

# Family Connections



Keith Siler mows the UNCG baseball field into patterns for an upcoming game. Photo by Chris English



*Family Connections is UNCG's monthly e-newsletter sent to members of the Parent & Family Association during the academic year*

## UNCG to Debut "Freebie Fridays" for Baseball Season

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro's Director of Athletics, Nelson Bobb, has announced a special promotion in which fans will be able to attend this season's Friday baseball home games for free.

The Spartans will call it "Freebie Fridays" and all fans will be able to get into games played at UNCG Baseball Stadium on a Friday for no admission charge. The home Friday games will be March 13 against Georgia Southern at 7 pm, March 20 against Albany at 7 pm, March 27 against Samford at 7 pm, April 17 against The Citadel at 7 pm, May 1 against Western Carolina at 7 pm and May 8 against Appalachian State at 7 pm. There will also be one additional "Freebie Friday" game added on Wednesday, March 11 at 2 pm against Old Dominion.

"We wanted to do something for the community," said Bobb. "It is no secret that we as a nation are

facing difficult economic times. We thought it would be a good gesture to let people come to a baseball game for free. Baseball is America's pastime. We felt Friday was a logical night to try this since it isn't a school night and might not have as many youth leagues playing – making it a Family Night of sorts."

More information and tickets for all UNCG athletic events are available by calling 336-334-3250 or online at [UNCGSpartans.com](http://UNCGSpartans.com) with the print-at-home system.

We encourage you take advantage of this special opportunity to spend time with your student and support UNCG Athletics!



### **In this March Issue:**

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### Academic Calendar

March 7- Instruction ends for Spring Break, 1:00 P.M.

March 16- Classes resume after Spring Break, 8:00 A.M.

March 17 - Last day to drop course without academic penalty

March 23 - April 29- Advising for summer and fall classes

April 6 - 29- Registration for summer and fall classes

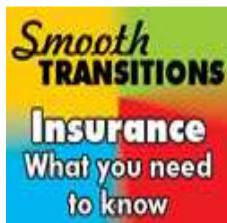
# Smooth Transitions for Seniors



Graduating from college is a very exciting time, but it can also be overwhelming and the cause of anxiety. Finding a job and learning how to be successful in that job are just the beginning. As your student transitions to the next phase of his or her life, it's also time for your student to think about his or her financial future. When your student leaves UNCG to live in the "real world," he or she will need to be able to live on a budget, manage credit, and plan for his or her own insurance. This spring, UNCG is offering a series of three programs to assist students with this transition.

The UNCG Recent Alumni Panel will take place on Tuesday, March 31 from 4-6pm in the Alexander Room of the Elliot University Center (EUC) and features UNCG alumni who have graduated within the last six months to two years. These recent alumni panelists, representing a wide variety of majors and industries, will offer insight and advice gained from their own experiences. They will tell their own unique employment stories and, after the main program, students will have the opportunity to network with the alumni panelists.

On Wednesday, April 1 from 4-5pm in the EUC Kirkland Room, students will be able to gain an understanding of



what insurance they will need once they are on their own: health insurance, auto insurance, and renter's or home-owner's insurance. They'll find out about what types of insurance are necessary, what to watch out for, and what to avoid.

Personal Finances will be the topic for the final Smooth Transitions program on Thursday, April 2 from 4-5pm in the EUC Alexander Room. During this presentation on Credit and Budgeting, information will be provided on the types of credit, advantages and disadvantages of credit cards, the importance of reviewing your credit report, and understanding your credit score. Additionally, the presentation will discuss the importance of budgeting and money management and helpful tips will be provided.

While the UNCG Recent Alumni Panel and other Smooth Transition Workshops are geared toward graduating seniors seeking employment, they are open to and relevant for all students. Students can RSVP for the programs at [Please encourage your student to attend these valuable programs! More information about this and other Career Services events is available at <http://csc.dept.uncg.edu/>.](http://csc.dept.uncg.edu/)

## New Home for the School of Education

The School of Education is getting a new home — a structure that will be the first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)-certified building on campus. The design (pictured to the right) by O'Brien Atkins Associates will contain approximately 110,000 square feet.

Located on Spring Garden Street in the parking lot adjacent to the Bryan School of Business and Economics, the \$47.5 million building will feature 19 classrooms and two lecture halls; a teaching resource center; sign language, multimedia, instructional computer, and assistive technology laboratories; a student advising center; and office space for outreach activities.

When it opens, the building will add critically needed teaching space to meet the university's growing enrollment, which swelled to 17,467 this fall. LEED certification means that the building

meets the required performance criteria for sustainability and environmental impact as defined by the U.S. Green Building Council.

~ Reprinted from the UNCG Alumni Magazine and School of Education Website





## Family Connections' The Student **Spotlight** Series



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I pondered returning to college for a while before I actually decided to apply to UNCG. My younger sister, Katie, attended UNCG and absolutely loved every aspect of it. She spoke so highly of the University and how it offered so much to its students. Because I had already attended another college and did NOT have the same positive experience my sister had, I wondered if I could be successful this second time around. I was very worried and “what if-ed” myself. “What if I’m not as smart as the other students?” “What if no one likes me?” “What if I’ve made the wrong choice to quit my job?” “What if I just can’t do it?”

Thankfully, I got over those feelings of anxiety about five minutes into my SOAR session. I was greeted by faculty members and administrators welcoming me to UNCG and they expressed how happy they were to have me here. During one of the sessions, there was a panel of students who, just like me, had transferred to UNCG. Some of them also did not have the most successful college experience the first time around. They were members of honor societies and clubs - some were even the President of their organization. This group of students had one of the greatest impacts on me. After hearing from them, I made a pact with myself to utilize the time I had to get to know other students and get involved. I have joined many organizations at UNCG that have brought fulfillment to me and made me grow as a person in ways I can’t even explain. One of the greatest organizations I’ve joined is the Spartan Orientation Staff (SOS). Being a member of the SOS has allowed me to give back what was so greatly given to me at my SOAR session. I know from first-hand experience how new students are feeling about their arrival in a new place. I love having the opportunity to reassure them that everything is going to be okay and explain the many resources UNCG has to offer to them.

Another thing that I love about UNCG is the faculty and administrators. After SOAR, they didn't just disappear back into their offices. They are always visible and accessible. Whenever I see the Dean of Students, Dr. Jen Day-Shaw, she asks me how my classes are and how I am doing. She and everyone I've come into contact with at UNCG cares about each student, and it is evidenced through how involved and interested they are in our lives. UNCG wants students to be academically successful as well as happy and healthy individuals.

Due to the incredible, life-changing environment that UNCG has given me, I am able to answer the questions that worried me before I got here. Yes, I am just as capable as other students to learn at UNCG, and, if I have a problem, there is someone who will help me because they care about me and my success. Yes, I made friends because of the numerous ways that UNCG offers to get involved. Yes, I made the right choice to quit my job, because UNCG has given me the opportunity to have a career. Yes, I can do it because UNCG won't let me down!

~ Ms. Jesse Russo is a junior media studies major and political science minor from Charlotte, NC. She is a Case Coordinator in the Dean of Students office, a WUGA co-host, and involved in numerous student groups including the Spartan Orientation Staff and Student Government Association.

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# The New Entrepreneurship Program Can Help Students Live Their Dream

Is your student creative and innovative? Has he or she wanted to start a business? Is your student an inventor? Does he or she often think of better ways to deliver a product or service? If you answered yes to these questions, then you should encourage your student to consider the new Entrepreneurship Program designed for all majors!

There is a new minor for business and non-business majors that is just 5 classes (15 credits). Students choose from 1 of 7 profiles with classes taught across campus: Creative Industries, Family Business, Franchising, Health Care Entrepreneurship, International Entrepreneurship, Social Entrepreneurship, and Technology Entrepreneurship. Most courses have no prerequisites.

For example, students can try ENT/BUS 201 Creativity, Innovation, and Vision, which counts towards the Humanities core requirements or ENT/BUS 240 Introduction to the Entrepreneurial Experience, which is taught on-line, face-to-face, or in a workshop format over the summer. There is also a 12 credit post-baccalaureate program with a focus in either Entrepreneurship or Corporate Entrepreneurship for students that have already graduated.

Encourage your student to take advantage of this exciting new program at UNCG!



For more information about the Entrepreneurship Program, your student can visit [http://entrepreneur.uncg.edu/course\\_listings](http://entrepreneur.uncg.edu/course_listings) or contact undergraduate student services at 336-334-5928.

## Parent & Family Advisory Council Scholarship

The Office of Orientation & Family Programs is now accepting applications for the Parent & Family Advisory Council (PFAC) Scholarship. As a member of the Parent & Family Association, your student is eligible to apply.

The PFAC scholarship recognizes students that have inspired good will and support for UNCG. Students applying must be in good academic and conduct standing, have at least one family member who is a member of the Parent & Family Association, and have participated in activities on or off campus that have fostered good will and support for UNCG. Two scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$1000 for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Your student can access additional information about the scholarship and the application at <http://orientation.uncg.edu/families/council/>. The application deadline is Friday, April 10 at 5:00pm. If you or your student has questions about the scholarship or application process, contact Megan Moore, Assistant Director of Orientation & Family Programs, at [mpmoore@uncg.edu](mailto:mpmoore@uncg.edu) or (336) 334-5231.

This scholarship has been made possible through generous donations from UNCG parents and family members to the Spartan Families Fund. If you would like more information about or are interested in contributing to the Spartan Families Fund, please contact Terri Clark at (336) 334-5984 or [t\\_burris@uncg.edu](mailto:t_burris@uncg.edu).

Thank you for joining the  
UNCG Parent & Family  
Association!

UNCG Orientation &  
Family Programs

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## About this Newsletter

The goal of this e-newsletter is to provide you with information and resources that will equip you to help your student succeed and allow you to stay connected to UNCG. If you have questions or article suggestions, please send them to us at [families@uncg.edu](mailto:families@uncg.edu). We are happy to include them in a future issue.

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