81</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>38%</td>
<td>56%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2020-2021 Initiatives

- Expanded staffing in support of faculty recruitment
- Faculty Search Committee Workgroup
- Cluster Hire Initiative

### 2021-2022 Initiatives

- Pilot for Faculty Recruitment Enhancement
  - Intentionality
  - Consistency
  - Accountability
Policy Changes
Emerita/Emeritus Faculty Status Policy

Policy Approved by Faculty Senate 02/16/2021

Summary of Changes to Faculty Handbook
Chapter IV: Faculty Employment; Section B. Faculty Status

1. Added “emerita” to current “emeritus” denotation
2. Added language to allow university to revoke privileges due to misconduct or placing university at risk
3. Identified process for revocation
Incoming Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

Welcome!

Dr. Lowell K. Davis
Dr. Brian Victor
Interim Vice Chancellor Student Affairs
2021 Commencement

Offering both In-Person and Virtual Ceremonies

In compliance with NC DHHS requirements
Survey of Graduating Students
Maximizing space for attendance
All ceremonies will be Livestreamed
2021 Commencement

In-Person Ceremonies

• Graduation Celebration Box

• Four ceremonies on May 7-8
  Students can select a date
  May 7 at 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.
  May 8 at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Students and 1 guest will sit next to each other

Each student recognized during the ceremony by standing when their name is called & recognition slide with name, degree, and picture
2021 Commencement

In-Person Ceremonies

COVID Response

6ft Physical distancing, mask wearing & assigned entrances and exits

Assigned seats for each graduate and guest

No Processional for Students or Faculty

Cleaning and disinfecting entire building between each ceremony

All Departmental celebrations will be virtual
2021 Commencement

Virtual Ceremony

- Graduation Celebration Box
- Watch a livestream of the ceremony on May 7 at 1 p.m.
- Video link to watch their recognition slide with their name, degree, and picture (optional)
2021 Orientation

Use a Hybrid model

- Implement a Scaffolded Approach to Orientation
- Mix of Virtual and In-Person Events
- Early Course Registration
- All students will select classes between May 24 and June 3
2021 Orientation
First Year

Pre-Orientation Online Modules

Synchronous Virtual Orientation in June
Students & Guests (family/guests are optional)
Meet their Orientation Leader, learn more about campus resources, connect with other first-year students, meet with an advisor and register for courses

In-person Orientation in August
Meet Orientation Leader In-Person
Expanded Arrival and Welcome Events
2021 Orientation

Transfer

• May & June
  Online orientation modules
  Course Registration on May 12 or June 23
  Half-day in-person orientation in August

• August
  Online orientation modules
  Full-day in-person orientation in August
  Traditional schedule with in-person academic advising and course registration
Vaccination Clinic

• Student Health Center approved as a Vaccination Provider by NCDHHS

• As of April 9 we have given 2,550 vaccines
  Students, faculty, staff, and their families
  CFCC students
  Inviting alumni/ae and BCC students
  Pause on J & J
Surveillance Testing

• Testing residential students each week and off-campus students every other week

• As of April 9, we have tested
  32,237 students
  338 faculty and staff
  101 positive tests
COVID Dashboard

• In addition to the surveillance testing, the Student Health Center has given
  4,741 COVID tests at SHC
  2,989 COVID tests for return to campus
• Diagnosed with COVID since July 1, 2020
  1,342 students
  68 faculty and staff
  6 contractors

Data As of April 15, 2021
Questions?
Student Research Highlight

Drew Davey
Undergraduate
Coastal Engineering

Mariko Polk ‘15M
Ph.D. Student
Marine Biology
About Drew

Hometown
• Edenton, NC

Studies
• Grade: Junior
• Major: Coastal Engineering
• Minor: Mathematics and Physical Oceanography
• Research Interests: Sediment Transport

Campus Activities/Involvement
• Dean’s Advisory Council, Hawk Wheels Bike Shop, UNCW Sailing Team, UNCW Jiu Jitsu Club, Society of Physics Students, UNCW Beekeeping Club, UNCW Cycling Club, Coastal Engineering Club

Hobbies
• Sailing, surfing, rock climbing, jiu-jitsu, running, and film photography

Research Advisor: Dr. Ryan Mieras
Motivation

Storms are expected to become more frequent and more intense with climate change, and sea levels are rising, which puts coastal communities at increasing risk.

Dune Breaching in Rodanthe, NC

Surf City, NC Before and After Hurricane Florence
Coastal Sediments and Hydrodynamics Laboratory (CSHL), advised by Dr. Ryan Mieras.
- Supported by a Summer Undergraduate Research and Creativity Award (SURCA Grant).

Small-scale sediment transport processes in the swash zone are currently not well understood. A device called the Conductivity Concentration Profiler (CCP\textsuperscript{+}), seen above, was designed to measure these processes.
- We conducted an experiment to test the latest version of the US Naval Research Laboratory’s CCP\textsuperscript{+}. This experiment took place in late July at Kure Beach, NC.
The self-contained, standalone conductivity concentration profiler (CCP+) allows for instantaneous tracking of bed level fluctuations, sheet flow sediment concentration profiles, and autonomous data logging. This study marked the first field deployment of the CCP+ system in the swash zone.
The bed level fluctuated up and down on the order of 3 cm over a span of nearly 15 minutes at Site 2 (black curve), while bed levels at Site 1 are not known beyond 3.9 hours because of accretion above the sample region.
Scholarships

- **NCAFPM Berry Williams Scholarship (2021)**
- **LS3P Scholarship in Coastal Engineering (2020-21)**
- **Margaret Walthour Lippitt Scholarship for Leadership, Service, and Involvement (2018-19)**
UNCW/Future Plans

- Research in CSHL lab (CCP+, LLC LIDAR, Storm Surge Observation Cam)
- U.S. Naval Research Laboratory Internship (Naval Research Enterprise Internship Program)
- B.S. in Coastal Engineering → M.S. in Engineering (focus TBD) → Professional Engineer (P.E.) licensure
- Working in North Carolina (USACE, USGS, private sector, etc.)

Contact Info: Drew Davey, Cell: (252) 333-7637, Email: asd9956@uncw.edu
Questions?
Mariko Polk
Marine Biology PhD Student
ADVISORS

Dr. Martin Posey  Dept of Biology and Marine Biology

Dr. Devon Eulie  Dept of Environmental Sciences
Implications of Estuarine Shoreline Stabilization Decisions in North Carolina on Human and Natural Dimensions
SALT MARSHES

Provide ecosystem services such as nursery habitat provisioning, water quality enhancement, nutrient cycling, pollutant filtration, flood amelioration, and carbon sequestration.

10 m
Many of these critical ecosystems occur within the first 10 m of marsh edge.

17,234 km²
of salt marshes are in the contiguous US.
Coastal zones are important to life and economy. Coastal populations will continue to grow.

56 to 245 million people at risk IPCC 1 to 5 m Sea Level Rise Scenarios
COMMUNITIES AT RISK

Communities are on the front lines of impact and produce new and innovative solutions to coastal management.
OCRACOKE ISLAND
HURRICANE DORIAN 2019
HARD STRUCTURES

COASTAL SQUEEZE

Long history of use.

Can be the only option when building up or upland retreat is not an option.

14%

Of contiguous US has been hardened.
NATURAL AND NATURE-BASED MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

VEGETATION ONLY

SILL MATERIALS
- Fiber Logs
- Sand Fill
- Loose Oyster Shell
- Oyster Bags
- Concrete
- Marl Rock

SILL
PRESERVING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN LAND AND WATER
STUDENT RESEARCHERS

JESSIE SCOFIELD, ASIA ASKEW, DANIELLE DEVONPORT, NATALIE CUBEL, EVAN HILL, SHANE POWERS, JULIANNA TRESCA

MELISSA DIJONESOTES, KITU HUGROHORUKILI, FRANK MARSHALL, EMMA YORK, ALLISON WEIDE, MARC CRUCIANI, MATTHEW NOLASCO, KAYLA MCNEILLY, JAMES MATLOCK, MOLLIE MASON, ALINA HERRON, SARAH BENSON, MACKENZIE TAGGART, KELSEY BEACHMAN, SARAH ASHLEY, VEDA ANGLIN, ALLISON LAPINSKY, MEGAN LAPINSKY, KATIE SULLIVAN
FUNDING

- **2021 Friends of UNCW Grants Committee**
  $1,373 (PI: Stephen Kinsey, Heather Koopman, Mariko Polk)

- **2020-2021 Francis Peter Fensel Memorial Scholarship**
  University of North Carolina Wilmington, Department of Biology and Marine Biology, $6,226 (Recipient)

- **2019-2022 US Coastal Research Program Student Challenge**
  $109,699 (Lead-PI: M. Polk; Co-PI: D. Eulie, R. Gittman, M. Posey)

- **2018-2019 National Science Foundation RAPID**
  $42,570 (PI: D. Eulie, R. Gittman, H. Hao; Student Leads: C. Smith, M. Polk)

- **2018-2019 NSF MGG RAPID**
  $79,085 (PI: D. Eulie, R. Gittman, H. Hao; Student Leads: M. Polk)

- **2018-2019 North Carolina Collaboratory Grant**
  $17,646 (PI: D. Eulie, R. Gittman, C. Peterson; Student Leads: M. Polk, C. Smith)

- **2018-2020 North Carolina Sea Grant Core Funding**
  $119,916. (PI: D. Eulie, R. Gittman, C. Peterson; Student Leads: M. Polk, C. Smith)
PURPOSE AND BENEFITS

SITE PARTNERS

St. James Community private homeowner’s group
North Carolina Coastal Federation NGO
Hammocks Beach State Park NC State Parks

OUTREACH PARTNERSHIPS

North Carolina Coastal Federation NGO
Living Shorelines Academy NGO
NC Sea Grant state
NERRS state and federal

PLANNED REGULATORY PRESENTATIONS

NC Coastal Resources Commission state
NC Division of Coastal Management state
Questions?
International Education
The Senator Paul Simon Award for Campus Internationalization recognizes U.S. colleges and universities that are making significant, well-planned, well-executed, and well-documented progress toward comprehensive internationalization—especially those using innovative and creative approaches. There are two categories in which an institution can receive a Simon Award, Comprehensive and Spotlight.
International Education

UNCW Associate Vice Chancellor for International Programs Michael Wilhelm Receives Fulbright Award

MONDAY, APRIL 12, 2021

UNCW Associate Vice Chancellor for International Programs Michael Wilhelm has been awarded a Fulbright for an International Education Administrators Seminar in Taiwan, the U.S. Department of State and the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board recently announced.

The seminar’s focus will be to help international education professionals and senior higher education officials create empowering connections with their counterparts and higher education systems of other countries.

“I will have the opportunity to learn about the Taiwanese education system as well as establish networks of U.S. and international colleagues over the course of an intensive two-week grant duration,” said Wilhelm. “I anticipate returning with enhanced ability to serve and encourage international students and prospective study-abroad students. In the past, I have spent a lot of time in Asia working in institutional partnership development, student recruitment activities and alumni relations, and I am eager to return to the region on the Fulbright program.”

Wilhelm will visit with a cross-section of universities and colleges; attend briefings with faculty and administration, government officials and leading educational experts at public and private institutions; and tour historical and cultural sites. Because of the pandemic and the strict quarantine requirements to enter Taiwan, the IEA seminar will take place early in the spring semester of 2022, said Wilhelm.
International Education

Michael Wilhelm
Associate Vice Chancellor of International Programs
Office of International Programs

• Education Abroad
• Global Partnerships
• International Student and Scholar Support
• International Program Development
• Support for International Research Activities
• International Student and Scholar Immigration Casework Management
• Employment-based Immigration Sponsorship for Faculty and Staff
• English Language Teaching and Services
Virtual International Programs

- Partnered with East Carolina University
- Partnered with Distance Education and eLearning
- Partnered with Applied Learning
- Continue to provide International Experiences for Students and Faculty
GEARS Student Research To Be Presented At Academic Conference

By Global Training Team

Xaver Neumeier is an assistant professor of entrepreneurship at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington. He is also a faculty mentor in GTI’s GEARS program. The GEARS program is a unique academic, research and cultural exchange program that enables academically gifted domestic and international students to participate in academic research at universities across North Carolina. Neumeier mentored Shuyu Chen, Mengyang Liu and Ziyuan Jin, among others, as part of the program this past January. As a result of their collaborative research, he also co-authored two research papers with the students that will be presented at the 2021 IEEE Technology & Engineering Management Conference in Europe.

Participants in the GEARS program are currently working virtually with faculty mentors in universities across North Carolina because of the global pandemic. Neumeier appreciated being involved as a faculty mentor and hopes to see the program expand in the future.

Q&A with a GEARS Faculty Mentor

How did you learn about the GEARS program and why did you decide to participate as a faculty mentor?

I first heard about GEARS through our international office. I have always been interested in working with international students, learn about their interests and gain from their insights. Saudi Arabia and China were of particular interest to me as they have seen significant economic changes in the last years, fitting well with my research on...
University of North Carolina Wilmington

The University of North Carolina Wilmington (UNCW) is the coastal campus in the University of North Carolina system. Carnegie classifies UNCW as an R2 doctorial university with high research activity, and the campus hosts nearly 17,000 students. With popular undergraduate programs in Coastal Engineering, Film Studies, and Environmental Sciences, UNCW offers a full range of baccalaureate and graduate-level programs, as well as doctoral degrees in educational leadership, marine biology, nursing practice and psychology. The beautiful residential campus is located about three miles from some of the most beautiful beaches on the east coast of the United States, where UNCW students avail themselves of ocean sports including surfing, kayaking, and paddle boarding.
Welcome

The International Faculty and Staff Association was formed in 2017. It provides international faculty and staff a supportive on-campus network. The association aims to increase the awareness of international issues by promoting academic and cultural programs for campus constituents and the community. The association also serves as a liaison between all international faculty and staff and the UNCW administration. In addition, it offers a forum for discussions on teaching, professional development, research, mentoring, wellness and integration to the UNCW community.
The Fulbright Program is the flagship international educational exchange program sponsored by the U.S. government, designed to forge lasting connections between the people of the United States and the people of other countries.

Fulbrighters engage in cutting-edge research and expand their professional networks. Upon returning to their home countries, institutions, they often become active supporters of international exchange, inviting foreign scholars to campus and encouraging colleagues and students to go abroad.

Fulbrighters address critical global challenges in all disciplines while building relationships, knowledge, and leadership in support of the long-term interests of the United States. Fulbright alumni have achieved distinction in many fields, including 60 who have been awarded the Nobel Prize, 86 who have received Pulitzer Prizes, and 37 who have served as a head of state or government.
Dean Saidah Najjuma, Ndejje University, Uganda
Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistants

Salwa Abu Ghali
Mohamed Gajgali
Andrew Castagno ’21M Receives Prestigious Fulbright Scholar Award

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 03, 2021

Andrew Castagno ’21M has been named a recipient of a Fulbright Scholar award to conduct research in Iceland.

“I’m extremely excited to be funded in a way that lets me focus exclusively on my research,” said Castagno, who will receive his master’s degree in marine science this spring. “The opportunity to perform research in a country where I will be immersed in the environment that fascinates me is an incredible opportunity that I am very grateful for.”

Castagno’s research focuses on the link between sea ice meltwater concentrations and marine ecosystem productivity in the Arctic, particularly in the region near the Fram Strait, a sea channel connecting the Arctic Ocean and the Nordic Seas. The region has been experiencing massive increases in algal blooming at the same time as it is experiencing increases in sea ice meltwater flux due to warming Arctic temperatures, he said.

“This bloom provides energy to the entire ecosystem, so understanding how it will be affected by increased sea ice melt or a potential loss of sea ice is important,” Castagno added.
Discussion/Q&A
Thank You!