Alumni and friends,

Welcome to the latest issue of UNCW Magazine! Within these pages, we hope you get a sense of how active and engaged our faculty, students, friends and alumni are with our campus and with our world.

UNCW continues to grow and innovate. We’re excited about the opening of two new facilities—the CREST addition to the marine science campus (p. 2) and the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (p. 6). As we commemorate our love of place with these new Seahawk spaces, we’re also exploring how to provide a strong focus on partnerships and economic growth with local businesses, entrepreneurs and the community.

These are just a small part of our plan to strengthen our public-private partnerships. Of course, as we open these facilities, we are mindful of the connections we continue to make as Seahawks. Examples of building personal and professional networks abound in the articles within—from students learning about making the right first impression and business connections to alumni reaching out to students and other alumni (p. 16).

And we are always working toward inspiring our students and encouraging them to follow their dreams through their education and beyond, as you will read in the article about the difference our Onslow campus has made in the lives of its students (p. 13). UNCW continues to be determined to take a leading role in higher education.

Stay connected with us through this magazine and our website. Explore many of the different partnerships and become involved in our Seahawk family. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please share them with me at chancellor@uncw.edu. I look forward to hearing from you.

Dare to Soar!

Gary L. Miller
Chancellor

P.S. A lot of alumni events are taking place this fall. Check p. 27 for more information.
In his lab at UNC Wilmington’s Center for Marine Science, Jeffrey Wright, professor of chemistry and biochemistry, coordinator of the Marine Biomedical Biotechnology Program and a Carl B. Brown Distinguished Professor of Marine Science. UNCW/Jamie Moncrief
Most of Wilmington’s residents and coast-bound visitors see glimpses of rich Atlantic marine life while leaving their footprints in the sand. Researchers at MARBIONC (Marine Biotechnology in North Carolina) have an innovative vision for the exploration of life under the sea.

As its name indicates, MARBIONC is UNCW's program for marine biotechnology research development. Marine biotechnology is the use of marine organisms, at the whole cell or molecular level, to provide products, technologies and processes that will benefit society.

Since 2004, MARBIONC has been researching ways to help sustain harvestable marine species and has progressed in the development of diagnostic tools and culturing of marine entities. The basis for this research is to improve advancement in global problems related to food, energy and health. Some of the algae research completed by MARBIONC scientists is on its way to providing the basis for a medicine that will help cure the lung disease cystic fibrosis.

Professor Jeff Wright, principal and research director of MARBIONC, says that “the long-term vision is to create a knowledge-based research park in Wilmington somewhat like the Research Triangle Park in Raleigh. We plan to be joined by private groups who see the benefits of such a research park like this in Wilmington that is associated with UNCW. Together, we aim to translate our research discoveries into products and processes that will benefit the economy and stimulate growth in the region.”
The goal for a building to house the collaboration and innovation became a step closer to reality in 2009 when the $30 million funding—half from a federal research grant and half from a university bond—was secured.

"The federal grant is a NIST Federal Department of Commerce grant, and this project is designed to create Translational Science space, space that fosters the migration of basic science results into applied development, ultimately translating into products and processes. The translational mode of operation ensures that our basic science funding has the best chance of translating into good results for the American people," says Dan Baden, director of the Center for Marine Science and William R. Kenan Jr. Distinguished Professor of Marine Science.

MARBIONC’s dream will be realized with the completion of their 69,000-square-foot facility. Wright and Baden led the design of the new building with the support of Stephen Eitelman, Steve Fontana and others on the MARBIONC management team.

"Designed by scientists for scientists," this structure is engineered to withstand a Category 3 hurricane and will house the most advanced biotechnology laboratories and equipment on the East Coast. The labs are designed for ease of use—an open floor plan and modular pieces will allow researchers to configure their labs based on the needs of their projects.

For other researchers looking to become tenants in the new MARBIONC establishment, renting a lab will reduce the overall cost by providing communal access to some of the newest technologies in the industry right at their doorstep. This eliminates the high cost of purchasing such machinery and allows samples to be processed within their work environment, eliminating the need to ship them to another research facility.

The opening of MARBIONC’s new building will also represent the start of UNCW’s new research park, CREST (Campus for Research, Entrepreneurship, Services and Teaching). CREST is one of UNCW’s growing initiatives that will increase learning opportunities and resources in the Wilmington area. CREST Research Park is the beginning of the initiative. It is located on the Intracoastal Waterway and incorporates the Center for Marine Science (CMS), the new MARBIONC building and the Shellfish Research Hatchery that opened in 2010.

"This is a long-term vision and targets like this cannot be achieved overnight, but with the creation of the CREST Research Park and the MARBIONC building, we have begun the journey," Wright says. Other portions of CREST are in consideration and will be located on UNCW’s main campus. The main campus location will house CREST East and CREST West, while the research park will encompass CREST South.

"We have an entire package here at CREST, a package that will be expanded in different forms, across UNCW’s other Millennial Campuses over time." Fontana adds.

Numerous other research parks are soon to be seen popping up around various North Carolina universities as the push for innovation in the state increases. "These days, jobs are on everyone’s mind, and should be. The building provides opportunities for biotech companies to locate in this beautiful area we call homes," Fontana says. "Relationships between and among UNCW technology creators and our various tenants have the potential to ‘translate’ innovations into reality.”

Marine biotechnology is a field open for innovation. Housing that innovation in Wilmington will stimulate the local economy and provide more jobs and opportunities in the community. All in all, Wilmington gains by encouraging these researchers to work within the community.

"It’s the spirit, an intangible, that is already developed at CREST that will expand throughout the entire public and private community, all driven by scientific excellence," Fontana says.
Background TV and its effect on kids

by Benjamin Rachlin '15M
Matt Lapierre, a lecturer in UNCW’s Department of Communication Studies, is breaking new ground in the relationship between media and children’s cognitive health. Lapierre helped conduct a national study of children, parenting and media use at the University of Pennsylvania, where he completed the coursework for his doctorate in communications. Since then, Lapierre has chosen several components of that larger study to investigate more fully. One such investigation concerns the effect of television on children.

Lapierre and his colleagues have distinguished between two types of television exposure: foreground and background. Foreground exposure, which is commonly understood by parents, applies to a child who sits deliberately in front of a television in order to watch. Background exposure, on the other hand, is an unplanned viewing experience, when a television simply is turned on in a child’s vicinity.

Because so many parents are already familiar with foreground exposure, Lapierre explains, they often choose to monitor its duration. However, parents are less familiar with background exposure, and less aware of its effect on children. They are thus less prepared to make informed decisions. Lapierre and his colleagues are out to change this pattern.

“The average child between the ages of eight months and eight years,” Lapierre describes, “is exposed to close to four hours of background television on a given day—232 minutes.” This amount outpaces foreground exposure, by far—and the younger a child is, the more background exposure he is likely to experience.

“There is a fair amount of evidence suggesting exposure is harmful,” Lapierre reports. For example, television exposure correlates inversely with a child’s ability to sustain his or her attention over time, which in turn is linked to academic success. One study, at the University of Massachusetts, also found that background television exposure is linked to reduced interaction between children and their parents.

Unlike other auditory stimuli, like radio or music, Lapierre and his colleagues concluded television is uniquely jarring for its audience and places a demand on visual attention. As a consequence, whenever a television emits a sound or image—even if it is not the primary focus of attention—it remains an influence on cognition and behavior.

Findings like these reflect the reason Lapierre chose to focus his research on children’s health in the first place. Logistically, he admits, it would be easier to study adults, because the permissions required to work with children present a unique obstacle.

Despite this, Lapierre asserts, “There’s something worthwhile in making kids’ lives better.” His intent is not only to better inform parents, but also to provide policymakers with the information they need to legislate more responsibly. Another of his studies, for example, which considered the effect of corporate advertising on children, yielded new federal regulations for marketers.

Such real-world implications are another reason Lapierre has chosen his work.

“If you believe that background television is something that harms kids’ well-being,” he explains, “I think it’s a worthwhile professional and policy goal to work toward.”
Roberts takes the lead at CIE

Jim Roberts, executive director of UNCW’s Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIE), is jumping into his new role with both feet. He is using his imagination to rework the labyrinth space south of campus to hold co-working spaces, conference rooms, investor presentation areas and offices. Some of the space will be for rent, while other space will be used to facilitate faculty and students working with—and collaborating with—entrepreneurs.

Roberts is establishing a space where everyone is part of the community, running the center to help hatch and accelerate the growth of new businesses, to increase the outreach of the entrepreneurship council and to be a recruiting tool to bring more businesses to the region.

Roberts likens his position to inheriting a garden. He knows things will grow, but he’s not sure yet what seeds have been planted. The direction of his focus will depend on “what I find that we have and what businesses are interested in relocating.”

Such centers are establishing themselves in Charlotte, Raleigh, Durham, Asheville and Winston-Salem. UNCW’s CIE is gearing up to “catch up and accelerate,” according to Roberts.

In his role, Roberts is looking forward to encouraging entrepreneurs to think bigger and improve their sales processes and investor presentation skills. At the same time, he plans to increase the number of Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grants.

The CIE will also house UNCW’s Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC), future tech transfer operations and The Seahawk Fund, a privately operated venture capital fund to support business and economic development in the region.

Roberts and the CIE won’t be starting businesses, but assisting entrepreneurs to make their businesses better—and more profitable.
CIE is gearing up to "catch up and accelerate"
Students and faculty from UNCW's Cameron School of Business visited EMC and AT&T in Raleigh to attend a visitor program hosted by the Global Enterprise Managed Services (GEMS). This is UNCW's sixth year traveling to firms in the Research Triangle Park (RTP), organized by Tom Janicki, Progress Energy-Gordon C. Hurlbert Distinguished Professor in Management Information Systems, in the Cameron School of Business.

This trip is beneficial to students because it is designed to help them find jobs and prepare for the future. Students are able to interact with executives from leading technology firms while also learning about recent UNCW Management Information Systems (MIS) graduates—Matt Pettenati ’11, Stephen Schultz ’10 and Ryan Weaver ’10—and how they gained employment at EMC and AT&T. It was a highlight for these UNCW graduates to present during the program as they discussed what they learned in their first few years on the job.

Joshua Kraszeski, a UNCW student who visited EMC on the RTP trip, says it was “both rewarding and informative.” He learned about EMC’s facilities and was excited to see the huge data center. “Most impressive to me was the sheer scale of their operation. Their Internet connection is fast enough to power tens of thousands of homes, and they have enough data storage capacity to store the Library of Congress several hundred times over.”

Two main hosts were in charge at EMC – Mike Wade, advisory board member and UNCW account representative for EMC, and Eric Wagner, EMC director. UNCW has impressed both hosts with its advancement in joining the EMC Academic Alliance. One course from the EMC curriculum—Management of Database Systems—is now offered as a course at UNCW, which is another progressive step in linking the business to academics. The goal is to hire interns or full-time employees through the EMC and UNCW collaboration.

Not only is the trip beneficial for students, but it is also a way for technology firms to learn about UNCW and its information technology (IT) curriculum. Faculty members who go on this trip gain knowledge of what the firms are looking for in potential employees and can craft their curriculum accordingly. Now that AT&T in Raleigh and UNCW have established a relationship, these firms continue to learn more about IT majors and are becoming more interested in these students as potential hires.

Faculty members see this trip as a great opportunity for students to learn outside the classroom. Jeffrey Cummings, assistant professor of MIS, who was on the trip, explains how the trip is beneficial for students: “Thanks to our participating companies, students interact with individuals in the field and learn more about the company, jobs available and the skills needed to succeed once they leave UNCW. They also have the opportunity to talk with recent grads who discuss their experience at the company as well as their experience making the transition from academics to the workforce.”

Though AT&T in Raleigh is hours from Wilmington, UNCW is the only university that has visited the firm in the academic year. John Leadem, who is with AT&T’s human resources department, put together the agenda and is working to start the “college leap” program that will hire college graduates, including UNCW students.

UNCW students have been hired as a direct result of these trips, according to Janicki.
More than 350 Wilmington-area professionals visited UNCW in April for the 10th annual Wilmington Area Information Technology eXchange and Conference (WITX). The keynote address focused on social media threats. Students attended learning sessions, exhibits and a networking tent. WITX Ignite speaking event allows speakers to present 20 slides that auto-advance every 15 seconds on a topic of interest. WITX 2014 is planned for Tuesday, April 8.
Hispanic enrollment 3rd highest in UNC system

Violeta Perez-Villa is the first person in her family to attend a four-year university. She grew up in Etucuaro, a small town in the state region of Michoacan de Ocampo, Mexico. In the summer of 2002, when Perez-Villa was 9 years old, her family left Mexico for the U.S.

The number of Hispanic students choosing UNCW for college is rising. Graduation rates among Hispanic students are going up, too. Students and faculty weigh in on what’s working.

by Casey Milliken ’14
“I remember going to ESL classes every day, and I used to hate it because they would pull me out of my art class,” said Perez-Villa, recalling her first year trying to learn English. Perez-Villa is one of the many Hispanic students at UNCW to be the first in their family to attend college.

UNCW has the third highest enrollment of Hispanic students of all UNC system schools, following closely behind UNC Chapel Hill and UNC Charlotte. In 2008, Hispanic students made up 3.2 percent of the total student body. In 2012, that number climbed to 5.2 percent.

This rise in the number of Hispanic students might be due to the increasing opportunities available to them, including clubs and organizations geared toward building the Hispanic community, and the university’s financial aid incentives. In February 2012, for the fourth consecutive year, UNCW was named one of the nation’s “Best Value” public universities by The Princeton Review. The entry highlights UNCW’s campus culture, facilities and financial aid opportunities. In the 2011-12 academic year, UNCW awarded a total of $107 million in scholarships and loans.

“I think it’s a good reflection of what we’re doing with what we have,” said Beth Casper, associate director of financial aid, commenting on The Princeton Review’s inclusion of UNCW in The Best Value Colleges: 2012 Edition.

Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), a form that all students interested in applying for college financial aid must complete, does not include a section for demographic information, refuting the common stereotype that financial aid can be awarded based solely on race.

“We do offer several scholarships and programs for fostering diversity based on need and merit, not race,” said Casper.

Edelmira Segovia, director of Centro Hispano and interim associate provost for Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, reinforced Casper’s sentiment: “That’s something I preach oftentimes. I’m very quick to say there’s no such thing as a scholarship for being Hispanic. You have to be a contributing member of society.”

The Hispanic students at UNCW are doing just as Segovia asserts. The graduation retention numbers show a growth in achievement among the Hispanic community. In 2006, UNCW’s four-year graduation rate for Hispanic students was 31.3 percent. In 2011, the numbers climbed to 39.4 percent. The six-year graduation rates showed a similar rise, from 39.1 percent in 2006 to 54.5 percent in 2011. These numbers are growing both from the rise in Hispanic enrollment and the resources available for them at UNCW.

Centro Hispano is a unit in the Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion that seeks to support the rapidly growing number of Hispanic students applying for and attending college. The organization offers service-learning opportunities, connections to professional mentors, cultural organizations and to the Wilmington community.

“Centro Hispano has been such a blessing to the university,” said Marcio Moreno, associate director of admissions.

On the admission application for entry into UNCW, the first question in the demographics section asks: “Are you Hispanic of any kind?” Then follows the questions about race.

“By separating these questions, the government is viewing Hispanic not as a race, but as a culture, a heritage,” said Moreno. “Just like a person can be both Hispanic and African-American—it becomes less about race.”

Moreno is the first Hispanic bilingual counselor at UNCW. His ability to speak Spanish benefits the parents of first-generation immigrants who may not speak English. From the start of his career at UNCW, Moreno has seen the number of Hispanic students growing immensely.

“I arrived in 2005, and that freshman class had 35 Hispanic students. This year we have 127,” said Moreno. “Not having that familiar educational background, first-generation students just need some extra help, that push.”

As a work-study student and an active member of Centro Hispano, Perez-Villa is familiar with that extra push.

“To be honest, at the beginning of my senior year, I wasn’t even thinking about a four-year university, but my guidance counselor encouraged me, and it means a lot for me to be here,” said Perez-Villa.

The number of first-generation students applying for and attending college continues to grow, and the opportunities available to them are expanding as well, leading Centro Hispano to their outlined vision to become “the university of choice for the Hispanic community.”

opportunity

“The main thing we all have in common is an interest in meeting people, helping out in the community and trying to increase awareness and diversity at UNCW.”

by Joy Ellis ’13

“Centro Hispano is unique because it is the only office of its kind at any UNC school,” says Lucy Rojo, a Centro Hispano work-study student. Centro Hispano, UNC Wilmington’s Hispanic/Latino support center created in 2007, promotes opportunities for the success of each student and emphasizes leadership development, community service and academic excellence to students.

As one of her many tasks with Centro Hispano, Rojo contacts Hispanic students who have been accepted into UNCW to tell them about Centro Hispano and how they could benefit from this resource. Rojo said she received a similar phone call as a prospective student, which is what made her decide she was definitely going to attend UNCW.

Instead of a typical club or organization, Rojo describes Centro Hispano as “a resource office where many people come together to meet new friends, help out in the community and try to increase diversity and awareness at UNCW.”

The Centro Hispano umbrella contains student organizations and programs, including student organizations Mi Gente, Puro Teatro, Ritmo Latino, Centro Hispano Embajadores alongside MI CASA (Mentors Initiating Community Action, Support and Advocacy), a mentoring program designed to make connections between high school students and higher education.

Edelmira Segovia, the director of Centro Hispano and interim associate provost for Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, claimed that MI CASA has been a driving force behind the growth of the number of Hispanic students at UNCW.

The designated student space for MI CASA has been established since November 2011, supporting a strong sense of community and serving as a place where students can call home. The two-year program supports mentees through college preparation seminars, tutoring, community service and cultural enrichment activities. Students of UNCW can experience the joy of helping high school mentees become college admission candidates and scholarship award recipients.

As local area high school students are exposed to UNCW resources and students through MI CASA, many are inspired to attend UNCW in the future.
UNC Wilmington’s extension program located in Onslow County strives to provide educational opportunities to the community surrounding Jacksonville, N.C. “It was a pretty demonstrated need,” says Jill Fegley, Ph.D. and director of the Onslow County Extension site.

Coastal Carolina Community College was set to offer the first two years for students in the Jacksonville community and UNC Wilmington’s extension site was set to offer the second two. “That’s where the partnership started,” says Fegley, who is also UNCW’s military liaison.

“We started that way. We’ve grown, we’ve increased the number of programs, and what’s unique about the extension site is that we bring in programs where there are demonstrated needs in the community for jobs that our students can fill.”

Dana Abudayeh, a Marine veteran, rank of Sergeant E-5, and wife of an active duty marine, says that UNCW’s programs are helping her to reach her goals. “Without UNCW’s Onslow Extension program here in Jacksonville, I may not have been able to go back to school to fulfill my dream of being a teacher.”

After receiving her associate’s degree from CCCC with a pre-major in elementary education in 2010, Abudayeh finished up her internship semester of student teaching and graduated in May.

The Jacksonville community is home to military active duty and military veterans who want to earn their degrees, but having to stay in the area limits their options even more than the average student.

Ryan Pilz, a Marine Corps veteran says, “The Jacksonville area is just too far away from many schools to realistically commute. We are often tied to the area due to our jobs or we have a family member who is on active duty. For those of us in these sometimes unique situations, the extension provides a great opportunity to receive a quality education.”

As a veteran, Pilz decided to stay in the Jacksonville area “due to the availability of jobs and educational resources for veterans.”

He heard about UNC Wilmington’s criminology program and wanted to pursue a degree, enrolling at Coastal Carolina Community College in 2010. “My overall experience with both schools has been great. I’ve taken a combination of online and seated classes. The flexibility of the online classes and the location of the satellite classrooms help immensely.” Pilz has worked toward a B.A. in criminology.

This quality education attracts students from the Jacksonville area and Craven, Jones and Pender Counties. Many of the Onslow programs are designed for working adults and part-time students.

“In addition to the tuition,” Fegley says, “we don’t have as many fees as main campus. Needs assessments are other things that we can offer in order to develop new programs. We also have video teleconferencing, where our faculty teaches for the main campus and the extension site.”

The extension site is providing higher education for passionate students who wish to—as Abudayeh put it—“fulfill their dreams.” What more could a student hope for?
succeeding in the dugout and beyond

by Joe Browning
During his baseball career at UNCW, Josh Bonifay was known as a gritty, competitive second baseman/outfielder with an in-depth knowledge of America’s favorite pastime. Today, he’s putting that know-how to good use as the first-year manager of the Greeneville (Tenn.) Astros of the Appalachian League.

Bonifay, 34, took over the helm of the Astros earlier this year after serving as hitting coach for Class A Lexington in 2012 and hitting coach for Greeneville in 2011. Greeneville is a rookie-level affiliate of the Astros that plays its home games at Pioneer Park on the campus of Tusculum College.

“It’s something I’m really enjoying doing,” the 2008 business management graduate said. “It was a big change going from the hitting side to the managing side. You don’t realize how much responsibility goes into it. There’s so much more to do when you’re the manager.”

Bonifay played two seasons for the Seahawks in 1997 and 1999—sitting out with a wrist injury in between—and ranks fifth all-time in slugging percentage (.570) with 27 doubles, five triples and 21 home runs in 388 at-bats. He played in 113 games and made 111 starts for Coach Mark Scalf’s clubs, and owns a .312 career average.

“I really enjoyed my time at UNCW,” said Bonifay, the first ex-Seahawk to manage professionally. “Coach Scalf is one of the best in the country. He is all about having players become good people first, good students and good teammates. He was like a second father to me and prepared me extremely well for this.”

An eight-year minor league veteran, Bonifay played in 812 professional games, including a stint at Double A Corpus Christi in 2006, before serving as a player/coach in the Pirates organization from 2007-09. He then joined Houston in 2011.

The Greeneville Astros opened their 67-game season on June 20 and delivered Bonifay his first coaching victory a day later with a 9-5 decision on the road against the Bluefield Blue Jays. It was a milestone Bonifay will always remember.

“It was a great night,” he recalled. “We had a lot of offense and that made the job a lot easier for the bullpen. It was a fun night and my wife, Tiffany, was there to enjoy it. The only place open was Applebee’s and Bluefield coach Dennis Holmberg sent over a bottle of champagne the next day with a nice letter.”

Scalf, who led the Seahawks to their sixth NCAA appearance this spring, knew Bonifay had the makings of a manager. After all, his father Cam and brother Jonathan are involved in the front office and scouting branches of the game.

“Josh certainly comes from a rich baseball background,” said Scalf. “He’s always had a passion for the game and thoughts of being able to give back to the game as a coach once his playing days were over.

“During his playing career, he always paid close attention to how managers and coaches handled players and taught the game. It’s certainly paid off for him in terms of improving his knowledge of the game and how to handle personnel. I expect him to have success as a manager in pro baseball.”

Bonifay, for his part, is determined to justify Scalf’s confidence and understands what it will take to succeed in the dugout.

“I have to come to the park early and spend extra time watching video. It’s my responsibility to research and understand the stats to help our players succeed more often. It’s a grind, but we have a good group of baseball men in this organization.

“The men in this organization have a lot of baseball knowledge. Sabremetrics is a big part of baseball now. It opens your eyes on so many different ways to play the game. It gives you a whole different view from traditional baseball and scouting the five-tool guy.”
seahawks networking their way to net worth

by Amelia Beamer '15 and Joy Ellis '13

Left: Sarah Crockett talks about the finer points of fine dining as UNC Wilmington students participated in a reception and three course meal during a dinner hosted by the UNCW Career Center. The Professional Etiquette Dinner was sponsored by Northwestern Mutual Financial Network, OpinionLab, Target and PPD. The reception and meal gave students the opportunity to learn professional tips on dining, social media and workplace etiquette.
As a regional sales consultant at Opal Orthodontics, UNCW alumnus William Vaughan ’92 says “You cannot place enough importance in networking in one’s career.”

Vaughan is on the board of directors of the UNCW Alumni Association and confirms that connecting with fellow members of the board has contributed his career successes. These connections, along with continuing his involvement with UNCW, provide additional credibility to Vaughan’s position in the eyes of those he meets.

Finding common ground is a great start when networking with others.

There are networking opportunities for students on campus and for UNCW alumni. Both Vaughan and Diane Reed, assistant director of UNCW’s Career Center, illustrate the importance of networking and how it is beneficial in one’s career and in having the confidence to stand out against competitors when searching for jobs.

For students, that can happen at UNCW campus events, such as the Professional Etiquette Dinner. “This is a chance to practice networking in a safe environment,” Reed says.

The etiquette dinner increases the confidence level of students by teaching them appropriate social and dining etiquette. “Many organizations, large and small, conduct final round interviews in a professional dining setting. And the way you present yourself can make or break the deal,” Reed says.

Employer sponsors who attend the Professional Etiquette Dinner may even be UNCW alumni, providing a way for alumni to stay involved with the university. “I encourage all alumni to ‘get active’ with our wonderful university because it will pay off,” says Vaughan.

Topics covered at the Professional Etiquette Dinner include first impressions, dining and professional etiquette, business interviewing and, last but not least, networking. Reed says, “Students meet new people, learn the art of conversation at a dinner setting and have the opportunity to meet local employers from PPD, OpinionLab, Northwestern Mutual Financial Network and Target.”
With the advancements in technology and social networking, it’s easy to forget the not-so-distant past when networking was almost exclusively a face-to-face activity.

The old phrase “it’s not what you know, but who you know” may still daunt many job seekers, but shouldn’t be much of a limiting factor for today’s career-seeking Seahawks. Though family ties and “ins” through friends are still ideal ways to get career opportunities, new networking websites and career management programs are leveling the playing field for individuals without such connections.

“I think that technology has absolutely changed networking,” Thom Rakes, director of UNCW’s Career Center, said. “It’s made things more accessible, but it’s also made it less personal.”

On a global scale, social media websites have increased the ease of contact and the level of availability among their users on a phenomenal scale. LinkedIn, for example, has become a popular way to connect in a more “business casual” manner, allowing users to see virtual “webs” connecting them and their colleagues, past and present.

Unlike other social media sites, LinkedIn users tend to mainly “connect” with individuals with whom they’ve worked or know personally enough to vouch for or endorse. LinkedIn can be beneficial to those who are just starting off or are in-between jobs, as it could be used to approach potential employers about job openings.

“Sites like LinkedIn are wonderful, and we use them everyday, but there’s a limit to what you can do with them,” explains Rakes. “We want to use the sites to contact other people, but we don’t want them to use the same sites to contact us. So there’s got to be a balance there somewhere.”

The average LinkedIn user might shrug and begin to hunt relentlessly through search-engines for an email address anyway, and then they might email an employer “cold,” with no real information on the company or the individual they’re contacting.

They’re networking, right?

Not in the most effective way, according to Rakes, and not using the right tools, either.

“A lot of people try to do networking purely electronically. That certainly still helps—it works to find the initial contacts and information about them, but after that, you have to make that personal contact. By personal, I mean at least a telephone call as opposed to just an email,” says Rakes.

During the 2012–13 school year, UNCW’s Career Center purchased two online networking programs, free for use by all students and alumni. Both programs—CareerShift and Going Global—feature unique ways for students to seek information and are organized so that the user can receive the programs’ information in one central place by logging in to SeaWork.

CareerShift typically costs $49.99 a month for the public—a price that hundreds of thousands of individuals willingly pay in return for access to what has been proclaimed “The Best Job Search Tool on the Internet.”

But what makes it the best?

“We purchased it specifically because of the networking contacts,” Rakes said.

When looking for specific people, you can search based on countless filters, from the obvious (name, state) to their industry and position, their company name, their title and title seniority, and even what school they attended. Using the school search filter, the user could see if any UNCW alumni work for the company they’re applying to, with as many as 5,000 employees, within seconds. It can help alumni network with one another.

Once you’ve located your contact, “you’re going to find their name, their job title, their email address and telephone number,” said Rakes. “You may also have a photograph, and
then you may have a list of places where they’ve worked before the place where they are now. And then there will be two lists of links on the Web; things that they have written that are on the Web, maybe on a blog or for an article, and then things that are written on the Web about them—so maybe they’ve been featured in a newspaper for something—those things are going to be there as well.

“It’s a great way to find out a little bit more about them before you contact them. That way, you could make it personal. You could say ‘You know, I recognize that you’ve won this award a year ago for this or that, and so it’s a way to start building a relationship that maybe they’re more likely to respond to.”

Like other websites, CareerShift lets you bookmark and save jobs you may be interested in, but it also allows you to save contacts and all of their information and export it to keep it handy.

Recently, Rakes worked one-on-one with alumna Elizabeth Wilson, who graduated in 2009. A film studies major, Wilson said she has been “lucky enough to work in the film industry steadily since [she] graduated.” She came to meet with Rakes when she decided to move across the country to northern California and had virtually no contacts in her industry there.

“I decided to use the free resources available for alumni,” she explains, “I thought that the Career Center’s daily experience in strategizing different job searches would be invaluable.”

Together with Rakes, Wilson utilized SeaWork and CareerShift, where she was able to find detailed contact information and make her first contacts with companies she was interested in. She said she plans to visit each one once she arrives in California, emphasizing how important a personal connection can be, regardless of how wonderful the technological resources are.

“A personal visit to each place cannot be stressed enough for an industry that values relationships above all else,” she said. “The primary tools for job searching are Internet resources; however, the frustrating part is that anyone, anywhere can apply and sometimes your resume and/or application can get buried in the heap, especially considering unemployment rates. This is the reason that personal interaction and connections are so important.”

Similarly, Wilson said that she felt like she’d benefitted from actually making an appointment to come into the Career Center rather than utilizing the resources alone at home.

“It was extremely helpful and gave me confidence in my job search,” she said. “For someone who has never had to search for a job in a traditional sense, the process educated me. It teaches you how to narrow down your search and customize your cover letter and resume to specific jobs. Being able to stand out in this job market is the name of the game.”
People are usually surprised when Brian Pate ’06 tells them that no one else in his family works in politics.

In fact, when asked how in the world he landed a job at the White House fresh out of college from UNCW, he says, “Prior to my experience at UNCW, I had absolutely no connections with politicians or anyone in the D.C. area. My parents are not involved in politics and are pretty low-key folks.”

According to Pate, his first big taste of being involved in the community occurred during his time in Wilmington, when he served on the UNCW Appropriations Committee and was elected vice president, and later president of a political group.
on campus. “Both of these positions helped me to be a better social communicator and prepared me to deal with all sorts of different people, as I do today. Here in D.C., and definitely working here at the White House, you can’t be scared or shy to speak to someone, all the way up to the president. I have to interact with the top political figures, and being shy or afraid to speak up and introduce yourself doesn’t get you very far. I was a little shy growing up and always sat at the back of the class to avoid having to interact with anyone. The social atmosphere at UNCW allowed me to gain certain social skills and taught me not to be afraid to walk up to someone, introduce myself and ask how I could help or get involved on campus.”

Though he was a criminal justice major, Pate found himself inspired to work on local campaigns during the 2006 election cycle. It turned out to be a great place to network.

“As far as networking right after college, I was pretty fortunate in the connections I made while working on the campaigns; I didn’t have to do much networking online. My person-to-person or face-to-face networking on the political campaign during 2006 led me to apply for an internship at the White House, and I was accepted in January 2007.”

As a White House intern during the Bush administration, Pate worked hard and interacted constantly with important political figures. Thanks to his work ethic and drive, Pate’s internship eventually turned into a job. At the end of the Bush administration, one of Pate’s friends, a career staff member at the White House, recommended him for a position in the Executive Clerk’s Office.

“The Executive Clerk’s Office is the oldest operating office in the White House and has been around since 1865,” he explains, “Our office processes and tracks all of the president’s public papers, such as executive orders, proclamations, presidential memorandum, and messages to the Congress. We have House and Senate floor privileges to deliver any communication to the Congress on behalf of the president. Any public speaking shyness I had went away very quickly when I started delivering messages from the president to the House of Representatives.”

Pate’s office also plays a vital role in the evolution of the nation’s laws, tracking legislation and reviewing bills from Congress before passing them along to the president.

We might live in a time where technology has taken over virtually all forms of communication, but Pate admits that he does very little online networking, himself.

“To be completely honest, I have a LinkedIn profile, but couldn’t tell you the last time I’ve been on there,” he says. Though he may not need to “network” using the resources that many tech-savvy young alumni rely on today, Pate’s entire career has involved networking the old-fashioned way: dedication and hard work reinforced with strong face-to-face and personal connections.

On his off days, Pate spends time with his wife and dog at their home in Alexandria, Va. Pate loves working in the yard and lying in his hammock, away from the city noise.

“Our home is the closest thing to North Carolina we could find around the D.C. area,” he says, “I still refer to myself as a country boy; I just happen to be working at the White House in a big metropolitan city.”

When asked what advice he would give to a graduating senior, Pate replies, “I’d say to get a foot in the door wherever you want to work, however you can, through internships or even volunteer work. Once you get to know people, network with them, and they will see your work ethic and abilities and your chances of getting hired will greatly increase. Not to sound cheesy, but I would follow whatever dreams you have. You can do whatever you want in life, if you put your mind to it.”
Lee Grant ’00, president and owner of Wilmington-based Coastal Chemical & Paper, is a UNC Wilmington alumnus who is making a difference.

Grant graduated from UNC Wilmington in 2000 with a degree in exercise science. Since then, he has taken a different career path, while keeping strong connections to the university, even employing other UNCW alumni, like himself.

After graduating, Grant says his initial plans were to “get into coaching at the college level.” But, he admits, “Those types of experiences are pretty limited.” Inspired by his father’s career in distribution, Lee started his company in his garage with only one supplier.

“I started the company with basically not much money,” Grant says. “I am a big fan of keeping debt low, which creates more opportunities down the road. You can offer the customer what is best for him or her, and it’s not just another sell to help pay down some debt that has accrued.”

Coastal Chemical & Paper has transformed into a business with a 20,000-square-foot warehouse, six delivery trucks and a flourishing reputation in southeastern North Carolina.

“It was tough early on,” Grant says, “but being competitive as can be, I was up for the challenge.”

With help from his wife, Sommer Hart Grant ’00, an information systems graduate, Coastal Chemical & Paper has become one of the best suppliers of cleaning, packaging, food service and janitorial products in the state. The business strives to educate its customers on green cleaning, as well. “We promote a healthy work environment with healthy sustainable products and methods.”

As a student-athlete, Grant has been able to tie his experiences on the baseball field into his work as a businessman.

“UNCW was an awesome experience,” he says. “Being a part of the baseball team, you have to learn to be incredibly disciplined between your studies and practice. UNCW gave me work ethic, teamwork, discipline, integrity, things like that.”

Taking personal and passionate approaches in his business plan, Grant puts his customers first, telling his workers to never lose sight of the customers’ priorities. Grant has built his business and its reputation using the “old school word of mouth,” and reaches out to some customers through his involvement with UNCW.

Grant takes pride in building relationships with his customers. He’s strived to keep things close and trusting, to ensure that his customers are getting the best care possible. “In this business, we sell to the same businesses every week, every month. It’s a continuous sale, so the customers need to be able to trust you,” he says.

With six UNCW alumni working on Grant’s staff and his participation as a member of UNCW’s Alumni Association Board of Directors, Grant has been able to keep close ties with the university.

Starting Coastal Chemical & Paper was sparked by his athletic competitiveness and his knowledge of the business world. Regardless of his success in business, he still considers convincing his wife to marry him the best sales job he ever did. Having a family has helped him focus on other pieces of his life that are important.

“Sommer and I started a family. Then the importance became about giving our kids the best life we could. The bottom line is, creating this business has been fun to me. It gives me an outlet to still be competitive in the workplace and provides stability for my family.”

Lee Grant ’00, president and owner of Wilmington-based Coastal Chemical & Paper, is a UNC Wilmington alumnus who is making a difference.
Malcomb Coley ‘86, ‘89M had a smile on his face as he talked with two other presenters before his 9 a.m. Business Week session. The three were laughing, perhaps while comparing stories about their careers in public accounting.

As their session began, the laughter transferred into energy and enthusiasm as each described career paths to becoming partners in their respective accounting firms. Coley’s path was different than most, especially considering he only planned a brief career in public accounting.

After graduating with his master’s in business administration in 1989, Coley worked as an accounting professor for two years at North Carolina Central University in Durham and Saint Augustine’s University in Raleigh.

“I was teaching from a theoretical standpoint, but did not have practical experience,” says Coley. Having maintained close contact with an Ernst & Young recruiter, Coley expressed his interest in going into public accounting.

His first day at Ernst & Young was Jan. 2, 1992, in its Raleigh office. His plan was to work for three years to gain practical experience and then resume teaching. More than 21 years later, Coley still works for Ernst &Young and has excelled in his field. He serves some of the firm’s largest clients and he travels internationally to serve other Ernst & Young clients.

When asked where he lived his freshman year at UNCW, Coley gets a big grin on his face before describing Galloway Hall. He liked UNCW because it was a small school and more of a “diamond in the rough.” He found it easy to get involved, as he became a member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., and the Student Government Association. He served as treasurer for SGA before becoming class vice president.

These memories help him continue to connect with his alma mater, where he has given back in tremendous ways.

A regular participant in Business Week, Coley also sits on the Cameron School of Business Executive Advisory Board and UNCW Board of Visitors. He previously chaired the Master of Science in Accountancy Advisory Board.

One of his greatest honors came in 2011 when he was recognized as the UNCW Distinguished Alumnus by the UNCW Alumni Association, the highest honor bestowed on an alumnus of the university.

“Malcomb Coley is incredible in how he somehow finds the time to return every year to Business Week to share his experiences and to help mentor students,” says CSB Dean Larry Clark. “His love of UNCW and Cameron is further evident by the set of scholarships that he has created— naming them for others who were special in his journey of learning at UNCW. For many within Cameron, including me, Malcomb is perceived to be our most inspirational alum with students.”

Coley announced a 10-year commitment to provide additional funding for five diversity scholarships to honor his former professor Denis Carter; Ralph Parker, former director of minority affairs; Jim Braye, who was director of career planning and placement; the late Doug Johnson, who was registrar; and the Cameron School of Business.

In addition, Coley has been the co-chair for Stompin’ at the Savoy, a UNCW fundraiser for diversity scholarships, for the last five years. His efforts are helping to gain awareness for the need for more diversity scholarships at UNCW.

Coley also focuses on diversity initiatives for Ernst & Young, where he is a partner in Assurance Services. He was appointed office managing partner for the Charlotte office in July.

He is easily able to connect with current students at UNCW, and this was apparent during his Business Week sessions. One student thanked Coley for speaking at Business Week, and he suggested the student send him an email with his resume.

Coley is extremely involved with recruiting efforts for Ernst & Young.

“We’ve hired hundreds of UNCW students into the firm,” says Coley. “There are 50 to 60 alums in the firm now.”
Coley has many pieces of advice to offer current students as they prepare for the professional world.

“Networking is crucial,” Coley emphasizes. “Meet as many professionals as possible.” He encourages accounting students specifically to attend events such as Meet the Firms and to join Beta Alpha Psi, an accounting honorary society. Maintaining relationships with faculty is another key point Coley touches on.

Fara Elikai, an accounting professor, was a key faculty member who had great influence on Coley.

With a serious look on his face, Coley says, “He was a person who pulled me to the side. He saw I was a good student, and gave me a conversation about how I needed to focus. It showed someone who didn’t look like me cared about me. He genuinely cared.”

Are there plans for Coley to become a UNCW professor when he wraps up his career at Ernst and Young?

He just smiles and says he wouldn’t rule it out, but there are other areas he would like to explore. He recognizes there are needs for at-risk youth, the elderly and the homeless, which he believes he could in someway help meet.
alumni awards

Sandra McClammy ’03, ’09M and Chancellor Gary L. Miller with the UNCW Alumni Association 2013 Award winners: Pete Hexter, Distinguished Citizen of the Year, Bradley Ballou ’06, Young Alumnus of the Year and Linda Nance ’74, Distinguished Alumna of the Year.
Distinguished Alumna of the Year
Linda Patton Nance ’74

Linda has worked with UNCW leaders as a member of the Foundation Board and Board of Visitors. She is a previous president of the Friends of UNCW, where she continues to be actively involved. Her involvement in the College of Arts and Sciences Campaign Committee contributed to the success of UNCW’s last capital campaign, Soaring to Greatness. Linda has served on many Wilmington and North Carolina community boards and committees throughout her lifetime, including the Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Council, Cape Fear Museum Board of Trustees and the Wilmington Symphony Board of Directors. Former Gov. James Martin appointed Linda to the N.C. Foundation for Alternative Health Programs Board and the State School Advisory Committee, on which she served for several years.

Young Alumnus of the Year
Bradley Ballou ’06

Bradley is a past president of the UNCW Student Government Association and served as a member of the UNCW Board of Trustees. He has helped with successful alumni outreach initiatives in the Washington, D.C. area. Additionally, Bradley gained experience working with former Sen. Elizabeth Dole as an advisor on energy and legislative policy. This experience led to his position as the director of federal government relations for the University of North Carolina System. He serves as a liaison between the 17 UNC-system schools and Congress.

Distinguished Citizen of the Year
Peter Hexter

Pete has shown his support and commitment to UNCW and the Wilmington area through his involvement and philanthropic devotion over the past 20 years. Co-owner of BRAX Ltd., Pete has supported the Boomer Esiason Foundation, the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Pop Warner Little Scholars. He led the effort to bring the Miracle League to Wilmington in 2013. In 2002, he helped lead the effort to establish the Landfall Tradition Golf Tournament, which raises funds for UNCW scholarships and golf programs. Pete serves on the UNCW Board of Visitors and the Seahawk Club.

Wilmington College Alumni Chapter Monthly Luncheon

Wednesdays Monthly
Sept. 18, Oct. 16 and Nov. 20
11:30 a.m. Jackson’s Big Oak Barbecue, Wilmington

Family & Alumni Weekend
Sept. 27 – 29

Music Department Alumni Concert & Reception
Friday, Sept. 27
7:30 p.m. UNCW Cultural Arts Building

An evening of jazz with strings featuring department of music alumni and faculty, followed by a dessert reception in the grand lobby. Concert tickets; $20 general public, $15 for UNCW alumni, parents, faculty/staff, and $5 for UNCW students with a valid ID and the reception is included. All tickets are general seating. Concert begins at 7:30 p.m. Reception to immediately follow.

Golden Wing Society Reunion
1949-63 Graduates
Saturday, Sept. 28
10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Madeline Suite

Join fellow Wilmington College classmates from the classes of 1947-63 for a brunch. Reminisce with friends over fond memories of college days. Stay for a guided trolley tour of the UNCW Campus.

UNCW Alumni Day at the Beach
Saturday, Sept. 28
11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Wrightsville Beach

Join us for a fun day at Wrightsville Beach at access #36 near Crystal Pier. The alumni association will provide complimentary snacks and lots of fun beach games. A local musician will play relaxing beach tunes as you wind down with your friends and classmates.

www.uncw.edu/alumni/events or www.uncw.edu/alumnichapter
complimentary trolley to the beach will be available for all attendees who pre-register. You can park and pick up the trolley at the Old Cinema parking lot on Oleaner Drive near Tidal Creek Co-op and directly across from Jungle Rapids Family Fun Park (5335 Oleander Drive).

Legacy Pinning Ceremony
Saturday, Sept. 28
4–5 p.m. Burney Center
The UNCW Alumni Association invites legacy students (current students with a parent, grandparent or sibling who have attended UNCW) to join us for a pinning ceremony to commemorate making UNCW a family tradition. Snacks and refreshments will be served.

Midnite Madness
Friday, Oct. 4
9:30–11 p.m. Trask Coliseum

OUTLOOK:
Contract Research Organizations
Cameron School of Business
Thursday, Oct. 10
7:30–11 a.m. Burney Center

Charlotte Alumni Chapter Fall Dinner
Thursday, Oct. 17
Charlotte City Club
with keynote speaker Brandon Beane '98 from the Carolina Panthers

Triangle Alumni Chapter Fall Dinner
Wednesday, Nov. 13
Prestonwood Country Club
with keynote speaker Chancellor Gary L. Miller

Metro Washington D.C. Alumni Reception
Thursday, Dec. 5
Willard InterContinental
with keynote speaker Chancellor Gary L. Miller

Want to make sure you receive invitations to these and other events? Update or verify your information at www.uncw.edu/alumniupdate.

1950s
Gerald Batts '57 passed away

1960s
Charles Matthis '61 passed away
Nov. 27, 2012.
Leslie Newsome '66 passed away
Margaret Holland '66 passed away
James A. Braxton '68 passed away
Don Goodwin '69 was selected by his peers as one of four firm attorneys to be named in the 2013 edition of The Best Lawyers in America. Goodwin is founder, chairman, and CEO of Dallas-based Goodwin Ronquillo PC. Best Lawyers honored Godwin for his client work in commercial litigation matters.

1970s
Pamela Gravino Jones '75 is First Bank’s senior vice president and director of residential mortgage lending.
Larry C. Brammer '71 passed away
April Dean West '73 passed away
Daniel Holland '75 passed away
Charles Weaver '76 passed away
Nov. 28, 2012.
Nettie Brewer Jones Sharp '76 passed away
March 18, 2013.
Walter Neil Barnhill '78 passed away
Ira Long '78 passed away
H. Layton Bedsole Jr. '79 is the New Hanover County shore protection coordinator.
Martha Merritt '79 passed away
Feb. 6, 2013.

1980s
Michelle Polito Schultes '80 received the Teacher of the Year award at Windermere Elementary School in Windemere, Fl.
David Kauffman '82 works for the Wilmington-based sheet metal company, Flores and Foley as of Oct. 8, 2012. He is a former president of the N.C. Azalea Festival and past president of the Seahawk Club.
JoAnne Macco Likens '82 married her high school sweetheart, David Silvia, on Dec. 1, 2012. She reconnected with David after 39 years of no contact, and they are now writing a book about it. On Jan. 1, 2013, they started a business called Silvia Consulting.
Gail E. Ormsby Gane '83 passed away Aug. 18, 2012. She was the founding member of the Eta Alpha Chapter of Alpha Delta Pi. She was also the director of the Robeson Community College Respiratory Care Program for 10 years.
Katherine Furr '83M passed away March 13, 2013.
Brenda Jenkins '84 passed away Sept. 9, 2009.
J. Stanley Hill '85 is serving as president of the North Carolina CPA Foundation and is a member of the North Carolina Association of Certified Public Accountants.
Scott Trefethen '85 is a founder and participant of the South Pacific Tour of the Sailing Vessel OMARSEA and her crew, the Trefethen Family.
Dexter Turner '87 passed away
Bob ‘Tre’ Walton ‘87 was recognized for Outstanding Accomplishments in Research by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University’s worldwide campus. He is an assistant professor in the College of Business and the associate dean of academic support for Embry-Riddle’s European operation.

David Osgood ‘88 was promoted to professor at Albright College in Reading, Pa. He has been with the college’s biology department since 2001 and received his master’s and doctorate from the University of Virginia.

Terence Schappert ‘88 is on the television show, Elite Tactical Unit on the Outdoor Channel. The reality series is a competition featuring members of Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) teams from around the nation. Over the 13-week series, each episode ends with Schappert, a U.S. military special operations veteran, selecting a person to be eliminated from the competition.

Lee King ‘89 was promoted to vice president of late-phase research at ICON Late Phase and Outcomes Research, a Dublin-based contract research organization.

Howard Perch ‘89 was named executive director of rehabilitation services for Florida Hospital Memorial Medical Center and Florida Hospital Oceanside. He is board certified in healthcare management and is a fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

John De Antonio ‘89 passed away Feb. 27, 2013.

Jacqueline A. Ray ‘89 is serving as the president of the Greater Whiteville Chamber of Commerce. In 2010, she became Short Sales and Foreclosure Resource Certified. In 2008 and 2009 she served as the director of the N.C. Pecan Harvest Festival in Whiteville.

Clifford W. Wilkins ’90 is a 2012 graduate of the U.S. Army War College with a master’s degree in strategic studies.

David Welborn ‘90 and his wife, Christie Welborn, announced the birth of Emerson Lynne Welborn on Aug. 6, 2012. David is an assistant VP and small business banker with Bank of America in Myrtle Beach, S.C. He and his family now reside in Conway, S.C.


Kay Fulp ‘91 passed away March 12, 2013.

George Ciontz Kornegay ‘92 passed away Nov. 21, 2012.


Rich Glenn ‘93 became a First Community Bank vice president/area executive for the Bladen, Columbus and New Hanover county markets.

Renate Smith ‘93 runs a B&B and Chambres d’hotes a Paris.


Patrick Traitor ‘93 assumed command of the patrol division of the Jacksonville Police Department. He has been with the department for more than 16 years.

Shelby Smoak ‘94 published a book, Bleeder, which recounts her struggle with hemophilia and HIV.

Tara Duckworth ‘94 is New Hanover County’s parks and gardens director. Duckworth worked for the county as a parks and gardens manager since 2010, with responsibilities that included coordination of the parks bond projects, community group advocacy and supervision of administrative staff.

Gant Montgomery ‘94 is the chief of the Beckley Police Department’s Detective’s Bureau. He has been with the department for 18 years.

J. Randall Good ‘94 joined SRI International as a program development director, DARPA and Intelligence. He has a doctorate from the Baylor College of Medicine, and additional training includes the Sherman Kent School for Intelligence Analysis, the Army Institute for Professional Development, Government Affairs Institute, Georgetown University, Defense Systems Management College and Shipley Associates programs.

Timothy Jones ‘94 was named Onslow County School District’s 2012-13 Assistant Principal of the Year, chosen from among eight assistant principal nominees. The award recognizes the exceptional leadership and responsibilities of assistant principals.

David Thompson ‘95 is remarried to Tiffany Turner Thompson and has a son with her. He received a promotion to senior vice president city executive with First South Bank.

Lee Watson III ‘95 has joined First Bank in Greenville as senior vice president and city executive. He has 17 years of banking experience.

Linda Gail York ‘95 received a doctorate in education leadership from Appalachian State on Dec. 16, 2012.

Chase T. Brockstedt ’96 was named by Super Lawyers to its 2012 Delaware Rising Star List, which recognizes the top up-and-coming attorneys in the state. Fewer than three percent of young lawyers in the state receive this honor.

Shane LuQuire ‘97 was appointed the director of business development for Well Care Home Health, overseeing the company’s Wilmington and Raleigh sales offices.

Tom Cornwell ’96, ’97M is a senior tax and accounting manager with Malvin Riggins & Company P.C.

Wendy Highland ‘97 is the resident services coordinator for all independent living residents at a continuing care retirement center, John Knox Village in Orange City, Fl. She completed the Great Floridian Half Ironman twice and, led a women’s triathlon team for five years.

Rhett Butler ‘97 is director of civilian business development at Intelligent Decisions Inc., a global IT systems integrator.

Steven J. Antini ’97 and his wife, Amy, announce the birth of their son, Marcello Joseph, on July 13, 2012.


Brandon Beane ’98 is director of football operations for the NFL’s Carolina Panthers.

Kate Tillman Brown ‘98 and husband, Andre, welcomed a son, Aidan Tillman Brown, on Sept. 21, 2012. Kate and her family reside in Raleigh where Kate is a commercial real estate developer.

Karla Z. Curry ‘98, ’12 Ph.D. has her master’s degree in special education from the University of South California at North Ridge and teaching credentials from San Diego State University. She resides in Wilmington with her husband and son. She is an administrator for New Hanover County Schools.

Kevin Snyder ‘98 published his third and fourth books titled, Think Differently to Achieve Success and Leading the Way: Stories of Inspiration and Leadership. Snyder is a founding partner of Inspir-Active Solutions, which is a motivational speaking company specializing in leadership seminars and motivational keynote speeches for companies all over the world.
In Memoriam

BRUCE CAMERON JR.

by Genae Randall ’13

Bruce Barclay Cameron Jr., a well-known local developer and philanthropist died April 5. Cameron’s friendship with UNCW started in the 1980s. In 1983, he bestowed gifts in support of the business school, which later became Cameron School of Business, named in his and his brother’s honor, Dan D. Cameron.

Mary M. Gornto, former vice chancellor for UNCW’s University Advancement, recognizes Cameron as “a very generous and special friend of UNCW’s for many years.”

Cameron also contributed to the university for the Claude Howell Art Gallery. By 1990, the Camerons—the brothers and their spouses—made gifts of $333,000 to UNCW to establish the Cameron Distinguished Professor in Accountancy. Joanne Rockness has held the distinguished professorship since 1993.

After the business school moved to its present location, the building was named Cameron Hall and Cameron served on the Cameron School of Business Executive Advisory Board from 1999 to 2002.

In 1997, UNCW awarded Cameron with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree, in recognition of his “commitment to the Cape Fear Region and support of its educational, cultural and medical resources.”

Cameron’s contributions to UNCW were vital in shaping the university and his great spirit and character will live on in his legacy.

BILL DOBO ’51

by Mary Kresge ’14

Gabriel William “Bill” Dobo ’51, UNCW alumnus and contributor of the university, died June 27.

Dobo—along with his late brother, Robert “Bob” Ridgely Dobo Sr. ’51, and their spouses—made donations to the university following the success of their water systems business started in Wilmington in the 1960s.

In recognition of their contributions, the building Dobo Hall was named in their honor. The recital hall in the Cultural Arts building—Beckwith Hall—is named in honor of Dobo’s late wife, Barbara Beckwith Dobo. The Dobos were also benefactors of many scholarships throughout the years.

“Bill had an innovative spirit and passion for learning that was unparalleled. As an alumnus, he wanted to foster that same passion in students and faculty,” according to Eddie Stuart, UNCW’s vice chancellor for university advancement, who recognized Dobo and his family’s generosity to the university.

“Through his generosity and that of the Dobo family, Bill was able to support his alma mater in a way that has enriched UNCW immensely. The many scholarships and support funds that he and his family established for UNCW will serve as a legacy revolving around the pursuit of ideas and knowledge, and a fitting tribute to his love for our university,” Stuart says.
Lori Moseley Elfaysal '00 married Hassan Elfaysal on Sept. 4, 2011.

Caroline Wilkes Hanemann '01 announces the birth of her daughter, Calista Rose Hanemann, with husband, Craig Hanemann, on Sept. 11, 2012.

Kelli Neese Russell '01 and Russell Williford worked with friends to form a nonprofit to honor victims of cancer. Love Is Bald was organized under the St Baldrick's Foundation, which raises money for cancer research.

Melissa Johnson Essick '01 was certified by the North Carolina State Bar as a specialist in Family Law. Essick joined the Rosen Law Firm in 2007. She received her JD degree from Campbell University School of Law.

Emily West '01 is the chief of police at the North Carolina Arboretum Campus Police department in Asheville.

Kari Lee Siko '01 was appointed by the South Carolina Department of Education as an assistant professor of English education and interim dean of the School of Education, to represent South Carolina in a multistate standard setting study.

Dana McKoy '01 was named by the Cape Fear Community College Foundation as its director of annual giving. In the position, McKoy will serve as a primary contact for annual scholarship donors and direct annual giving initiatives for college alumni, faculty and staff, as well as individual and businesses in the community.

Rachel C. Kincaid '02 completed a Primary Montessori credential from the Center for Guided Montessori Studies in 2011. She opened a Montessori school for children for ages three to six in Cary and is the lead teacher and co-director. She resides in Raleigh with her husband of 10 years, Ted E. Kincaid.

Stephanie Brooks Hawver '02 and her husband, Jason, welcomed their third child, Daphne Pauline Hawver, on Oct. 15, 2012 in Denton, Texas.

Leslie Z. Collier '02M passed away Sept. 13, 2012. She lived in Oak Island and was a registered nurse at Dosher Memorial Hospital, a lead practical nursing instructor at Brunswick Community College and a former Brunswick County commissioner.

Brooke Michelle Johnson '03 married Joseph Clay Delk IV on Oct. 6, 2012 in Lenoir. Brooke is employed by Kellex.

Ashley Nash '03 received her master’s degree in public health from the University of Georgia. She is the co-owner of Pure Barre in Savannah, Ga.

Tate C. Johnson '03 was appointed to the College Foundation Inc. board of trustees. Johnson of Trent Woods, N.C., is employed with the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

Lauren Norman '03 is the first crime or police analyst who is starting a program called DDCTS (Data Drive Approached to Crime and Traffic Safety). She’s working on a grant funded by NHTSA and NCGHSP to implement DDCTS regionally in N.C. She is currently working in the Garner, Knightdale and Holly Springs jurisdictions.

Chandan Y. Shankar '04 joined The Richardson Firm in Fayetteville. He served for the Cumberland County district attorney’s office for five years.


Brad Hutchens '04 is the field sales representative for AxisSybronEndo in the dental supply industry.

Andrew Almeter '05, '09M married Elizabeth Leath on April 6, 2013.

Andria J. McLaughlin '05 married Whitney A. Davis on Sept. 2, 2012. Andria is a logistics manager.

Sarah Briney '05 received her master’s in education from American University in December 2011 and was hired as the global community coordinator for ePals.com.


Ruby Ann Richter '06 was promoted to assistant vice president at BB&T.

April Brohawn '07 earned a master's degree in higher education student affairs and serves as assistant to he dean for recruitment in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Maryland College Park.

Carrie Morris '07, a fifth-grade teacher at Swansboro Elementary School, was chosen as North Carolina’s Southeast Region Teacher of the Year. Morris has a degree rom Elon College and received a master’s degree in elementary education from UNCW.

Adrienne Strain '07 and Matthew Beatty '10 were married Sept. 29, 2012, in Charlotte. They are both graduates of the Cameron School of Business. Adrienne is the assistant director of residence life at Wingate University, and Matt is the director of sports and aquatics at the Morrison YMCA in Charlotte.

Ginny Tyson '08 and Al Inman '08 were married on Oct. 6, 2012. Ginny is the communications specialist at NC State University and earned her master’s degree in communication from NC State in May. Al is a videographer at News 14 Carolina in Raleigh.
Katelyn Lippert (O’Rourke) ’08 is a co-owner of the new Pure Barre in Wilmington. She is also a recruiter for Wilmington Health.
Ashley Hanners ’09 is a customer engagement specialist for Sage Island’s marketing department.
David Harris-Gershon ’09 wowed the audience at Pittsburgh’s GrandSLAM storytelling championship and won.
Sydney Wells ’09 is an Internet marketing specialist at Sage Island. She holds a Google Professional Certification in search marketing.
John B. Zachary ’09 earned the distinction of Certified Financial Planner through the Certified Financial Planner Board of Standards.

2010s
Whitney Knapp ’10 and Jimmy McNamara ’09 were married May 27, 2012.
Jessica Kalker McKay ’10 and Joshua McKay announce the birth of their son, Daniel Clark, on Oct. 15, 2012. The family currently resides in Eagen, Minn.
Robert K. Monday ’10 works as a DJ and sports broadcaster at a radio station in Elkin, N.C. He volunteers as an assistant coach with UNCW’s baseball team.
Chad Tomko ’11, former UNCW guard, signed his first professional deal with the Bakken Bears in Aarhus, Denmark.
Megan Canny ’11 was named events coordinator and leader of membership sales by The Southport-Oak Island Chamber of Commerce.

Haywood Newkirk ’11 was appointed to the advisory committee for the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources Masonboro Island component of the N.C. National Estuarine Research Reserve.
Chase Kliber ’11 garnered a place on the crew on the first season on Homeland – Showtime’s popular series filmed in Charlotte – and nabbed a job on the movie Iron Man 3. Kliber’s is directing and producing an indie short film.
Meghan K. Barnes ’11M had her memoir, For the Love of God, published in December 2012 by All Things That Matter Press.
Lauren Murosky ’12 is a N.C. realtor in Raleigh with Fonville Morisey in their Falls of Neuse Office.
Olga Pylaeva ’12 and Sam Schuth were married Jan. 12, 2013. Olga is enrolled as a first-year medical school student at East Carolina University.
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Smith Doss ’80 with his wife Claude Monnier wore their UNCW bike shirts while bicycling in the Alps. Do you have a photo you’d like to share? Contact OUR@uncw.edu.