From Dean McIntyre:
Dear Colleagues, Best wishes in finishing the semester, and have a wonderful holiday break!

Congratulations:

Chuang Wang (EDLD) is the recipient of the 2018 Harshini de Silva Graduate Mentor Award. This award recognizes a distinguished, active scholar who provides graduate students with the skills and resources they need to succeed as scholars and has a sincere and active interest in the well-being of their students. Congratulations Chuang!

Chance Lewis (pictured right, MDSK), has been named the first Diversity Faculty Fellow by Provost Joan Lorden. As the new Provost’s Diversity Faculty Fellow, Lewis will chair the newly created Council on University Community Working Group (CCWG) which is designed to accelerate the work of the Campus Plan for Diversity, Access, and Inclusion, with emphasis on those parts that pertain directly to the Division of Academic Affairs. Under Lewis’ direction, the CCWG will work to increase the visibility, coordination, and impact of the Campus Plan and ongoing initiatives throughout the Division. The Working Group will begin meeting in January 2018.

Mickey Dunnaway, Kate Algozzine, and Bob Algozzine on their retirements. Three of the Department of Educational Leadership valued educators are retiring this semester -- Mickey Dunaway, Kate Algozzine, and Bob Algozzine. Mickey Dunaway (pictured left) came to UNC Charlotte in 2005. Before coming to UNCC, Mickey worked in all levels in education including a teacher, assistant principal, principal, associate superintendent, and superintendent. Mickey future plans include going fishing (a lot), cheering for Auburn, and writing his Civil War novel.

Kate Algozzine (pictured right) is a Research Associate in the Department of Educational Leadership and has worked at UNCC for over 20 years. She has been a general education and special education teacher and a college instructor for more than 30 years in public and private schools and universities. She has extensive experience providing professional development for preschool administrators, teachers, and paraprofessionals in school and community-based programs. Kate continues to write, read, and hang out with the grandkids. Bob Algozzine (pictured right) came to UNC Charlotte in 1988 and has been key in the growth of research in the College of Education, helping many others with their research. Bob was name the 2017 First Citizens Scholars Award, highest recognition for research and scholarship at UNC Charlotte and has won many other honors. He might be retiring, but he is still researching, writing, and serving as editors of journal (and hanging out with the grandkids).
The Omicron Pi chapter of Kappa Delta Pi at UNC Charlotte was honored with the 2017 Florence B. Stratemeyer Award for Chapter Excellence. This award is given each biennium to the highest achieving chapter from more than 650 national and international KDP chapters. *Pictured (left to right): KDP Chapter Advisor Misty Hathcock (OFE), Chapter President Madison Hopper, Chapter Past-President Megan Kuspky, and Chapter Literacy Alive Coordinator My’Asia Jaaber.*

Erin Miller (REEL, pictured) was awarded the Early Childhood Assembly of National Council of Teacher's of English's 2017 Social Justice in Education Award.

Karen Cross (REEL) won the “Catch your teacher wearing Niner green” campaign sponsored by the athletics department. She won a free pizza party and visit from Norm. The prize was donated to the kindergarten students in Mrs. Spears class at John Motley Morehead STEM school (pictured).

Evan Miller, in the Counseling Department’s Addictions Counseling program for being selected to receive the NAADAC Minority Fellowship for Addictions Counselors (NMFP-AC). He was selected among many qualified applicants, which demonstrates his motivation, impressive qualifications, valued experience and future career plans. His award letter states, "NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals, admires your commitment and applauds your hard work and service to under served communities and populations, including minority, LGBT and transition age youth (ages 16-25). As an NMFP-AC Fellow, you will receive a tuition stipend from NAADAC of up to $15,000."

Tosha Owens, alumnus of the Special Education doctoral program, for receiving the 2018 Council for Exceptional Children, Division for Research, Student Research Award in the area of Single-Subject Design. She worked with Ya Yu Lo (SPCD).

Data on Addiction Counseling Program

Pam Lassiter (Counseling) shared: Recent data about our addiction counseling program graduates from the North Carolina Professional Practice Board, the licensing board for addiction counselors, reports strong evidence of success for our graduates. Of those UNCC students who applied for the Licensed Clinical Addiction Specialist since 2008, 100% of our master's graduates with an emphasis in addictions
passed their licensure exam on the first try and now hold the LCAS credential. This contributes significantly to the professional treatment services available to people struggling with addictions in our state.

**SPED at the Council for Exceptional Children Teacher Education Conference**

**Belva Collins (SPED)** shared: In November, three of our students presented with **Kelly Anderson (SPCD) and JaneDiane Smith (SPCD)** at the Teacher Education Division of CEC conference. What is special about this presentation is that each of the students who presented received special education services and support during their own K-12 and IHE academic careers. They each told their story of challenges and triumphs to success in the public schools and to ultimately receive college degrees to become teachers.

Dana Feldner is a special education teacher in Jacksonville, FL, and Alexis Neitzey is a special education teacher in Cabarrus County Schools, NC. Delaney Burns is currently in the dual major program at UNC-Charlotte. I would like to highlight their presentation however you can. During the conference, an attendee asked a keynote panel member from the U.S. Dept. of Education if there were any data on the success of students with disabilities who become teachers, and the answer was that there are currently no data. These three young women are an example that, given the needed amount of support, a person with a disability can become a successful teacher. Pictured from left to right, the picture shows **Kelly Anderson, Delaney Burns, Alexis Neitzey, Dana Feldner, and JaneDiane Smith.**

**REEL Reading Minor Students Serve at Kids’ Fest**

REEL Reading Minor students in **Adriana Medina’s READ 4270** course participated in UNC Charlotte’s first annual Kids’ Fest on Saturday, October 28th. Students hosted a Readers’ Theatre booth were children of all ages read Halloween themed jokes or took part in a readers’ theatre script. Our Reading Minor students coached the participants before and during reading and helped them with reading fluently.
School Counseling Graduate Students Present at State Conference
Nine Masters in School Counseling students (pictured right) presented posters at the North Carolina School Counselors Association Conference in Greensboro, NC. The students who presented were:
Sarah Sullivan, Caroline Fourrier, Kelly Taylor, Kelly Markert, Alexis White (back row)
Brenna Doering, Lucia Frys, Lindsey Masters, Brooke Eastburn (front row)

COED Assessment Office Reminders
TaskStream scoring deadline- December 18
Course Outlines for CAEP Courses- February 1

Dates to Remember:
COED Holiday Lunch, COED Building, December 7, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
First day of Spring Semester, January 8
COED Faculty Meeting, Diversity focus, January 19, 9:30 – 11 a.m., COED 010
COED Faculty Meeting, All College, February 16, 9:30 – 11 a.m., COED 010
COED Faculty Meeting, Topic TBD, March 16, 9:30 – 11 a.m., COED 010
COED Faculty Meeting, All College, April 20, 9:30 – 11 a.m., COED 010
edTPA TPALs, February 6, 2018, 2:15-3:15 p.m. in COED 110
edTPA TPALs, April 25, 2018, 2:15-3:15 p.m. in COED 110

Publications

Please send Connections content for the January, 2018 issue to drew.polly@uncc.edu by January 17.

“Each person deserves a day away in which no problems are confronted, no solutions searched for. Each of us needs to withdraw from the cares which will not withdraw from us.”

-Maya Angelou