Watson College of Education professor Janna Robertson leads a community effort to paint a magical forest in downtown Wilmington.
FROM THE CHANCELLOR’S DESK  

SEAHAWK SNIPPETS  
Short stories with big impact  

FEATURES  

MEN’S BASKETBALL  
SEASON HIGHLIGHTS  

THE EXCELLENCE PROJECT:  
A COACH’S STORY  
Brandon Bell ’11, ’14M doesn’t lead a sports team, but he is a coach  

THE INSTALLATION OF  
CHANCELLOR JOSE V. SARTARELLI  

A STUDENT’S CONVERSATION WITH  
UNCW’S PROVOST, MARILYN SHEERER  

BRAVE NEW WORLD  

“OH, YOU WONDER”  
Shakespeare and the spectrum  

MYKE HOLMES  
From UNCW to the big screen and beyond  

BASEBALL FOR THE WIN  
Diamond Hawks program celebrates 60 years of hard work, consistency and good, clean fun  

CLASS NOTES  

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION NEWS  

Cover: “Aere Perennius” (Latin, “More lasting than bronze”)  
Pastel painting on paper created in recognition of Chancellor Sartarelli’s installation.  
Artist: Bradley S. Barth, Creative Director, Pioneer Strategies, Wilmington, NC
DEAR FRIENDS,

As I look back on my first full academic year at UNCW, I am inspired by the same things that brought me here in the first place: a sense of purpose and direction, a body of dedicated and compassionate faculty and staff, and students who inspire and motivate us every day to do our best, for them and for the world at large.

This issue of UNCW Magazine reflects all of these things, and also illustrates what it means to be a part of the greater Seahawk community, as alumni and friends of our university. In addition to the outstanding work being done in our undergraduate programs and in areas of research, the impact of so many Seahawks, past and present, reverberates throughout our region, from downtown Wilmington to international waters. As you read about this good work, I hope it will inspire you to connect, or reconnect, with UNCW in a way that’s meaningful to you. Perhaps it’s a visit at Homecoming, or a call or email to someone featured in the magazine to ask how you can get involved and support their mission as students and educators. Kathy and I have treasured the time we’ve spent learning more about what drives our students and faculty, and I believe you will get the same gratification from a deeper look into those passions.

As we prepare to roll out a five-year strategic plan for the university, one that reflects the long-term values of UNCW but with renewed momentum and focus, it is more important than ever that we remain engaged with our community, steadfast in our commitment to diversity and inclusion, and innovative in our thinking around strengthening existing programs and creating new ones. It is my honor to lead our campus through this time, and I thank you for your continued support of our students, faculty and staff.

Yours at UNCW,

Dr. Jose V. “Zito” Sartarelli
Chancellor
The 2015-16 academic year brought UNCW praise from numerous reputable publications and organizations. Highlights include recognition for our continued success in online excellence, support of the military and closing the gap between six-year graduation rates of majority and minority students.

**UNCW ranked**

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**Cameron School of Business named one of the**

**Best Business Schools: 2016**

**Princeton Review**

**UNCW ranked**

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www.uncw.edu/rankings
Virginia Campos places the tip of her tongue at the roof of her mouth and makes a sound similar to a cork being pulled from a bottle. She attempts to enunciate a word in the Xhosa (kô-sa) click language. After a few attempts, she moves on to learn a South African greeting using a different click technique.

Campos is among the dozen Onslow County teachers learning the Xhosa language in preparation for a study abroad trip to South Africa this summer. The teachers, all from Carolina Forest International Elementary School in Jacksonville, NC, will spend four weeks alongside South African teachers focusing on building cross-cultural competence. They are the first group to participate in the Watson College of Education’s South African Culture, History and Literacy Project.

In July 2015, Watson College received an $89,279 Fulbright-Hays Short-Term Study Abroad grant through the U.S. Department of Education to provide an intensive field experience for veteran teachers. It is the first study abroad program offered by Watson College specifically for veteran educators.

“Given the increasing emphasis on global education, this kind of opportunity is phenomenal for veteran teachers. It affords them the chance to experience another part of the world, meet the people and become immersed in another culture,” said Donyell Roseboro, associate professor and chair of the Department of Instructional Technology, Foundations and Secondary Education. “It also allows them to experience a different natural landscape and to understand how geography shapes human development.”

Campos, a fourth-grade teacher who has taught for 23 years, is excited about the opportunity to teach her students about cultural similarities and differences through a new lens. – Venita Jenkins
Water for the World

Alyssa Le ’17, a graduate student in geography and geology, has a passion to improve water resource management throughout the world, and attending UNCW has created a wellspring of opportunities for her. During trips to both Uganda and Kenya to increase villagers’ access to community water sources, Le found that water scarcity affects nearly everyone, regardless of economic status.

Though her focus has been in eastern Africa, recent U.S. water crises like the one in Flint, MI, have caused her to recognize the need for sustainable water resource management in her own country.

“To me, clean water is a basic human right,” said Le. “This realization has only fueled my desire to continue working hard to improve water access for as many people as possible.”

– Caitlin Taylor ’18M

Water scarcity in Mabanga, Kenya, is more of an issue of equal distribution than it is low water availability. For my research, I spent time at water access points to observe water abstraction behaviors [taking water from a ground source]. The girl in the photo had arrived at the spring with the wheelbarrow and jerry can, which was novel, as most carry the jerry cans on their heads. It became apparent that she needed the wheelbarrow because she wasn’t strong enough to carry it herself. So I helped her carry it to the wheelbarrow so she could bring it home. Typical water collectors are the women and children of the household, even though those containers weigh about 40 pounds.” Alyssa Le

Centro Hispano Celebrates a Decade of Success

Ten years ago, faculty members saw the coming wave of Hispanic and Latino children in public schools. In preparation, professors Denise DePuccio, Denis Carter and Antonio Puente (among others) created Centro Hispano to promote the culture and champion the education of the Hispanic and Latino community.

Ten years later, Centro Hispano is flourishing. Edelmira Segovia ’98, ’12 Ph.D., a two-time UNCW graduate, is Centro’s director, and she is beginning to see her former elementary and middle school mentees at Centro Hispano again – but this time as college students. This kind of full-circle effect happens often, she noted, as UNCW is the only university in the UNC system with a center dedicated specifically for Hispanic and Latino college students.

Recently recognized by the White House as a Bright Spot in Hispanic Education, Centro helps Hispanic and Latino youth envision themselves as college graduates through mentoring programs and community engagement.

“They’re doing great,” said Segovia of the students active in Centro. “They support each other, like – ‘I go, you go, let’s lift each other up. Let’s go together!’” – Caitlin Taylor ’18M
Coastal Classroom

Herpetology students are prone to getting dirty. During the spring semester, they splashed along brackish waters near Figure Eight Island in search of diamondback terrapins. They captured the small animals in a net, measured them, marked them for tracking purposes and released them back into the wild.

“There is no substitute for being in the field, studying animals in their natural environment and seeing how they live,” said associate professor Amanda Southwood Williard. An animal physiology expert in the UNCW Department of Biology and Marine Biology, Williard specializes in terrapins and sea turtles. In addition to researching diamondback terrapins, she collaborates with scientists around the world to study leatherbacks, loggerheads and other sea turtles.

Diamondback terrapins, categorized as animals of “special concern” by the NC Wildlife Resources Commission, dwell exclusively in estuarine environments. However, their proximity to shore hasn’t diminished their mystery.

“The diamondback terrapin is unique in regard to its habitat,” Williard said. “We don’t have enough data about them to have any confidence in truly understanding their conservation status. There is a real need to monitor them.”

Nearly 100 years ago, diamondback terrapins were harvested almost to the point of extinction to feed Americans’ taste for turtle soup, a delicacy served at the nation’s finest restaurants. Contemporary concerns for these terrapins are habitat loss and their unintentional capture in fishing gear.

The students’ fieldwork teaches them research skills and contributes to the scientific community’s knowledge of diamondback terrapins. With more information, researchers like Williard have better opportunities to work with fishing industry experts to develop bycatch reduction devices (BRDs) that prevent terrapins from entering crab pots, preserving both the animals’ lives and the livelihoods of fishing families.

Thanks to efforts underway at UNCW, several little terrapins living along the NC coast are part of big efforts to improve the crossroads of interaction between humans and the natural world. – Andrea Monroe Weaver

Beneficial Bivalve

Researchers at UNCW’s Shellfish Research Hatchery are investigating the best ways to farm sunray Venus clams, a new species for aquaculture in North Carolina and one with considerable potential. Led by associate professor of biology and marine biology Ami Wilbur ’85, faculty, undergrads and graduate students will spawn and produce small clams that will be given to farmers to grow as part of a nearly $300,000 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration grant. The goal of the project is to diversify the state’s shellfish aquaculture industry. A team of researchers from UNCW, North Carolina Sea Grant and Carteret Community College is working with industry partners at Carolina Mariculture, Millpoint Aquaculture, Hooper Family Seafood and Kemp Fisheries to determine which method produces the best rates of growth and survival. – Venita Jenkins

Learn more about UNCW’s Shellfish Research Hatchery at www.uncw.edu/crest/hatchery.html
Attending the same university as a family member is significant, but being part of a legacy means much more. These students bring a deep-rooted teal affection to our community.

Seven hundred students with alumni siblings, parents or grandparents have been admitted to UNCW for fall 2016. In 2015, the UNCW Alumni Relations office partnered with the Office of Admissions to host the inaugural Future Seahawks Legacy Reception to recognize and celebrate legacy students and their alumni family members. In addition to the fall Legacy Pinning Ceremony, two Alumni Legacy Scholarships are awarded each year to an incoming or currently enrolled legacy student, and a congratulatory message is included on the student’s acceptance letter, showing appreciation for pursuing the UNCW tradition.

“It can be an emotional and significant moment to have a family member follow in your footsteps,” said Kim Gargiulo, assistant director of alumni relations. “This special group of students has a big impact on our campus as the university and our traditions become part of their families’ traditions.”

– Hallie Criste ’16
The tiny Indonesian village of Desa Ban is some 10,000 miles from Richmond, VA, where Juliet Wiebe-King '13 markets the cashews grown and processed in East Bali. However, a piece of her heart will always remain in that distant place that bears no resemblance to paradise.

Cashew trees grow lush in the sandy soil, but poverty also thrives. That has begun to change since East Bali Cashews (EBC) opened a factory to process the harvest that previously was shipped to Vietnam or India. In doing so, it created job opportunities where few existed, especially for women.

Only a year ago, however, the UNCW alumna, a double major in anthropology and international studies, was pondering her future as graduation loomed at the University of Virginia. “I was only about two months from graduating from my Master of Commerce program. I had interviews for the more traditional consulting and marketing roles, but I just didn't see myself fitting in or enjoying any of them,” she explained. Along came a unique internship opportunity with EBC.

Wiebe-King, who credits her parents and her professors at UNCW and UVA with encouraging her to explore the world, was drawn to the company’s commitment to social and environmental responsibility. She arrived in Indonesia two weeks after earning her master's degree and was handed the task of building the market for EBC’s product.

In Desa Ban, life revolves around community, tradition and ceremony. EBC incorporates those values into the workplace culture, also providing day care that allows mothers to work while their children play and learn nearby. As she worked, she gained a second family.

“We not only worked together, but they were willing to share their families, their culture – everything – with me,” Wiebe-King said.

After her internship ended, she was offered the opportunity to continue on U.S. soil the work she began in East Bali. She joined EBC’s U.S. distributor, Red River Foods, in February, marketing the cashew company’s product. And she knows she has chosen the right career path.

“I'm anxiously waiting for the day when I can get on that plane back to Bali. In 10 years I hope to be doing something similar to what I'm doing now, but on a much larger scale, living all over the world and making as much of a positive impact as I can.”

– Tricia Vance

http://eastbalicashews.com
Paid Internships Pave the Way to Employment

UNCW and New Hanover County are partnering to give recent college graduates a foothold in the work world. The national Backpacks to Briefcases (B2B) program’s goals are to develop the local workforce and help participants find permanent employment opportunities.

The first Cape Fear B2B class – a group of seven students – enjoyed a 100 percent job placement success rate. Industries included sales and marketing, radio production, promotions, IT, social work and biology.

B2B participants must have graduated with a bachelor’s degree within the last six to 24 months, reside in New Hanover County and be unemployed or underemployed in their intended career field.

“This program provides in-depth professional experience that can translate into self-confidence, transferable skills and full-time job possibilities,” said Thom Rakes, career center director.

Locally funded through the federal Workforce Investment Opportunity Act, the program offers three-month paid internships at no cost to either the business or participant.

Participants attend a weeklong campus seminar that provides career counseling and readiness services, such as résumé and cover-letter writing and self-presentation. The recurring program will continue to offer job opportunities for newly minted Seahawk alumni.

– James Nagy ’16

Global Networking

The UNCW Alumni Association, with support from the UNCW Career Center, has hosted five virtual networking events since July 2015. Through its partnership with Brazen, a real-time communications platform, students and alumni around the world are connecting.

Brazen allows participants to view their conversation transcripts, post their LinkedIn profiles and upload resumes, which allows for follow-up after the event. Some alumni have even met for coffee to discuss professional collaborations after connecting virtually.

The Brazen platform can host virtual career fairs, professional development events, open houses and much more.

“Virtual events allow for powerful mentoring connections that don’t require a lot of time for graduating students and alumni,” said Lindsay LeRoy, director of alumni relations. “As an alumnus, you can make a big impact in the lives of students following in your footsteps.” – James Nagy ’16

Visit www.uncw.edu/alumni to learn about other networking opportunities.
Connect NC Bond Update

College of Health and Human Services faculty and staff have begun program development for UNCW’s new $66 million Allied Health/Human Sciences building. Funding for the facility was approved in March as part of the $2 billion Connect NC bond referendum.

The new facility will provide classrooms, labs and student service areas to accommodate the college’s rapid growth and provide space for the implementation of new degree proposals such as health analytics, healthcare administration, therapeutic sciences, public health and physician assistance studies. It will also include a dedicated space for UNCW’s military-affiliated students. The building is slated to open during the 2018-19 academic year.

“By expanding our laboratories, specifically in health and applied human sciences, we will offer our students more effective applied learning experiences that will enable them to enter the workforce with a higher level of expertise than currently possible,” said Charles Hardy, dean of the College of Health and Human Services (CHHS). “Development of interprofessional laboratories, where students from multiple degree programs can learn in concert, will significantly improve the collaborations among our faculty, students and degree programs.”

Hardy also sees the facility as being the catalyst for development of new partnerships such as with the UNC School of Medicine. – Venita Jenkins

Making the Grade

UNCW was rewarded for its efficiency and effectiveness when Standard & Poor’s upgraded its bond credit rating from “A-” to “A” with a stable outlook.

UNCW was among only 10 institutions in the higher education sector to receive an upgrade. The 2008-series limited obligation bonds financed residence hall and parking capital projects. The rating upgrade was based on the university’s financial performance and projected revenues from auxiliary services such as housing, dining and parking. The hard work of UNCW’s Business Affairs and Student Affairs teams has led to the campus once again being heralded as one of the most efficient and effective in the country.
Squad goals

For the second time in its program history, UNCW women’s soccer secured a spot in the NCAA Division I championship. In addition, the women’s volleyball team won the Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) tournament, allowing the team to advance to its first NCAA game in the history of Seahawk volleyball.

WOMEN’S SOCCER

Set a school record with 15 wins and earned its first-ever at-large berth in the NCAA tournament after finishing third in the CAA standings.

Claimed its first-ever win in the NCAA tournament after defeating South Carolina in the opening round (2-0).

Four student-athletes earned All Mid-Atlantic Region honors by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America – a program record.

Coach Paul Cairney ’93, ’95M was named CAA Coach of the Year in addition to earning NSCAA Mid-Atlantic Region Coach of the Year.

VOLLEYBALL

First CAA championship and first NCAA tournament appearance.

Finished its 2015 season with a 24-8 record, marking the program’s highest win total since 1998.

Shared its first CAA regular season championship after finishing in a four-way tie for first place.

Posted its third consecutive 20-win season, setting a program record.

A program-record five Seahawks earned All-CAA honors, including a pair of First-Team selections, Second-Team recognition and All-Rookie Team.

– Compiled by Venita Jenkins with help from UNCW Athletics

Congratulations are also in order for NCAA qualifiers in: Men’s golf: Patrick Cover ’18 and Thomas Eldridge ’18; Men’s tennis: Santtu Leskinen ’16; Men’s track & field: Trey Jones ’16; Women’s track & field: Meredith Bozzi ’16; Baseball: Diamond Hawks advanced to the NCAA Columbia Regional finals.
2015-16 UNCW Men’s Basketball Team

Front Row (L-R): Mark Matthews, Chris Flemmings,* Denzel Ingram,* head coach Kevin Keatts, Craig Ponder, Jordon Talley, C.J. Bryce.* Back Row: assistant coach Takayo Siddle, assistant coach Casey Stanley, director of men’s basketball video operations Travis Hackert, strength & conditioning coach Pat Murphy, Marcus Bryan, Trey Grundy, Dylan Sherwood, C.J. Gettys, Chuck Ogbodo, Kevin Hickson,* Devontae Cacok, Nick Powell, athletic trainer Drew Moore, director of men’s basketball operations Kevin Easley, assistant coach Thomas Carr, graduate manager Bryan Harward. – Compiled by Venita Jenkins with help from UNCW Athletics
“The biggest key to our success is our hard-working culture. I think every young man on the team has bought into ‘team first.’ We play for the name on the front of the jersey and not the one on the back.”  – Coach Keatts
“It is nice to have the chance to give back to the place that really shaped and molded me by shaping and molding the students in the Excellence Project.”
Brandon Bell '11, '14M doesn’t lead a sports team, but he is a coach.

Bell manages the Excellence Project, an academic mentoring program offered by the Upperman African American Cultural Center. Nearly 200 students have participated in the project since the Upperman Center introduced it in the fall of 2013. The program, like the center itself, is open to all undergraduate students.

“I’m an academic coach,” Bell explained. “I help students determine who they are, how their past influences them and what they’ve chosen to study. I ask them to think critically, to evaluate themselves carefully, to determine where they have gaps in their education, and to figure out what they have a passion to learn.”

On a typical day, Bell steers students toward the plethora of academic resources available at UNCW and helps them prepare for one-on-one meetings with their advisors and professors. He reviews résumés and graduate school applications and serves as a sounding board whenever students want to talk about the challenges they face and the goals they hope to reach.

Bell draws on his experience with his own role model, Dean of Students Mike Walker, when talking with students.

“Dean Walker was friendly and engaging, but he also held me accountable for my actions,” Bell recalled of his time as a student. Bell arrived at UNCW in 2007 as an eager freshman. Walker remembers Bell as an exceptional student leader who participated in several applied learning experiences in student affairs and academic affairs, which eventually led to his full-time opportunity with the Upperman Center.

“Along the way, Brandon mentored many students in their learning journeys, teaching them the importance of hard work, citizenship, civility and school pride,” Walker said.

Bell trains select juniors and seniors to serve as Excellence Project mentors. Jorey Stanley ’17 from Mount Pleasant, NC, “found support and a family” as a student in the project. The experience was so important to her that she became a mentor.

“My mother is white and my biological father is black, so coming into college and navigating what it meant to be not only a minority, but multiple minorities – a woman and a person of color – was difficult and my transition was a bit rough,” said Stanley, an environmental science major.

As a mentor, she appreciates the Excellence Project’s emphasis on supporting “well-rounded” students who are equipped to “find strength, inspiration and pride in their differences and their diversity.”

Those qualities inspired Manuel “Manny” Lloyd ’17, who transferred to UNCW after earning an associate’s degree at Cape Fear Community College, to participate in the program as a mentee.

“The Excellence Project surrounds me with other students who have gone through similar experiences, and often share many of the same interests,” said Lloyd, a political science major. “Not to mention the fact that my mentor, along with the mentors I’ve gotten to know, are excelling socially and academically, so they are positive influences on me.”

For Bell, the Excellence Project brings his UNCW journey full circle. The former “confused” freshman who once struggled to find the right major now guides a new generation of Seahawks toward academic success.
When he was officially installed as the sixth chancellor and ninth leader of the University of North Carolina Wilmington, Jose V. Sartarelli took a moment to reflect on the journey that has taken him from studying by a kerosene lamp as a young boy in Brazil to becoming the leader of a world-class American university.

“A journey informed by diversity, driven by leadership and guided by values brought me to this incredible opportunity to become part of UNCW’s legacy,” he told the crowd of nearly 2,000 gathered on the lawn of Hoggard Hall for his installation ceremony on March 31. “The experiences that brought me here, to this historic day in this memorable place, will enhance the decisions I make as chancellor of the University of North Carolina Wilmington.”

Some of those experiences include stops at nearly every continent; living in Venezuela, Chile, Brazil, Singapore, as well as throughout the United States; a 30-year career at three Fortune 500 companies; and serving as the Milan Puskar Dean of the College of Business and Economics at West Virginia University.

Not surprising for a man whose work has taken him around the world, he declared that “now is a time for UNCW to chart a new flight” and unveiled a strategic plan that will serve as a blueprint for the university’s future (for more details on the strategic plan, read the chancellor’s letter on page 2).

In acknowledgment of his predecessors, Sartarelli said, “In only 69 years, this institution has already achieved the kind of support and recognition that many older and more established universities can only dream about.”

As the ceremony drew to a close, he nodded to UNCW’s future by posing one of his favorite questions: “Why not?”

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Photos (starting from upper left corner)
1. Chancellor Jose V. Sartarelli
2. Daniel Paparozi ’18 sang “The Star-Spangled Banner”
3. Christine Poon, the chancellor’s colleague and friend of more than 20 years
4. Elwood L. Robinson, chancellor of Winston-Salem State University, Mary K. Grant, chancellor of UNC Asheville, and James A. Anderson, chancellor of Fayetteville State University
5. Michael Shivar, UNCW Board of Trustees Chair, presents Jose V. Sartarelli with the university medallion
6. Grand Marshal and UNCW Faculty Senate President Stephen Meinhold
7. UNC System President Margaret Spellings congratulates the chancellor
8. UNCW international students carry flags of their home countries
Why not give flight to imagination? Let’s imagine a better world for our students, faculty and staff. Let’s imagine more opportunities for our campus and our community.
In February, Marilyn Sheerer was permanently named UNCW’s provost and vice chancellor of academic affairs.

Alisha Beaudoin
What is the best piece of advice you have received?
Marilyn Sheerer: A lot of who we are comes from childhood. Growing up I lived with my maternal grandmother. She was one of those extremely positive people. She had little sayings like “The early bird gets the worm,” “Always be prepared for what you are going to do,” and “The nicer you are to other people, the nicer they will be back.” The advice she was giving to me was to live your life this way. Make the most of your day. The glass is always half-full with me. Positive energy doesn’t just come from thin air. It comes from modeling and the way you are raised.

AB: If you could re-live one day in your life, what day would it be and why?
MS: When I was at East Carolina, I went there as the dean of education. When the chancellor asked me to be the provost, he said, “I’m telling you that I have the confidence in you to do this job and I want you to do this job.” I remember thinking, “I don’t know if I can,” but I said yes, and that opened a whole world to me. And that opened the door to come here to UNCW.

AB: What is your favorite part about your job as provost?
MS: I just love working with the different people: the faculty, the staff and the students. I like the collegiate atmosphere. Every day I deal with something different. I like changing gears. I like the change of pace and the “people part” of everything I do.

AB: What are some words of wisdom you have for women in leadership roles?
MS: I talk to the Bridges Program in Chapel Hill [a professional leadership development program for women in higher education] and I always say to them, “Take advantage of any opportunities that are awarded to you. Many times women will pause; men don’t.” When women are asked to do something often they will say, “I’m not sure that I have the right skills for that. I don’t really know if I’m ready.” If I ask a male that, in most cases, he’ll say, “I can step up to that.” I want women to do that same kind of thing.

Alisha Beaudoin ’17 is majoring in mathematics with a minor in leadership studies and psychology. She hails from Cincinnati, OH.
From a semester at Kedge Business School in Marseille, France, to teaching in schools in San Pedro, Belize, studying abroad helps students gain skills needed to be successful in an interconnected global world. Education abroad opportunities through UNCW’s Office of International Programs (OIP) provide students invaluable experiences with diverse cultures, people and places.

“I encourage students to take advantage of the freedom and mobility that they have at this point in their lives,” said Kara Pike Inman, OIP’s director of education abroad.

In the 2015-16 academic year, 962 UNCW students participated in education abroad opportunities, including programs led by more than 50 UNCW faculty and staff members.

“I think it’s really important to provide international opportunities for both students and faculty,” Inman explained. “By providing these opportunities for faculty, they are able to globalize the curriculum and their teaching style, and they can talk about comparative practices and other cultures. It enables the whole university to become more international and helps students gain a global focus.”

The university’s strategic efforts are paying off, according to the most recent “Open Doors” report, a resource on international students and scholars studying or teaching at higher education institutions in the U.S. and U.S. students studying abroad, which is published by the Institute of International Education. UNCW ranked seventh among master’s colleges and universities for the number of students studying abroad.

Fostering global competency – a major component of Chancellor Jose Sartarelli’s five-year strategic plan – is a high priority for the university. With leadership from Michael Wilhelm, associate vice chancellor of international programs (pictured right), UNCW will continue to elevate its international programs by increasing the number of UNCW students who study abroad, broadening the number of international students on campus and enhancing the educational environment to prepare students to be global citizens.

**UNCW Globetrotter**

Wilhelm also serves as UNCW’s international “ambassador.” He travels the world – quite literally – with the goal of increasing the university’s presence on the global stage through international student recruitment and partnerships with foreign academic institutions.

Wilhelm, who joined UNCW in December 2015, has extensive experience in global education, including mentoring and providing support for international students and planning and leading study abroad programs – not to mention quite a few stamps in his passport.

“UNCW has a terrific reputation in the state of North Carolina, the region and around the country, and it is an incredibly exciting time to be part of a team that is introducing UNCW to prospective graduate and undergraduate students, corporate and government sponsors and university partners around the world,” he said.
‘Oh, You Wonder’
Shakespeare and the Spectrum
by Caitlin Taylor ’18M

For children with autism, theatre helps connect emotion and expression through play
Though it may seem like madness, there is method in it. These warm-ups prepare the class to welcome children from OASIS, a Wilmington nonprofit organization that addresses the needs and concerns of children on the autism spectrum. Post, an assistant professor of theatre, moved to Wilmington last summer from Ohio, where she served as the director of Shakespeare and Autism research at The Ohio State University. The program, now also up and running at UNCW thanks to Post, developed from a study for the Hunter Heartbeat Method by Kelly Hunter, author of Shakespeare’s Heartbeat: Drama Games for Children with Autism, for which Post wrote the foreword. Hunter’s games are specifically designed to improve children’s communication skills through simple play.

“The rhythm of Shakespeare’s language is something that children on the spectrum overwhelmingly respond to,” Post said. “There is that pattern of the iambic pentameter — that ‘da-dum da-dum da-dum da-dum’ pattern – that they seem to pick up very quickly. It’s visceral, so they connect to the language.”

When the children from OASIS – who range in age from seven to 14 – arrive in Post’s class, they join the circle and pair up with UNCW students, a collection of undergraduates studying everything from theatre to psychology to exercise science. They all place their hands on their hearts, thumping out a rhythm against their chests until everyone in the room is in sync. They take turns saying “hello” with different facial expressions, acting out various emotions.

Next, they play games based on scenes from Shakespeare’s plays. Games not only help children interact with other people; they guide them into making intuitive eye contact and recognizing and emulating facial expressions that correspond with emotion, according to Post. For children on the autism spectrum, these can be challenging feats.

Children get the opportunity to play all the characters during the games, which gives them the chance to be both follower and leader. In a scene from The Tempest where Miranda and Ferdinand see one another and fall in love, they must make facial expressions of excitement and bashfulness. “In this scene,” Post said, “They say the text, ‘Oh, you wonder,’ which is like saying ‘You’re so beautiful,’ and [Miranda] runs away and giggles. They have this amazing connection.”

According to the Autism Society of America, North Carolina has one of the highest concentrations of children on the autism spectrum: about one in 58. Post asserts that the majority of funding in our country has gone toward cure-related research and more funding is needed for programming and research aimed at care, support and improving the quality of life for those on the spectrum. She hopes to apply more qualitative analysis to her work going forward, generating a unique intersection of theatre and science, and ideally creating more opportunity for research funding for her work.

**Tara Baran ’18**, an exercise science major and theatre minor, has made Shakespeare and Autism the basis of her thesis as an Honors College scholar. Using facial recognition software called Emotient, Baran is studying the expressions of boys with autism.

Boys are five times more likely to be affected by autism than girls according to Autism Speaks, a leading autism science and advocacy organization. Baran takes pictures of the boys at the beginning, middle and end of the seven-week Shakespeare and Autism program. She looks for gradual progressions in the “action units” of their faces, such as positioning of their brows or tightening of their lips, to determine the children’s levels of expressiveness over time.

“I think children on the spectrum would respond to anything that has huge characters and drama and heightened language,” noted Post, but the 16th century bard is particularly poignant for this class. “There’s a largesse in the language, in the emotional expression, in the connection between characters. There’s nothing subtle about Shakespeare. If the children allow themselves to open up and expand into what the text is giving to them and the relationship that’s being offered to them, there is a sense of, ’Wow, I’m awake and I’m alive and I’m feeling this thing that I don’t feel typically,’ and that’s pretty tremendous.”

“All the world’s a stage,” wrote Shakespeare in As You Like It, and this room in UNCW’s Cultural Arts Building is no exception. Robin Post and her students stand in a circle in the center of the room. The silence is soon shattered by shouts of nonsense noises as they warm up for class. Jokes and laughter echo off the walls as Post encourages her students to let go and embrace a sense of playfulness.

“"da-dum da-dum da-dum"
Holmes began his journey to stardom in the fall of 2000 as a freshman at UNCW majoring in theatre – and cheering on the UNCW basketball team as feathered mascot Sammy C. Hawk. Holmes cites his experiences at UNCW as one of the catalysts that sent him to graduate school at Northern Illinois University and, ultimately, kickstarted his career. After earning his master’s degree, Holmes and his fiancé had to decide where to root their family. The lure of typical film-driven places like New York City, Los Angeles and Chicago was strong, but Holmes knew the cost and the struggle of being a full-time actor in an expensive city would be hard on a new family. A mutual love of Wilmington brought the couple back to their alma mater. (His wife Lindsey Campbell graduated in 2005.)

“I’m still learning all the time,” Holmes said. “I’m 34 now, and I’ve been here at UNCW as either a student or a teacher for a little over 11 years. Wow. You do that math and that’s a third of my life.”

Even though Holmes did not plan on teaching, two of his theatre professors, Ed Wagenseller ’92 and Renée Vincent, asked him to teach a class at UNCW soon after his move to Wilmington. When that class ended, they offered him another and another, until Holmes became a regular lecturer. Teaching never appealed to Holmes the way acting did until he started working at UNCW, and now he says can’t imagine doing anything else to balance out his acting life.

“I said I never planned on teaching, but without Ed and Renée, I have no idea what I would be doing right now. I love teaching. It fits perfectly with what I do. I’m a pretty lucky dude.”

Last year alone, Holmes worked on productions in five different states: North Carolina, Georgia, Maryland, South Carolina and Virginia. To make up for missed classes, Holmes sets up private meetings for small groups of his students, ensuring they get the focused attention they need from him as a teacher.

The biggest skill Holmes tries to instill into his students is perseverance. While he believes that some people are born for a role, Holmes knows that dedication and hard work are the driving forces behind successful actors.

“I had friends who had a lot more natural ability and talent than I did,” he acknowledged. “I think that’s part of what encouraged me to work so hard. There are always going to be people out there who are better than you – there will always be someone better, more gifted, can jump higher. But the thing is, very few are going to outwork me.”

Even now, Holmes is working on three different projects, but he’s very hush-hush about them. In a world of social media film projects have to protect their storylines from getting leaked, so the world will have to wait a while to learn about Holmes’s latest acting ventures.

One thing is for certain. With his passion for teaching, acting and the UNCW institution, Holmes will continue to rise in the film industry, encouraging his students to follow his path. 

Myke Holmes from UNCW to the big screen and beyond
by Caitlin Taylor ’18M

Coming off of his most recent appearance on TURN: Washington’s Spies, actor and UNCW theatre lecturer Myke Holmes ’04 doesn’t intend to take a break to refuel for his next venture. He stays fired up, constantly teaching and constantly working in the film industry. On top of a full lecturing schedule, Holmes has built an impressive acting résumé, appearing in shows like The Walking Dead, Under the Dome, One Tree Hill, Drop Dead Diva and House of Cards. He’s even made his way to the big screen in movies like Adrenaline, War Room and The Longest Ride.
A magical forest has sprung up on Wilmington’s north side. Fantasy creatures frolic among handprint foliage and towering vines, colorful flowers and fairies. Created by community and UNCW volunteers, the mural enlivens a 240-foot retaining wall that abuts the DREAMS of Wilmington building downtown.

Painting the town
by Venita Jenkins
During an eight-week span in early spring, nearly 500 volunteers spent their Saturdays transforming a drab wall into a public art masterpiece. The mural’s theme reflects the energy and inspiration at work inside DREAMS, an after-school program that encourages children to express themselves through the arts.

“Though I love teaching and research, I believe we can have even more impact if we focus our teaching and research on community public service,” said Janna Robertson, professor in the Watson College of Education. She was approached by DREAMS to take on the project and saw it as opportunity to beautify a somewhat forgotten area of the city.

With the help of social media and outreach from Robertson and DREAMS executive director Matt Carvin, more than 50 community groups sponsored 60 whimsical creatures featured on the mural. Each sponsor donated $50 to help cover the cost of painting supplies.

Kaylyn Sholar, a junior majoring in elementary education, volunteered as part of her community service requirement.

“I think it will stay here for years to come and give people hope and inspiration,” she noted.

“We can only begin to speculate about the impact the mural will have in our community,” Carvin added. “Local neighborhood members, schools and churches certainly have been a big part of this project, but one of the coolest things about the mural is how it’s brought the entire Wilmington community together. It spans all sectors of our community and that’s a beautiful thing.”
The Diamond Hawks program celebrates 60 years of hard work, consistency and good, clean fun. Consistency is often difficult to attain, but UNCW baseball has shown that it’s not only possible, it’s expected. This year marks 60 years of success as a record-breaking program that continues to craft solid student-athletes and funnel players into professional baseball. Steeped in traditions of excellence and tenacity, Diamond Hawk baseball slides into year 60 as a clear home run, both for the UNCW athletics program and the university. 

Grand Slam Guy: The first game of the 2016 season was particularly exciting for head coach Mark Scalf as he marked the 800th win in his UNCW career. What’s next? “I just want to continue to work hard,” Coach Scalf said simply. “[I want to] continue to develop relationships with the players and with the UNCW community as well as the southeastern NC community. It’s been fun. It’s been trying at times, but rewarding to see our players experience what they’ve experienced. It’s neat to see our alumni come back and bring their families and see how successful they are. I’d like to think a lot of it had to do with their experience here in the program and competing in the classroom as well as on the field.”

Catching Up with the Coaches: Since its inception in 1957, UNCW’s baseball team has been led by just three coaches. Bill Brooks, the Seahawks’ first coach, began his legacy by founding the athletics department and serving as the first athletics director. Bobby Guthrie ushered the program into Colonial Athletic Association (CAA) membership in the mid-1980s. Current head coach Mark Scalf ’80 has guided the Seahawks to eight National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) tournament appearances so far. The stellar records of each coach speak for themselves, all of which paved the way for the program’s most recent feat:

1,629 all-time wins
**Baseball Gives Back:** The program holds several auction days throughout the year to help local charities, from military organizations to the Wilmington Miracle League. Players often wear jerseys during games that are auctioned off afterward. Players revel in seeing fans wear their names and numbers, but what they appreciate even more is knowing these contributions have gone on to help those in need.

There is little doubt that UNCW will continue along its trajectory of success beyond the 60-year mark. Though it is vital to pause and recognize all that the baseball team has achieved since its humble beginnings in 1957, the pause will not be a long one. Seahawk baseball is a force, and it will endure as a powerhouse of UNCW pride.

**Seahawks at the Show:** Former UNCW baseball players Billy Harris ’66 and Bill Haywood ’62 made their debuts in Major League Baseball (MLB) in 1968. Cody Stanley and Chris Hatcher, also once proud Seahawks, made MLB appearances in 2015 and 2010, respectively. Hatcher, a current pitcher for the Dodgers, was the 2006 catcher for the Seahawks after helping UNCW win its second of four conference titles. In all, eight Seahawks have played in the major leagues, and former Seahawk Carl Willis ’90 is now the pitching coach for the Boston Red Sox.

**Pitcher Perfect:** Brooks Field, named after inaugural coach Bill Brooks, stands picturesque with its beautifully manicured lawn and infield dirt. Pine trees flank the left side of the stadium and lead to ‘Home Run Hill.’ Junior college national championship listings and finals appearances are listed proudly on the press box, while conference tournament titles and NCAA appearance banners adorn the back of the grandstand.

**Memories from the Mound**

UNCW lost one of its biggest fans this spring when James “Ronnie” Register passed away in April. Register started the Seroka Challenge in memory of another longtime Seahawk fan, Stan Seroka, who cheered for the team for years before his passing. The challenge collects donations from fans for every run and home run hit by UNCW. Register and his wife Linda also established a scholarship for the program, the James and Linda Register Baseball Scholarship Fund, allowing Coach Scalf and his staff to compete with the likes of baseball teams from UNC Chapel Hill, NC State and South Carolina for some of the top talent in the Carolinas.
1960s

Robert “Bobby” G. Greer ’66 was reappointed vice chairman of the New Hanover Regional Medical Center Board of Trustees for Fiscal Year 2016.

Larry R. Honeycutt ’66, former UNCW outfielder and longtime area official, was inducted into the 2016 Greater Wilmington Sports Hall of Fame. In January 2016, he was inducted into the George Whitfield Hall of Fame, and in May 2015 he received the Golden Whistle Award. During his 47 years as an official, Larry worked nine high school state championship games.

Donald E. Godwin ’69 was named to D Magazine’s 2016 list of The Best Lawyers in Dallas. This is his ninth time being named to this prestigious group.

1970s

Therese Trobaugh Bertolette ’73 is a neonatal nurse practitioner with Southeastern Regional Medical Center’s Special Care Nursery.

Charles “Rick” R. Jones ’75 was one of four UNCW athletes inducted into the UNCW Athletics Hall of Fame. He played baseball for two seasons in 1974 and 1975 and led the Seahawks to the NCAA finals in 1975.

Elmer “Jot” Owens ’76, a charter boat captain, is working in collaboration with Cape Fear River Watch to help restore the striped bass population in the river by installing fish ladders on the dams to help the bass move from salt water to freshwater to spawn.

1980s

Velva Bellamy Jenkins ’80, vice president of continuing education, economic and workforce development at Brunswick Community College, was one of four area residents selected as a member of the Leadership North Carolina class XXII for 2015-16.

James C. Burke ’82, ’01M continues to work on his New Hanover County slave deed project, which he began over two years ago. With the help of interns, student volunteers and modest grants from the Register of Deeds’ office and the New Hanover County Public Library, James has compiled a volume of 6,000 documents that involve the sale or inheritance of slaves from the 1730s through the 1820s.

UNCW can bring both of your dreams to fruition. A charitable gift annuity leaves a lasting legacy for our students while providing for your own personal financial security today. Take part in building the university’s scholarship endowment while earning a guaranteed, tax-advantaged income stream for life at very attractive rates.

Plan for your own future and create one for her.

LIFE-INCOME GIFT PLANS MAKE BOTH POSSIBLE.

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Rates are subject to change annually for new gift annuities. For educational purposes only – not intended as tax or legal advice for your particular situation.

For more information, please contact
Lee Knight, J.D., Director of Planned Giving
Office of University Advancement
Office: 910.962.3214
Mobile: 910.234.9546
Email: knightjl@uncw.edu

Ashley Wood ’15, ’16M
Deborah “Deb” L. Cox '83, attorney and former Supreme Court clerk and associate attorney general, is a board-certified specialist in federal and state criminal law with the NC State Bar.

Gwendolyn Austin ’85 was inducted into the 2016 Greater Wilmington Sports Hall of Fame. She finished her collegiate career with 2,056 points, the most in program history, and was the first UNCW women’s basketball player to have her number retired.

Cecilia “Cil” A. Holden ’85 was appointed chief of staff at the NC Department of Commerce.

William “Monty” M. Graham ’86, professor and chair of the marine science department at the University of Southern Mississippi, spoke to students at his alma mater, Danville High School in Kentucky, about marine biology, seeking adventure and finding a career you love.

Joseph Clement “J.C.” Hearne II ’86 is a member of the 2016 board of the Wilmington-Cape Fear Home Builders Association.

Demetrie A. Keith ’87 is seeking re-election to the District 4 seat in the November 2016 election.

David Thomas ’87 is a member of the 2016 board of the Wilmington-Cape Fear Home Builders Association.

Philip “Mike” M. Brown Jr. ’88 was appointed chief physician of New Hanover Regional Medical Center, completed his ninth e-book, Coffee Cup Stories.

1990s

Marnie Rustemeyer Colucci ’91 was interviewed for a Huffington Post article about her company, Billow Pillow.

Tressa L. Reese-McKeithan ’91 was one of four UNCW athletes inducted into the 2016 UNCW Athletic Hall of Fame. She is the fourth Seahawk women’s basketball player to be enshrined in the school’s Hall and ranks fourth on the all-time scoring list.

James “Jim” E. Hickmon ’92 has been certified in estate planning and probate law by the NC State Bar Board of Legal Specialization, one of only 144 lawyers in North Carolina to achieve this distinction.

Julie Shouse Riggins ’92, ’94M, was awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching. She teaches at East Forsyth High School in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth Country school district and coaches the mathematics academic team.

Robert “Rob” E. Sherry ’92 is a licensed private investigator and owner/operator of Sherry Investigative Services in the northeast U.S.

Connie D. Hill ’93 is the co-founder of Lump to Laughter, a Christian ministry dedicated to supporting those diagnosed with breast cancer.

Paul Cairney ’93, ’95M was named Mid-Atlantic Region Coach of the Year by the National Soccer Coaches Association of America. He has built the UNCW women’s soccer program into a regular Colonial Athletic Association contender over his 20 years as head coach.

Michelle Reinhold Conely ’93 opened Going Local Artisan Gifts in downtown Wilmington. She makes jewelry out of vintage pieces, and her store offers items made by local and state artists.

Joseph P. Martello ’93 was promoted to assistant vice president, ICG Operations Department at Citibank in Tampa, FL.

Edith “Edie” L. Skipper ’93, ’00M, ’07M, ’13Ph.D., was named Pender County Schools’ Principal of the Year. She serves as principal at Pender Early College High School and represented Pender County Schools in the regional competition for NC Principal of the Year.

Marshall “Hughes” Warren Jr. ’93 was elected president of the Coastal Association of Health Underwriters for 2015-16.

Bradford D. Whitlow ’93 is a member of the 2016 board of the Wilmington-Cape Fear Home Builders Association.

Erin E. Diener ’94, ’07M is the director of fund development for the Cape Fear Literacy Council.

Teresa A. McLamb ’94M, an agent with Coldwell Banker Sea Coast Advantage, earned the nationally recognized Broker Price Opinion Resource certification.

Ginger D. Taylor ’94, was named one of America’s Best Bike Shops for 2015 by the National Bicycle Dealers Association.

Elizabeth “Betty” Bell Brown ’97 exhibited her paintings at the First Presbyterian Church in Wilmington in March 2016.

Daniel S. Ling ’97, an instructor at Cape Fear Community College, is the executive director of Full Belly Project, which hosted its 14th Annual Full Belly Feast in February. Full Belly Project designs and distributes income-generating agricultural devices to improve life in rural communities worldwide.

Lori J. Peterson ’97 was a recipient of the 2015-16 Regional Artist Project Grant for her work in visual arts. The grant is supported by the Arts Council of Wilmington and New Hanover County and the NC Arts Council.

Kenneth R. Watlington Jr. ’97 is co-anchor on WNCT 9 On Your Side in Greenville, NC.
Charles H. "Hal" Wilson '97, assistant professor of coaching education at Georgia Southern University, spoke at the USA Basketball Youth Coach Academy in Chicago, Ill., and the U.S. Soccer Foundation in Washington, D.C.

Thomas “Tom” C. Gale ’98, managing partner of Team Gale of Coldwell Banker Sea Coast Advantage, earned his Certified Residential Specialist certification.

Adrian M. Monte ’98 performed with Michael Schlitt’s traveling show “Patriot Act” as a member of his Democracy Salon – a combination of songs, improv comedy and storytelling presented in February at Ironclad Brewery in Wilmington.

Kenneth T. McCrery ’98 is deputy executive director for Virginia Tech’s Technology-enhanced Learning and Online Strategies, a unit of information technology.

Sharon “Vicky” V. Smith ’98 was a recipient of the 2015-16 Regional Artist Project Grant for her work in visual arts/ceramics. The grant is supported by the Arts Council of Wilmington and New Hanover County and the NC Arts Council.

Larry “Matt” Blackwell ’99 is director of business services at the Cleveland County Economic Development Partnership.

Vann M. Fogelman ’99 and his wife Laila announce the birth of their daughter, Coral Ann, on Oct. 21, 2015.

Jill L. Peters ’99, an attorney with Smith Moore Leatherwood in Wilmington, was elected to be a fellow of the American College of Trust and Estate Counsel.

Anne Russell ’99M received the 2015 Creative Writing Award from the Night Department of NC Sorosis at its second annual scholarship celebration. Additionally, the UNCW Creative Writing Scholarship was given in her honor.

Anitra Blackwell Walker ’99 was recognized as a Cone Health Nursing Excellence Recipient in April 2015, Great 100 Nurses of NC in October 2015 and was a Pinnacle Award Honoree for Carolinas Health Care Systems in Charlotte in October 2015. Anitra was promoted to special projects coordinator of Cone Health at Al-Amrane Regional Medical Center in Burlington, NC.

Troy M. Williamson ’99 is a senior mortgage consultant at ON Q Financial.

Adrian H. Varnam ’99, ’09M won Best Sound Design at the fifth annual StarNews Media Wilmington Theater Awards. He was recognized for his work on Daram Tree Shakespeare’s production of Macbeth.

Stephania D. Bloodworth ’00, business operations manager at the New Hanover Regional Medical Center Foundation, was named one of Wrightsville Beach Magazine’s “14 under 40.” This group is comprised of local business leaders committed to making the community a better place.

Lori Moseley Elfaysal ’00, and her husband, Hassan, announce the birth of their daughter, Marianna “Mia” Charlotte, on March 12, 2015.

Jonathon M. Grubbs ’00 produced a feature film The Ultimate Legacy, that premiered on the Hallmark Channel in January. He and Megan S. Griffiths were married July 6, 2014.

Shawn C. Horton ’00 is past president of the Wilmington-Cape Fear Home Builders Association Board of Directors.

Martin “Jaime” J. Conley III ’03, ’04M is the chief financial officer of RiverMead, a retirement community in southern New Hampshire.

Stephanie Cline Lanier ’03, ’07M, co-found and broker-in-charge of the Lanier Propetry Group, spoke at the Greater Wilmington Business Journal’s Power Breakfast in December as one of five of the region’s most intriguing people from 2015. She discussed why midtown Wilmington needs an identity.

Adrienne L. Moore ’03, insurance producer for James E. Moore Insurance Agency Inc., was named one of Wrightsville Beach Magazine’s “14 under 40.”

John A. Salley ’03 and Rebecca E. Blackman were married March 28, 2015.

Jennifer L. Baker ’04 is managing director and senior vice president with Wells Fargo Insurance Services in the Raleigh-Durham area.

Maggie Jo Consey ’04 and her husband Shawn announce the birth of their son, Landon Christopher, on Sept. 10, 2015.

Bonnie Thayer Dubier ’04 is the director of marketing at Cape Fear Living Magazine.

Cameron M. Moore ’02 is a jewelry artist and creates sea glass earrings and necklaces that simulate the ocean. She sells her creations locally and through her Etsy shop.

Noah W. Riedel ’02 was named one of “15 Potters to Watch in 2016” by CFile, a daily publication for contemporary ceramic art and design.

William “DJ” D. Struntz ’02M, adventure photographer of DJ Struntz Photography, was named one of Wrightsville Beach Magazine’s “14 under 40.”

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send us your news
uncw.edu/alumniupdate

Dana C. Brancato-Daeche ’05 was a finalist in the 2015 WILMA’s Women to Watch Award arts category. She is an associate producer with HBO.

Henry “Tom” T. Davis ’05 is chair of the Wilmington Downtown Inc. work committee.

Richard R. Davis ’05 was named one of Wrightsville Beach Magazine’s “14 under 40.”

Sharon Morton Edwards ’05, ’09M was honored as the 2015 Mentor Teacher of the Year by the Onslow County School System. She teaches third grade at Summersill Elementary School in the Onslow County school district.

Erika Guyton Hoover ’05 and her husband John announce the birth of their son, Ethan Charles, on Nov. 8, 2015.

Justin P. MacDaniel ’05 is the Eastern Carolinas region sales manager for Protection 1/ASG Security.

Stephanie Jones Norris ’05 is principal at Clarkton School of Discovery in Bladen County.

Amy K. Bernhardt ’06 and Sharon Bernhardt welcomed their son, Miles Ellis, into their lives on Dec. 14, 2015.

Taylor W. Bridgers ’06 and his wife, Brittany, announce the birth of their daughter, Allie Gene, on Oct. 1, 2015.

Reid D. Duke ’06 and his wife Christin Lea announce the birth of their son, Riggs Jordan, on Sept. 24, 2015.

Lauren B. Hancock ’06 opened Thrive Activewear in Wilmington. The store offers clothing, accessories, essential oils, skincare products and by-appointment yoga instruction.

Brookes E. Musser ’06, ’09M was a finalist in the 2015 WILMA’s Women to Watch Award education category. She is a clinical social worker and co-owner of Exceptional Educators. She and her husband, Donnie Stone, are collaborating with their parents to open Bill’s Front Porch, a full-service brewery and restaurant at Capt’n Bill’s in Wilmington.

Jessica L. Phillips ’06 was named one of “15 Potters to Watch in 2016” by CFile, a daily publication for contemporary ceramic art and design. Her work was a part of the exhibition “Art, and Other Tactics: Contemporary Craft by Artist Veterans” at the Craft and Folk Art Museum in Los Angeles, CA, one of nine exhibitions she had participated in the past year.

Emily “Emalie” J. Quickle ’06, ’09M earned her Ph.D. in clinical health psychology at UNC Charlotte. She is an assistant professor of psychology at Coastal Carolina University.

Peggy E. Sloan ’06M was featured in Wilmma Magazine as she marked her five-year anniversary as director of the North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher.

Justin J.B. Hoke ’07, classical guitarist, had his CD release party at UNCW’s Beckwith Recital Hall where he played music from his new album “Open Sky.”

Marady “Karín” Kassab ’07, ’10M, psychologist and co-owner of Clarity Counseling Center, appeared on WECT News “First at Four” to discuss how to make New Year’s resolutions stick in 2016.

Carly J. Randall ’07, ’09M received a merit-based, competitive graduate student award from the Philanthropic Educational Organization. A Florida Institute of Technology graduate student, Carly is researching how global warming is destroying elkhorn and staghorn corals.

Heidi A. Becka ’08 was awarded a Congressional Recognition for Public Service as an emergency telecommunicator during the 2015 Memorial Day flood in Hays County, TX.

William L. Copping ’08 is an economic development project manager with Washington County Economic Alliance in Mississippi.

Harrison D. Fountain ’08 is the head golf pro at Echo Farms Golf Course in Wilmington.

Andrew N. Gray ’08M, a partner with the digital marketing firm of Taylor Gray Kristof, is chair of the Wilmington Downtown Inc. play committee.


Anna K. Raynor-Marbry ’08 was inducted into the 2016 UNCW Athletic Hall of Fame. She set 10 school records in track and field, became the Seahawk’s first NCAA Division I All-American when she finished 11th at the NCAA championships and was a three-time Colonial Athletic Association Track and Field Athlete of the Year.

Rocco B. Quaranto III ’08 and Melissa Milestead Quaranto ’07, ’11 announce the birth of their son, Luke Evans, on July 7, 2015.

Kelly McKenzie Struble ’08 and Raimond “Wells” R. Struble ’07 launched their new company Tama Tea with the help of Rocco B. Quaranto III ’08. Tama Tea features loose leaf teas, specialty drinks, “teaware” and healthy and light meal options.

Katie M. Snyder ’08, ’12M, a teacher at Hoggard High School in Wilmington, was named the 2016 Southeast Regional Teacher of the Year by the NC Department of Public Education.

Kathryn “Katie” Gardner Lomax ’09M, family nurse practitioner, joined the staff of Wrightsville Beach Family Medicine.

Clifford “Cliff” R. Pyron Jr. ’09 is one of 34 business and community leaders in the 2016 Class of Leadership Wilmington, sponsored by the Wilmington Chamber Foundation.

Jason R. Windham ’09 is a commercial real estate broker with the Wilmington firm of Maus, Warlick, Matthews & Co. Formerly, he was a sergeant with the Wrightsville Beach Police Department, where he received several awards for his lifesaving work.

Ryan Ricks ’10 and Brittany C. Cox ’10, daughter of Deborah Newton Cox ’83 and Walter Lee Cox III ’82, were married May 7, 2016 at Lake Gaston, NC. Brittany and Ryan live in Seattle, WA, where Brittany is an actor and Ryan is a music production entrepreneur.

Mark C. Krucke ’10 had his sculpture, “Fortitude III,” purchased by the Blue Springs Art Commission and placed on permanent display outside the Blue Springs School District’s Bartow Administrative Center in Missouri.

Brian O. Langley ’10 and his wife, Alyssa, announce the birth of their daughter, Madelyn Aletheia, on Dec. 10, 2015.

Jeffrey “Jeff” N. Lesley ’10M, sales associate and luxury home specialist, received Century 21 System’s Double Centurion Producer Award for closed sales.

Michael D. Powell III ’10 and his brother Ben M. Powell ’11 are the owners of Drift, a coffee shop in Ocean Isle Beach. They also have coffee kiosk called Flight in downtown Wilmington’s Murchison Building. They have traveled the world and visited growers, roasters and purveyors to educate themselves and enhance their business.

Allison L. Scott ’10M is a nurse practitioner at Duke Medicine’s new satellite cardiology and vascular clinic in Pembroke, NC.

Jennifer Sovacool Bell ’10 was one of five finalists in the 2015 WILMA’s Women to Watch Award nonprofit category. She is executive director of ACCESS of Wilmington’s Miracle League.

Alexandra F. Perillo ’10, ’13M was a finalist in the 2015 WILMA’s Women to Watch Award rising stars category. She is an environmental project manager for SCS Carolinas and is a member of Cape Fear CREW, US Green Building Council–Cape Fear Branch and Cape Fear Museum board of directors.

Daniel J. Bowling ’11 and Heather E. Pacey ’11 were married Aug. 7, 2015. They reside in Fiji.

Hugh B. Crews ’11M finished first overall in Wilmington’s second annual Race 13.1, over a field of 612 half-marathon participants, in February.

Paul E. D’Angelo ’11M is director of affordable housing with Tribute Properties in Wilmington.

Jenny R. Hines ’11 and Robert H. Warwick ’10 were married Aug. 29, 2015.

Vanessa L. Lynch ’11 released a Christmas album called Waiting for Santa with the help of UNCW associate professor Jerald Shynett. The album art was done by Elizabeth A. Ashford Oglesby ’14 and the back photo taken by Julia R. Shook ’00, ’02.

UNCW’s excellence is made possible by the generosity of alumni, parents, faculty, staff and friends who invest in our mission. Together we are able to recruit the brightest students and equip them to change the world. Private gifts provide much-needed support for scholarships and unique hands-on learning experiences, and enhance valuable academic, student life and athletic programs.

To join other proud Seahawks who believe in making a difference in the lives of our students and our community, please visit uncw.edu/giveonline or call 910.962.7613 today. As always, you can support any area of UNCW that is meaningful to you with a gift of any amount.
Michelle E. Lorenzini '11 and Adam Wagner '12 were married May 16, 2015. The couple resides in Raleigh.

Jason D. Ruegg '11 refitted a former restaurant in Wilmington to relocate his growing used boat retail business, Off the Hook Yacht Sales.

Jordan G. Sasser '11 was a top-24 semi-finalist on American Idol.

Andrew A. Asaki '12 participated in Miami University’s Earth Expeditions global field course, where he studied coral reef ecology and the conservation of marine systems along the Great Barrier Reef. He is an extracurricular science educator at Mad Science of New York in Brooklyn, NY, and is pursuing his master’s degree from Miami University’s Advanced Inquiry Program.

Anna "Claire" Dillard '12 and Will Barham were married on Oct. 10, 2015. Claire is a marketing relations administrator for the Better Business Bureau.

Natasha N. Davis '12M, director of UNCW’s Quality Enhancement for Nonprofit Organizations (QENO), received a WILMA 2015 Women to Watch Award for her work in the nonprofit/volunteer category.

Laura K. Hogan '12 is a senior consultant with Smartbug Media, an inbound marketing agency in Newport Beach, CA.

Stuart W. Robinson '12 and Clara W. Robinson '12 announce the birth of their son, Stuart Wesley Robinson II, on Oct. 22, 2015.

James L. Seay III '12 graduated magna cum laude from Campbell University School of Law in May 2015. He practices law at Seay Law Firm, PLLC in Wilmington.

Jacob B. Vares '11 is the head planning and zoning administrator at the Town of Oak Island.

Kelly L. Crowley '13M was named the 2015 STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) Educator of the Year by Corning and Wilmington Business Development. The award recognized her innovation and success in bringing STEM to her students.

Edward A.C. Hall '13 created Petrics, a high-tech product that prevents cohabiting pets from eating each other's food and allows pet owners to track each animal’s individual food intake and health status.

Maria E. Katsadouros '13 won Best Supporting Actress in a Play at the fifth annual StarNews Media Wilmington Theater Awards. She was recognized for her role of Honey in the Thalian Association Community Theatre's production of "Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf?"

Rachel G. Lowe '13. UNCW swim team captain from 2012 to 2013, is one of two former athletes inducted in the inaugural class of the Reagan High School Hall of Fame in Winston-Salem.

Kerstyn M. McKinney '13 is a fourth grade teacher at Laurel Mill Elementary School in the Franklin County school district.

Eryn A. Roberts '13 is a community ambassador for Yelp. Working in Wilmington for the San Francisco-based social review website, Eryn serves as liaison between consumers, businesses and Yelp.

Valerie E. Taylor '13 received the Beginning Teacher Promise of Leadership Award from the Watson College of Education.

Ryan M. Trimble '13 is a producer/segment host at WECT/WSFX in Wilmington. He is also one of the head writers for a sketch comedy troupe called Pineapple-Shaped Lamps.

Taylor C. Yakovenko '13 competed in the Dance for Life during the Women of Hope Diamonds and Champagne Hope Ball, which supports women with cancer. She is a reporter for WWAY-TV3 in Wilmington.

Lori B. Adams '14 was named Carolina Golf Association’s Women’s Player of the Year in 2015 when she qualified for the U.S. Women’s Open at Lancaster Country Club and finished third at the Carolina Women’s Amateur and Sally Women’s Amateur. She was granted status on the LPGA Futures Tour in August.

Harrison "Mat" M. Batts '14 retired from professional baseball after two seasons with the Minnesota Twins organization. He is a reporter with The Dispatch in Lexington, NC.

Shelby T. Brayton Jr. '14 is the CEO of Blue Label Hosting and of Bottoms Up Technologies, a home beer and wine delivery company serving the Wilmington area.

James D. Dell '14 signed on as a midfielder with FC Cincinnati, Cincinnati’s new professional soccer franchise.

James "Jim" P. Kittridge III '14 is the head of Brand Assurance, a software platform that allows apartment owners to manage and track reviews on review sites and social networks. Brand Assurance was awarded a grant from NC IDEA in fall 2015.

Mattie E. Morrow '14 is a consultant with Prestige Scientific, an executive search firm whose business focuses exclusively on the life science sector.

Eleanor E. Patrick '14Ph.D. was named Craven County (NC) Principal of the Year. She will serve as the local advisor to the board of education and represent the district in local, regional and state events.

Tabitha M. Shifflett '14 is a graduate student of the fashion studies program at Parsons School of Design in New York. She is also the editor-in-chief for the Parsons chapter of the online publication Odyssey and works as a freelance writer for The Inquisitr.

Jacob L. VanCompernolle '14 was signed by the Swope Park Rangers, the Kansas City soccer team. Most recently, he played for Sporting KC’s former USL affiliate, Oklahoma City Energy, helping them finish second in the Western Conference and clinch a first-ever playoff berth for the franchise.

Carson D. Vaughan '14M wrote an article for The Chronicle of Higher Education, reflecting on his days as a graduate teaching assistant at UNCW.

Sidney "Nathan" Blocker '15 is a Peace Corps volunteer in the Ukraine working in community economic development as a business/NGO advisor.

Haley E. Browning '15 is a fifth grade teacher at Cape Fear Elementary School in the Pender County school district.

Sara Harris '15 and Kyle Brown '15 are working as English teachers in Mexico.

Sydney M. Johnson '15 is a family and consumer sciences agent with the Sampson County (NC) Cooperative Extension. Her duties include educating the community on nutrition, food safety and preservation.

Evin E. Leek '15 is painting portraits to raise awareness and funds for food, medicine and healthcare for widows from the Guatemalan civil war that lasted from the 1950s to the 1990s.

Shea E. Lenkaitis '15 is the campus admissions representative for the Wilmington campus of the University of Mount Olive.

Courtney M. Poland '15 played the role of Jane Seymour in Thalian Hall’s February 2016 presentation of Shakespeare’s Mary Tudor.

Wilson J. Meredith '15 drew positive reviews in the local media for his role as Biff, Willy Loman’s son in Thalian Hall’s presentation of Death of a Salesman in February 2016.

Nicholas “Nick” A. Reed '15, creator of Up All Night Theatre, with Liz Bernardo '15 and Zeb Mims '14, directed Bootleg Shakespeare: The Tempest. This improvisational production is one of Shakespeare’s most famous tragicomedies.

Christine A. Schulze '15 is a social media market specialist at RCI Revolution Inc. in Raleigh.

Riley A. Stephenson '15 is a client service associate at Pearson Patterson Smith Wealth Management at UBS Financial Services Inc. in Wilmington.

Elliot G. Swain '15M joined Atlantic Shores Environmental Services in Leland.

Victoria A. Ward '15 is a digital sales assistant at WECT News in Wilmington.
In Memoriam

Thomas E. Brown ’52
Victor D. Batson ’53
Thomas E. Dann ’56
Henson P. Barnes ’58
Ovalee “Lee” Elsworth Barefoot ’59
Charles C. Moore Jr. ’61
Harold D. Covington ’64
Tony Waddell ’66
Hosea “Thomas” Grant ’67
Virginia Edgerton Storms ’71
James “Jim” L. Allen ’72
James A. Ferger ’72
Robert “Bo” Edward Pittman ’75
Rose Mary Anderson ’76
James L. Cook ’76
Edward P. Ellington ’76
Martha Ann Carter Whitfield ’76
Betty R. Richardson ’80
Helen Rindlbacher Ward ’80
John M. Levings ’81
Frances B. Bessellieu ’82, ’99M
Laurie E. Adams ’87
William D. Johnson Jr. ’88
Joyce Daughtrey Miller ’90
Colleen K. Parker ’90
Shirley Jacobsen Ulisnik ’90
Teresa Koska Gausman ’91
Michael C. Thomas ’92
Lora Willett Brittain ’93
David R. Desjardins ’97
Patricia E. O’Connell ’99
Stephanie Watkins Turner ’98M
Rashida Ramilla Johnson ’01
Sean T. Joyce ’03
William W. Murfin ’04
Frank R. Laster ’11

Alumni Association Awards

Travis Corpening ’00, ’06M, Caroline Reda ’85 and A. Farrell Teague ’54 received special recognition from the UNCW Alumni Association during Homecoming 2016. Reda is this year’s Alumna of the Year; Corpening, Young Alumnus of the Year; and Teague, Citizen of the Year.

Reda is vice president, North America Region, for Power Services, a $15 billion organization within GE Power. She continues to support UNCW by funding a scholarship, and recently gifted the Physics and Physical Oceanography Department with a sundial for classroom use.

Corpening is the director of the Nixon Minority Male Leaders Program at Cape Fear Community College and a doctoral student at Hampton University. After earning a bachelor’s degree in psychology, he founded a company called ShaperSpeaks to educate and empower young people.

Teague, a former executive with Belk Inc., was one of the earliest recipients of the President’s Medal of Achievement, now called the Hoggard Medal, in honor of former Wilmington College President John T. Hoggard. He and his wife Geraldine recently established the A. Farrell Teague Merit Scholarship, which honors a rising senior at UNCW who has achieved a high level of academic and extracurricular success.

– Venita Jenkins

Cameron School of Business 2016 Outstanding Alumni

Strong work ethics, integrity and commitment to lifelong learning are just a few qualities shared by Charles Craft ’79, David Pirrung ’90 and Maurice Smith ’79.

Craft graduated summa cum laude from UNCW with a bachelor’s degree in accounting. He is a partner at RSM US LLP, the largest provider in the nation of audit, tax and financial services with a focus on the middle market.

Pirrung, who graduated with a bachelor’s degree in accounting, is the chief financial officer of IAT Insurance Group, a property and casualty organization headquartered in Raleigh.

Smith earned his bachelor’s degree in business administration. A member of the UNCW Board of Trustees, he is the president and chief executive officer of Local Government Federal Credit Union (LGFCU), a cooperative serving the financial needs of those affiliated with local governments in North Carolina.

Winners were honored at the annual CSB alumni breakfast during Business Week in March.

Get involved
with one of our chapters or groups!
Call 800.596.2880
or email
alumni@uncw.edu
for more information.
UNCW®
Family & Alumni Weekend
Sept. 23-25

Featured Alumni Events

Class of 1966 - 50-Year Reunion
September 23, Wise Alumni House

Music Department Alumni Concert & Reception
September 23, UNCW Campus

Golden Wing Society Reunion 50 Years or Greater Alumni Classes of 1949-66
September 24, UNCW Campus

UNCW Alumni & Family Day at the Beach
September 24, Wrightsville Beach Access 36

Legacy Pinning Ceremony
September 24, UNCW Campus

Visit www.uncw.edu/alumni or call 910.962.2682 for more information on how to get involved and for a full calendar of alumni events.