One Big ‘Thank You’

Editor’s Note: This letter from Chancellor Philip L. Dubois and Director of Athletics Judy W. Rose first appeared Aug. 25 in The Charlotte Observer as a letter to the Charlotte community. It has been edited here for magazine style.

We write this letter as a tribute to the power of persistence and hard work. In just one week, UNC Charlotte will embark on an exciting new chapter in the history of this great institution when the Charlotte 49ers take on the Campbell University Fighting Camels in our inaugural football game on Aug. 31.

It’s been a long time coming.

Football could never have happened without the loyal support of our students, faculty and staff, alumni and members of the community. In the words of Carolina Panthers owner Jerry Richardson when he was awarded an NFL franchise, we say, “Thank you, thank you, thank you!”

As you all know, we have a fantastic new facility, Jerry Richardson Stadium, and a top-notch coaching staff led by Brad Lambert. Our student-athletes have been honing their gridiron skills and tending to their academic work. Everyone at the University has been giving 110 percent to make sure football will be a key component of a complete collegiate experience for our students, a source of pride for our alumni and a valuable tool for engaging the larger community in the life of its only public university (in Charlotte).

It is impossible to list all the names of the individuals who have played a major role in the creation of the football program. But we do need to make special mention of some.

First, we must acknowledge the hard work of student leaders over several years. These students not only lobbied hard for football, but stepped up to support the commitment of student fees necessary to build the stadium and operate the program at a competitive level.

High-level support from the UNC system was provided by then-President Erskine B. Bowles, Board of Governors Chair Hannah D. Gage of Wilmington, Finance Committee Chair John Davis of Greensboro and Charlotte-area representative Clarice Cato Goodyear.

We thank the members of the N.C. General Assembly, especially those members from Mecklenburg County, who provided the leadership to secure successful passage of legislation authorizing the bonds to be issued and paid for with student fees and seat-license revenue.

At the campus level, citizen leaders included former Board of Trustees Chair Mac Everett, who led the Football Feasibility Committee that recommended that the University begin a football program. Mac was succeeded as the Board of Trustees chair by Ruth Shaw, who shepherded the proposal through a long and arduous process.

Alumnus Gene Johnson followed Ruth to the board chairmanship and guided us through the construction of the facilities and our entrance into Conference USA.

Other donors, large and small, have made a difference, including the purchasers of permanent seat licenses and season-ticket packages. Our good friend Ike Belk has been a great supporter of the University generally and intercollegiate athletics in particular. He has graced our campus with many beautiful statues, including two larger-than-life football players placed outside each end of the stadium.

Without question, we are grateful to Hugh McColl for his personal commitment to supporting the 49ers football program and the naming of McColl-Richardson Field.

And last, but certainly not least, we extend our heartfelt thanks to Jerry Richardson for his unbelievable $10 million gift to the 49ers football program.

We couldn’t be better prepared for a successful launch to this incredible program. Nearly all of our seat licenses have been sold, and we are guaranteed to fill the 15,300-seat stadium on Aug. 31. In just two short years, we will transition to the FBS (Football Bowl Subdivision) as we open football play in Conference USA.

What else can we say except “Go Niners!”

Cordially,

Philip L. Dubois
Chancellor

Judy W. Rose
Director of Athletics
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UNC Charlotte researcher Joseph Kuhns led the research team that surveyed convicted burglars - the results yielded useful insights about their motivations and techniques.

**On the Cover:**
49ers football started off with two resounding victories in Jerry Richardson Stadium. Here, linebacker Mark Hogan (9) is congratulated by teammates Kendal Parker (44) and Trent Bostick (8) and an overflow crowd of fans. Hogan had just scored the 49ers' first intercollegiate touchdown after a first-quarter interception in the season opener against Campbell University.
Football ... and so much more

The arrival of 49ers football occupies several pages of this edition. We have tried to document bits and pieces of a new phase in campus life that actually is quite sweeping in its scope and awesome in its implications. If we had the time, money and other resources, we could have filled twice as many pages on the topic of 49ers football; but most of you already know much of the story. And so we have tried in this edition to provide some insight that might be new – profiles on football coaches; background on the behind-the-scenes preparation for the new program; testimonials from a range of students, staff, faculty and alums; and of course, photos.

At this writing, the 49ers have completed three games – two resounding wins and one thumping loss – and so far, excitement and support by the community is fantastic.

Of course, football isn’t the end-all and be-all at UNC Charlotte; scholarship, research, community engagement and so much more remains central to the University’s mission. We’ve found room for some of those stories, too. When you read this edition, try to envision that with football, UNC Charlotte’s offering to all its constituents is becoming more complete ... and more valuable than ever before.

Regards

John D. Bland, Editor
Director of Public Relations

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17,500 copies of this publication were printed at a cost of $.54 per piece, for a total cost of $9,375.
Joy, Victory Greet 49ers Football Debut

Linebacker Mark Hogan returned an interception 32 yards for a touchdown on the second play from scrimmage to forever etch his name in 49ers history with Charlotte's first-ever touchdown.

On Aug. 31 (and again on Sept. 7) Charlotte 49ers fans got their wish. And they got it fast.

In an historic inaugural game for which 49ers fans have long waited, Charlotte's fast start couldn't have been scripted any better.

Linebacker Mark Hogan returned an interception 32 yards for a touchdown on the second play from scrimmage to forever etch his name in 49ers history with Charlotte's first-ever touchdown.

The 49ers scored touchdowns on their first two offensive drives. They enjoyed a 32-0 lead late in the first half. And they cruised to a 52-7 victory over the visiting Campbell Fighting Camels in their inaugural game in front of a standing room only capacity crowd of 16,630 at Jerry Richardson Stadium.

The following week, the 49ers won again, besting the Chowan University Hawks 47-7. "I told the players that for me, watching them prepare on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday was really a lot of fun," said 49ers head coach Brad Lambert. "They were really handling their business and I expected them to play well, and they did."

"It was a humbling experience to be out there (for the opening game) with the crowd and the stadium," Lambert said.

"So many people put so much into this and to see it on game day. It was a lot of different things going on but it was an unbelievable environment today. It was pretty emotional. I really couldn't have written the outcome any better."

In the first quarter alone, the 49ers enjoyed the pick-six by Hogan, a pair of touchdown drives that included a four-play, 96-yard sprint that took all of 45 seconds and a recovered fumble on the ensuing kick-off. Quarterback Matt Johnson was 8-for-8 with two touchdowns, the 49ers forced two turnovers and Charlotte led, 22-0.

After the opening touchdown, the 49ers scored on each of their first eight offensive possessions, including the pair of first quarter TDs. Red-shirt freshman quarterback Matt Johnson went 5-for-5 on his first drive, connecting with Austin Duke three times and completing the 10-play; 66-yard drive with a one-yard pass to Justin Bolus.

"This was a really emotional game for me," said Bolus, who gets credit for scoring the 49ers first-ever offensive touchdown, after missing last fall's practice preparation following a pair of stomach surgeries. "Having the players coming up to me and I could see how happy they were for me. A couple came up to me and said 'I'm really happy you got to be that guy.'"

Johnson opened the next drive with a 44-yard strike to Mikel Hunter and completed it with a 19-yard touchdown pass to Duke to give the 49ers 22-0 lead after that blink-and-you-missed-it four-play; 96-yard drive.

Caleb Clayton-Molley forced and recovered a fumble on the ensuing kick-off to lead to Blake Brewer's 35-yard field goal.

Freshman Kaliff Phillips' 15-yard touchdown run highlighted an 11-play, 75-yard drive in the second quarter to push the 49ers lead to 32-0.

Campbell answered with their lone score, on a quarterback keeper from Dakota Wolf. It was Wolf's first drive of the game and covered 85 yards in 14 plays.

The 49ers added a 20-yard field goal from Brewer to end the half to give Charlotte a 35-7 lead at the break.

In the third quarter, Brewer added a 40-yard field goal and Johnson hit freshman Trent Bostick with a 47-yard touchdown pass. Corey Nesmith Jr. capped the scoring with a 33-yard TD run in the fourth quarter.

"The moment that we experienced in Charlotte today is special," Hogan said. "To see everyone out here supporting -- people that have been waiting so long."

After the game, 49ers students stormed McColl-Richardson Field to join the team at the midfield logo.

"A lot of dreams came true today," said Johnson.

And they didn’t all belong to the players.

www.UNCC.edu
CONGRESSMAN HUDSON VISITS ALMA MATER

U.S. Rep. Richard Hudson ’96 visited his alma mater, UNC Charlotte, on Aug. 27, as part of his August recess from Congress. Hudson wanted to visit the campus to learn more about the University’s role in advanced manufacturing.

Hudson met with Chancellor Philip L. Dubois; Bob Wilhelm, vice chancellor for Research and Economic Development, and other University officials. After a stop at Jerry Richardson Stadium, Hudson toured the precision metrology laboratory and other high-tech industrial facilities in Duke Centennial Hall.

Hudson said he viewed the visit as a chance to see firsthand how UNC Charlotte is becoming the critical training ground for high-skilled manufacturing jobs. One of his stops was the Center for Precision Metrology, which is internationally known for its expertise in manufacturing processes and quality assurance for mechanical parts.

Dubois said it is essential for UNC Charlotte to have access to federal funding for research such as the work being done in the center, where equipment is extremely expensive. “That’s why it is critical for members of Congress to understand why this work is important,” he said. Hudson, a Republican, was elected in November 2012 to represent North Carolina’s 8th Congressional District. He earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in History and Political Science from UNC Charlotte while serving as Student Body President.

URBAN EDEN ON WAY TO SOLAR DECA THLON

The UNC Charlotte Solar Decathlon 2013 team celebrated the completion of its competition house “UrbanEden” with a media preview and open house Aug. 23. The events, which attracted a large crowd, took place at UrbanEden’s construction site at the University’s Energy Production and Infrastructure Center (EPIC).

UNC Charlotte is one of 20 academic teams chosen to participate in the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon 2013, an international competition that challenges participants to design, build and operate fully solar-powered houses. The competition, which will be held in Irvine, Calif., Oct. 3-13, has grown into one of the most highly anticipated design competitions in the world.

In a series of 10 contests, the Solar Decathlon challenges academic teams from around the world to build completely solar-powered houses that feature energy-efficient construction and appliances and renewable energy systems.

The UNC Charlotte team is comprised of faculty and students from the School of Architecture, William States Lee College of Engineering and Belk College of Business. Work began on the design of UrbanEden in October 2011; construction began in March 2013. After the competition, the team’s goal is to bring the house back to Charlotte for use as a research lab.

CCI PROFESSOR HELPING CMS STUDENTS SAVE THE AMERICAN CHESTNUT

Jennifer Weller, an associate professor of bioinformatics and genomics in the College of Computing and Informatics (CCI), is helping Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) students to fight chestnut blight, an Asian fungus that has killed off billions of American chestnut trees since 1904.

Weller is working with Olympic High School science teachers Jeanne Smith and Erica Putnam through the school’s B-3 Summer Program, which focuses on biotechnology, biodiversity and bioinformatics at Olympic’s School of Biotechnology, Health and Public Administration.

The American chestnut was once a dominant forest tree throughout the East Coast, according to the American Chestnut Foundation. Chestnuts were a major food source for wildlife and families living within the tree’s range. Waggons of nuts were sold at Christmas in cities like New York and Philadelphia. First discovered in New York City in 1904, the chestnut blight spread quickly. By 1950, approximately four billion trees had been destroyed by the fungus.
POPP ELECTED CHAIR OF UNC CHARLOTTE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Karen Popp, an internationally recognized attorney and UNC Charlotte alumna, has been elected chair of the University’s Board of Trustees.

The board also elected Joe Price, a longtime business leader in Charlotte, as vice chair and Charlotte banker Laura Schulte as secretary.

The new officers will serve one-year terms on the 13-member board that is responsible for governing the University.

In her legal career, Popp has managed several high profile cases, from prosecuting members of New York’s crime syndicate families to serving as a White House counsel to President Bill Clinton. She has earned an international reputation for her ethics expertise through her work on cases of fraud, bribery, kickbacks and wrongdoing involving important civil and ethical implications.

A partner at Washington D.C.-based Sidley Austin LLP, Popp is global coordinator of Sidley’s white collar practice and a member of the firm’s executive committee. Frequently recognized for her work, Popp recently was named as one of the Top 250 Women in Litigation.

BESSANT, DREW APPOINTED TO TRUSTEES

Longtime Bank of America executive Catherine P. Bessant and Deloitte managing partner Theresa Drew joined UNC Charlotte’s leadership as new members of the Board of Trustees.

North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory appointed Bessant and reappointed current Trustee David Hauser to a second term on the Board. The University of North Carolina Board of Governors appointed Drew to the Board. Trustees Karen Popp, Mary Ann Rouse and Michael L. Wilson were also reappointed by the Board of Governors to full four-year terms beginning July 1.

OFFICIALS BREAK GROUND ON LYNX BLUE LINE EXTENSION TO CAMPUS

Federal, state and local government officials, along with business and community leaders and the public attended a groundbreaking ceremony in July, which signaled construction would soon begin on the northeast extension of the Charlotte Area Transit System’s (CATS) LYNX Blue Line – another important step in bringing light rail to UNC Charlotte. The extension will link UNC Charlotte’s main campus, students and faculty with UNC Charlotte Center City and businesses, organizations and cultural groups in the heart of Uptown.

The chancellor and University trustees championed the plan for light rail to enter campus, and Dubois’ leadership was instrumental in the granting of easements and improvements totaling more than $5 million to allow CATS to build on state-owned property at the main campus.

CATS officials estimate that the light rail extension will create approximately 7,600 jobs during construction and more than double total light rail ridership with 18,000-plus additional riders each weekday when the extension opens in 2017.

Two stations will serve the University – one just south of the Charlotte Research Institute campus on North Tryon Street and the other across the street from the North Village residence halls.

UNC Charlotte Chancellor Philip L. Dubois welcomed the leadership skills and vision that new Trustees Bessant and Drew bring to the Board of Trustees.

STUDENT UNION AND DINING SERVICES GO GREEN

UNC Charlotte’s Student Union and dining services have found a way to turn food waste from 2,500-plus daily customers into a gold mine for local community farms.

The Student Union’s installation of an industrial food pulper, one of several eco-friendly commitments made by the University to support sustainability goals, turns solid food and paper products into environmentally friendly compostable material while reducing landfill waste.

Installed prior to the Student Union’s opening in 2009, the pulper is one of only three similar machines operated by colleges and universities in North Carolina.
FOOTBALL STADIUM NAMED FOR JERRY RICHARDSON

UNC Charlotte Chancellor Philip Dubois and 49ers Director of Athletics Judy Rose announced the naming of Jerry Richardson Stadium.

Richardson, owner of the NFL's Carolina Panthers, committed $10 million to name the stadium in perpetuity. The announcement was made at a press conference held at the stadium in the presence of University staff and supporters of the athletic program.

“The role UNC Charlotte plays in our community cannot be underestimated and its profile will only continue to grow,” Richardson said. “The addition of football is another step in that growth and it is important that our community supports the school and its programs. The potential of both the university and its athletic department is unlimited and I am pleased to be able to participate in their development. My personal experiences from football have been very beneficial and this is a way to support both the future of the game and the university.”

In addition to the $10 million gift to name the stadium, Richardson surprised the university by announcing an additional gift – an endowed football scholarship in honor of his son, Jon Richardson.

Richardson had previously partnered with banking industry pioneer Hugh McColl to name the stadium field, McColl-Richardson Field.

Beginning in 2012, the University partnered with the Dallas, N.C.-based company, Earth Farms Organics (EFO), to collect and transform the organic waste into high-quality compost that it redistributes to area businesses, individuals and schools.

The connection with EFO diverts about 3,000 pounds of composted waste per week during the typical academic year – which amounts to nearly 25 tons of pulped waste per semester.

The pulping system also boasts environmental and energy-saving benefits. Water extracted from food waste is recycled and recirculated through the Crown Commons and Bistro 49 operations systems. A decreased reliance on garbage disposals reduces University costs in water, electricity and sanitation resources, and less water is needed for Commons and Bistro dishwashing stations.

HAYES STADIUM NAMED BEST COLLEGE BASEBALL STADIUM IN N.C.

Robert and Mariam Hayes Stadium, the home of the Charlotte 49ers baseball program, was named the “Top Ballpark in North Carolina” and finished No. 14 in the “2013 College Baseball Ballpark Rankings” by StadiumJourney.com at the conclusion of the season.

Prior to the start of the season, a $55,000 renovation was completed to augment the bullpen and cages areas. The dugouts also were expanded by 500 square feet each, giving both the home and visiting teams more room to observe the game and store equipment.

The benefits were immediately felt during the regular season and in the hosting of the 2013 Atlantic 10 Conference Championships.

The facility, which was opened on March 31, 2007 and completed following the season, boasts a full-service concession stand, famous for its cheesesteaks, and full restrooms on the concourse level in the stadium. The facility has 550 chair-backed seats on the lower level and 550 combined bleacher seats on either side of the press box level. The Erik Walker Suite is the main hospitality room, which features indoor stadium-style seating and a
CHANCELLOR PAYS REGIONAL VISIT TO UNION COUNTY

Union County was the setting for the most recent visit by Chancellor Philip L. Dubois as part of a series of focused stops to the 12 counties that comprise the greater Charlotte region in an effort to strengthen relationships within the communities the University serves.

Home to 4,700 alumni and a vital source of incoming freshmen and transfer students, fast-growing Union County is fundamentally tied to UNC Charlotte at various levels. During his two-day visit June 19-20, Dubois discussed these connections as he met with key business leaders, public officials, college administrators and local media.

During his visit, the chancellor met with Ron Mahle, assistant director of economic development for the county and city of Monroe. University officials also work closely with economic developers in Union County and throughout the region to attract and retain jobs. These economic developers have said that, without a large public university in the area, the region would not be considered by many companies that are seeking to relocate or expand their operations.

In a speech to the Waxhaw-Weddington Rotary, Dubois explained how the regional visits are an important component of efforts to galvanize legislative and community support for the University. Through the outreach effort to Union County, he said, it increases the University’s visibility among public officials at all levels of government and bolsters efforts to recruit the best students from the region.

MICHAEL CARLIN NAMED NEW I.T. VICE CHANCELLOR

Michael Carlin has been named vice chancellor for information technology and chief information officer at UNC Charlotte. He joined the University July 16 from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County (UMBC).

Carlin, who has more than 15 years of experience as an information technology leader in higher education, served as associate vice president and deputy chief information officer at UMBC.

At UMBC, Carlin also held the positions of assistant vice president of information technology, director of infrastructure and support and manager of client services. He earned doctoral and master’s degrees in information systems from the institution, along with a bachelor’s degree in biological sciences.

UNC CHARLOTTE FREEDOM SCHOOLS PROGRAM A SUMMER BRIDGE FOR LOCAL YOUTH

Nearly 100 students participated in the fourth annual UNC Charlotte Children’s Defense Fund Freedom Schools program hosted by the College of Education this summer.
Freedom Schools students, known as scholars, ranged in age from elementary to high school and represented a number of area schools, including Nathaniel Alexander Elementary, James Martin Middle and Vance High School. These scholars spent six weeks on the University campus participating in a multi-faceted enrichment program that focused on enhancing reading skills, self-esteem and positive self-expression in a lively, engaging environment.

The Freedom Schools program was created by the national Children’s Defense Fund in 1992. The UNC Charlotte program is part of an organization called Freedom School Partners, which currently operates 19 sites in the Charlotte area, partnering with public schools, community- and faith-based organizations and colleges and universities. Participation in the program is free for the student scholars who spend their summers engaged in learning activities that match their developmental needs and interests.

**SHC TO RECEIVE NATIONAL KERSHNER AWARD**

The Student Health Center (SHC) is one of two facilities to receive the 2013 Bernard Kershner Innovations in Quality Improvement Award from the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (AAAHC).

SHC’s Genevieve Brauning, a physician, and Angela Allen, associate director of administrative services, will be presented the honor formally during the AAAHC’s Achieving Accreditation Education program in Las Vegas in December.

The SHC, as an AAAHC accredited primary care facility, must demonstrate an ongoing commitment to quality improvement. The Kershner Award is given in recognition of an organization’s development, implementation and demonstration of a successful and measurable quality improvement program.

**FACULTY, STUDENTS CONDUCT DIG IN ISRAEL**

James Tabor, professor of religious studies, and students from UNC Charlotte and other colleges traveled to Israel to conduct an excavation near the Zion Gate in Jerusalem, as part of UNC Charlotte’s ongoing, multi-year archaeological dig in the ancient city. UNC Charlotte is the only American university licensed to carry out such excavations in Jerusalem. Students participated as part of an education abroad program coordinated by the University’s Office of International Programs.

This UNC Charlotte summer experience in Jerusalem consisted of archaeological field work, lectures and specially guided tours of Jerusalem and the Judean Desert, including the Dead Sea and Masada. The program was open to UNC Charlotte students as well as students from accredited American universities and community members. Tabor, chair of the Religious Studies Department in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences, was co-director of the dig, along with Shimon Gibson, Israeli archaeologist, Fellow at the Albright Institute in Jerusalem and adjunct professor at UNC Charlotte.

Diane Zablotsky, faculty director of the Levine Scholars Program, was on the trip with a number of Levine Scholars, as was Geoff Love, a lecturer in architecture, who captured still photography and filmed the site to produce 3-D and digital models for future planning.

UNC Charlotte was the only American university licensed to carry out certain excavations in Jerusalem this summer.

**UNIVERSITY, ATTORNEY GENERAL, AT&T DISCOURAGE TEXTING WHILE DRIVING**

UNC Charlotte is the first North Carolina university to join the “It Can Wait” movement against texting while driving, signing on as an advocate alongside other state organizations that include the North Carolina Driver and Traffic Safety Education Association, the North Carolina Department of Transportation and the Carolina Panthers.

Members of the University community got a realistic look at what can happen when people text while behind the wheel of an automobile as AT&T brought its driving simulator to campus on Sept. 4.

North Carolina Attorney General Roy Cooper, Chancellor Philip L. Dubois and AT&T executives, students and others experienced firsthand the dangers of texting behind the wheel. The driving simulator – a video game that included a chair, steering wheel, pedals and a monitor – was set up in the busy rotunda of the Student Union for several hours. Drivers got a taste of a 3-D driving simulation that involved a city of about eight blocks and realistic texts that appear on a smart phone accompanying the chair. This re-creates the eyes-of-the-
road and hands-off-the-wheel experience of texting while driving.

“Texting while driving is unnecessary, illegal, and most of all, dangerous for you and everyone else on the road,” Cooper said. “Let’s join together and commit never to text while driving.”

According to the National Safety Council, texting drivers cause more than 100,000 automobile crashes resulting in death or serious injury every year. Drivers who text or email while behind the wheel are 23 times more likely to be in a crash than are those who keep their concentration on the road.

NEW MBA ENERGY CONCENTRATION BEGAN THIS FALL

To respond to the need to educate highly trained leaders for Charlotte’s growing power industry, UNC Charlotte has added an energy concentration to its nationally ranked part-time Master of Business Administration program; it started in fall 2013.

A cooperative effort among UNC Charlotte’s Belk College of Business, William States Lee College of Engineering and the Energy Production and Infrastructure Center, the program focuses MBA studies on the electrical power and energy industry.

The MBA concentration joins other energy-related concentrations offered in the Lee College of Engineering. At the undergraduate level, the college offers five energy concentrations, as well as energy research and thesis options at the master’s and Ph.D. levels.

The Lee College of Engineering’s Systems Engineering and Engineering Management Department will deliver or co-deliver some of the main energy-related MBA courses. Specialized courses on topics such as introduction to energy systems, energy markets, energy and environmental economics, energy system planning and case studies in the energy industry will be offered.

The energy concentration is open to both business and engineering students.

According to U.S. News and World Report, UNC Charlotte’s MBA program ranks among the top 50 part-time programs in the nation. It enrolls 300 students, most of whom are working professionals.

MATHEMATICS AND STATISTICS PROFESSOR NAMED ASA FELLOW

Yanqing Sun, a professor of statistics in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Department of Mathematics and Statistics, recently was named a fellow of the American Statistical Association (ASA), the nation’s preeminent professional statistical society.

To be recognized as a 2013 ASA Fellow, each honoree must make outstanding professional contributions to and have exhibited leadership in the field of statistical science. Sun was honored for outstanding contributions to statistical research on survival and event history data, competing risks data and longitudinal data; for excellence in applications of statistical methodology in biomedical research; and for outstanding service to teaching and the profession.

Sun received her award formally during an Aug. 6 ceremony at the annual Joint Statistical Meetings in Montréal, Québec, Canada.

UNC CHARLOTTE TO ADD 21ST DOCTORAL DEGREE

The College of Health and Human Services has received approval from the UNC Board of Governors to offer the Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health Sciences.

The program, housed in the college’s Department of Public Health Sciences, will be the University’s 21st doctoral degree.

The Ph.D. with a concentration in behavioral sciences will focus on the social and cultural factors that influence health and behavior— in particular, those factors that contribute to health disparities among minority and vulnerable populations. Students in the program will engage in coursework and cutting edge research to understand and address health determinants related to the prevention and management of disease and disability.

This announcement marks an important new chapter for the College of Health and Human Services, which prides itself on cultivating the next generation of highly trained practitioners and researchers, through its best-in-class faculty and programs.

The program will enroll its first class of Ph.D. students in fall 2014.

UNC CHARLOTTE AND CHARLOTTE SCHOOL OF LAW TO OFFER DUAL J.D. AND MASTER’S PROGRAMS

UNC Charlotte and the Charlotte School of Law have partnered to offer several unique dual degree programs. Students will have the opportunity to earn a Juris Doctor and a master’s degree in real estate, accountancy, business administration or public administration.

The partnership between the Belk College of Business and Charlotte School of Law includes a J.D. and Master of Science in Real Estate; J.D. and Master of Accountancy (MACC) Program (Tax Track); and J.D. and Master of Business Administration (MBA).

The College of Liberal Arts & Sciences and Charlotte School of Law will offer a J.D. and Master of Public Administration (MPA) through the University’s Gerald Fox MPA program.

UNIVERSITY NETS IMPRESSIVE NATIONAL, INTERNATIONAL RANKINGS

A recent succession of national and international rankings has put UNC Charlotte in the Top 25 in three categories. Forbes named UNC Charlotte as No. 24 in the nation for providing the best value in higher education. The Chronicle of Higher Education rated UNC Charlotte as the No. 18 fastest growing public university.

Additionally, TheBestColleges.org named the University No. 9 in the world for protecting endangered species. That ranking is based largely on research underway by Gloria Elliott, director of the BioStability Lab in the Department of Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Sciences. Elliott is using UNC Charlotte-patented microwave drying technology to develop methods for preserving the sperm and eggs of rare cat species for later in vitro fertilization to revive the fading populations of certain lions and tigers.
During the dog days of summer, the University campus can be a sparsely populated place. Yet on this Monday night, more than 20 people crowd into a windowless room in the basement of the Student Health Center for a meeting based on the “12 Steps” of recovery that originated with Alcoholics Anonymous and now are used by many other addiction and self-help organizations. Although attendee Hillary Belk graduated in December 2012, she makes the trip to campus several times a week to attend a meeting.

“I believe I was an alcoholic by the time I was 16,” Belk said later. “I come from a big Irish Catholic family and all of my family members have addiction problems.”

For nearly a decade, Belk struggled to get sober and stay sober. One day at a time, she has managed to string together five years of back-to-back sobriety. Belk just doesn’t attend meetings on campus; she was instrumental in getting them started and now is an official volunteer.

Six months after getting sober in July 2008, Belk transferred from Central Piedmont Community College to UNC Charlotte. Big changes in her life led her to put her recovery on the back burner. By the summer of 2011, she realized that her continued sobriety was at risk so she contacted the Student Health Center to suggest holding 12-Step meetings on campus.

That marked the beginning of the Collegiate Recovery Community (CRC), a program for students recovering from addiction. The CRC is open to all students who are actively pursuing higher education at UNC Charlotte and who are committed to growth in recovery. In addition to 12-Step meetings, the CRC provides access to tutoring and peer mentoring, offers educational seminars on life skills, addiction and recovery and establishes a social network of students committed to their recovery.

By Melba Newsome
STUDENTS AMONG ‘HEAVIEST DRINKERS’

According to a 2010 survey by the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, full-time college students ages 18 to 22 are among the heaviest drinkers. More than 42.2 percent of survey respondents reported engaging in binge drinking during the previous month. Even the rate of illegal drug use has risen among this group.

Achieving and maintaining sobriety is a daunting struggle at any age, but issues such as newfound independence, peer pressure, and collegiate expectations making staying sober even more difficult for young adults in a college atmosphere. For years, school officials paid little attention to students in recovery and struggling to avoid relapse, choosing to focus on prevention instead.

Fortunately, things are changing, albeit slowly. UNC Charlotte, the only college in the state to have a CRC, is among a small but growing number of colleges and universities paying closer attention to students like Belk. To date, almost two dozen schools now have comprehensive recovery programs for those battling addictions.

A May 2011 report from the U.S. Department of Education said that sustaining students with addictions is a paradigm shift, calling recovery programs like CRC “critical to preventing relapse ... as well as supporting student success in education.”

RESCUING STUDENTS NOT ENOUGH

Debbie Insley, director of wellness promotion, has spent the past 20 years at UNC Charlotte and more than 25 years dealing with substance abuse. However, it wasn’t until she heard about CRCs on other campuses two years ago that she realized that a vital component of wellness was missing from the University. “I would go and save people, then I’m done with them,” she said. “That’s not right. I realized we need something for the recovering person, too.”

During the first part of 2011, she learned about CRCs. She attended the second annual Texas Tech Collegiate Recovery Conference, where she obtained the guide for establishing a program. She and marketing specialist Carol Rose attended Kennesaw State University in Georgia to learn about its program and get ideas about establishing one at UNC Charlotte. When Belk called out of the blue asking to set up 12-Step meetings on campus, Insley wasn’t just receptive to the idea, she asked the public relations major to help start the meetings and build the overall program.

“I was taken aback. I just wanted a meeting but I said ‘absolutely!’” recalled Belk. “It gave me the opportunity to share. There’s great power in sharing your story with someone else. The program is all about knowing that you’re not alone.”

Over the years, students had organized and run 12-Step meetings on campus, but they had always faded out, usually because of poor attendance. Getting this program off the ground proved to be a little challenging as well, depending on how one looks at it. The first meetings began in September 2011 on Monday evenings. In those early days, maybe one or two people showed up, but they stuck with it.

ALCOHOL OFTEN TIED TO DROPPING OUT

“(Administration) wanted to see numbers, but a program like this doesn’t have to have big numbers,” Insley said. “If we can save just one person by giving them a place to come, it’s worth it. A major reason kids drop out of school is alcohol abuse, either theirs or someone close to them.”

Elizabeth Nymberg is a case in point. In fall 2011, she was a freshman grappling with alcohol abuse, depression and suicidal thoughts. Under the advice of a therapist, she left school at the end of the semester, entered in-patient rehab, made all the difference,” she remembered. “The biggest benefit is knowing that there are kids my age who have been through what I’ve been through and are sober.”

Nymberg is one of four recipients of the $1,000 CRC scholarship given to members who exhibit continuing commitment to leadership and academics. Recipients must have at least six months of sobriety, must enroll and complete at least 12 hours credit and have at least a 3.0 GPA.

“It’s awesome to have something we recovering alcoholics and addicts can aspire to,” Nymberg said. “With all the money that my parents spent on my treatment and recovery, it feels good to be able to earn something toward my expenses.”

“This program is saving lives and you really can’t put a price on that,” Belk said of the 12-Step meetings and the CRC in general. “We want the kids to see that there is life after sobriety. Since I’ve been working with these kids, no one has relapsed. I think it’s because I’m living it with them, not just telling them about it.”

Melba Newsome is a freelance writer based in Charlotte.
Mac Everett, chair of the Football Feasibility Committee that first recommended the addition of football to Chancellor Philip Dubois, stood on the balcony of Duke Centennial Hall, overlooking stadium construction. “It’s going to be just fabulous,” he said, as he imagined the 49ers first football game day. “People are going to come back, alumni are going to come back — people are going to come out who have never been on this campus before. What a great day that’ll be.”

That was in 2012, and his words were prophetic. When the Niners hosted their first football game on Aug. 31 against Campbell University, his vision was in abundance.

Dubois predicted football would be “transformational” for the University, and many factors leading up to the team’s debut hinted at that reality.

**FSLs = $5.3 MILLION**

The sale of football seat licenses (FSLs) raised $5.3 million for the program. Community business icons Jerry Richardson, Hugh McColl and Dale Halton stepped forward with eye-popping donations to name the stadium, field and field house. Local independent television station WCCB signed on to televise all six home games during the inaugural season.

Last April more than 13,000 fans turned out at the stadium for the school’s first annual spring game. Visitors to the athletic department’s website also climbed from approximately 58,000 in 2012 to more than 87,000 in 2013 — an increase of 50 percent.

On campus the transformation has been different but no less important. Six committees
came together to discuss the issues the University could face with the addition of football. They were a Student Affairs Committee, an External Affairs Committee, an Academic Affairs Committee, a Medical Committee, a Game Logistics Committee and Business Affairs Committee.

The committee structure served to unite the campus by opening lines of communication, exchanging ideas and suggestions and determining appropriate policies. From the start, an inclusive effort has been made to pull together representatives from throughout the campus community.

**STUDENT SEATS ABOUND**

From the student standpoint, approximately 7,500 seats are reserved for the 49ers student body. Much like the arrangement at Halton Arena, 49ers students have access to half of Jerry Richardson Stadium. Approximately 5,000 students attended the spring game, many of them prominently displaying school colors.

Football is going to change the campus culture and climate, said Michelle Howard, director of the Early College Program and the former dean of students.

“We saw the beginnings of that in the spring,” she said. “And when (the students) leave here and when they graduate, it’s another reason for them to come back. It’s going to build those connections for them that are deeper and more spirited and more true than they ever have before, and that’s going to be the greatest benefit to UNC Charlotte over the long haul.”

In addition to the student body, football, as expected, is attracting alums. Approximately 70 percent of the FSL sales have been to alums, many of whom had not been previously tied to the athletic department.

During the seat-selection process, social media allowed alums to post pictures of themselves and their families from their actual seats. During the spring game, timelines on social media were filled with images of families and friends enjoying an afternoon of 49ers football.

The common theme throughout was the amount of green and white displayed and the level of ownership assumed.

Even before the games actually began, the 49ers first football season was accomplishing much of what it was intended to do: build school spirit, engage alums and connect the community.

“You just can’t imagine this campus that day,” Everett noted that day about football’s debut. Imagine no more.
To say the coaching staff of the UNC Charlotte football team is tight knit is an understatement. The connections are — well — dizzying. Are you ready?

Offensive coordinator Jeff Mullen coached alongside head coach Brad Lambert at Wake Forest. Secondary coach James Adams, outside linebackers coach Napoleon Sykes and linebackers coach Drew Dayton played for Lambert, also at Wake, and were there at the same time. Adams and Sykes went on to coach with Lambert, too.

Offensive line coach Phil Ratliff played under Lambert at Marshall. Assistant secondary coach John Russell played for Lambert at Wake and coached at Duke alongside Dayton.

Running backs coach Damien Gary played at Georgia in Lambert’s final season there. Wide receivers coach Joe Tereshinski was a teammate with Gary for two years after Lambert coached there.

Defensive coordinator Bruce Tall coached at West Virginia, leaving the Mountaineers the year Mullen joined that staff. Strength coach Jim Durning played alongside Ratliff and for Lambert at Marshall. Tight ends coach Johnson Richardson played at Wofford while Adams coached there.

To sum it up (take a breath): Lambert and Mullen coached Dayton, Adams, Sykes and Russell. Dayton, Adams, and Sykes were teammates and later coached together, and Dayton and Russell also coached together.

Gary played for Lambert and was a teammate of Tereshinski. Ratliff and Durning played for Lambert at one school and coached together at another. Tall left one school just as Mullen arrived, and Richardson played for Adams.

OK, at ease — and why does this matter? Assembling an inaugural coaching staff with so many links was by design.

‘RELATIONAL GUYS’

“The big thing is that these are all relational guys,” Lambert said. “That’s what we do. We deal with kids and their families and ultimately we have to be able to motivate these players. These guys are people persons.”

“I know how they work with the players
and I knew how they would treat our players,” Lambert continued. “You want guys that you know will work together.”

Which is not to say this staff comes from the same mold. Couldn’t be further from the truth. Lambert joked, tongue firmly in cheek, at a media outing that he may have to join Twitter while Sykes is ever-present on the social medium.

At practices, some exude rough and tumble energy and high enthusiasm while others are more reserved. Much of the staff have a background at Wake Forest, Marshall, Georgia or James Madison — but they also have mixed in varied experiences from schools such as Michigan, Ohio University, Harvard, Wofford, Mars Hill and Wingate.

“One thing I learned from (Wake Forest) coach (Jim) Grobe was to mix some age and youth,” Lambert noted.

Coaches Tall and Mullen both have over 20 years of college coaching experience. Adams and Gary less than five. Ratliff started his coaching career in 1993; Tereshinski in 2010.

For an upstart program, the wisdom of age is vital, as is the energy of youth.

LOVE FOR THE PROGRAM

There is also plenty of diversity in style and experience. What they share is a love for the game — and a love for the program.

Although nearly all the coaches had strong ties to each other, they didn’t have a strong tie to the University. But they have built one.

At the beach, the Ratliff family tweets a picture of a sandcastle with a Charlotte logo. Sykes has built a Niner Nation following behind his “#stateofcharlotte” hashtag. Mullen moved to town and quickly built a tree house for his kids; although, admittedly, the project was as much to help fill his fall Saturday’s without football as it was to make his family feel at home.

The staff has stuck together — from Lambert’s initial hires of Mullen, Tall and Adams two years ago to the completion of his staff one year ago.

That, in itself, is saying something. The coaches put their careers, or at least their coaching resumes, on hold for one or two years, depending on their hire date. They have not added any wins to their record.

They have not added a championship or notched another bowl victory.

But they are building a program.

They committed to start a program, and that’s a commitment they made to Lambert, to the school and to each other. These guys are all about relationships, and you don’t build relationships and earn reputations by cutting corners on commitments. They all know that about each other, of course.
When more than 16,600 UNC Charlotte football fans took their seats at Jerry Richardson Stadium for the inaugural football game against the Campbell Fighting Camels, they basked in the comforts of a smooth and efficient operation.

Less noticeable — or in many cases indiscernible — were all the hours of planning and labor put in by stadium officials and other staffers leading up to the University’s first modern-day game day. There’s a lot of managing, preparation and hard work that goes into producing a successful football program.

“Perhaps the biggest undertaking that isn’t obvious to fans is how much communication takes place,” said Trent Barnes, associate director and stadium complex manager for the Student Activity Center and recreational facilities. “For us, everything is new. Every procedure, process and many jobs are new.”

According to Barnes, the first challenge was preparing the Judy W. Rose Football Center for daily operations. When his staff moved in, construction was full throttle on the stadium. It was a chaotic time in which his staff had to prepare the building, hire a staff, order supplies and equipment and learn all the building systems.

“Year Round, Nonstop”

“This didn’t just occur with the student athletes and coaching staff but all over the University,” Barnes said about the preparations. “It really has been an entire University group effort to come together and pull this off. The hours of meetings, emails, brainstorming and implementation are staggering. This happens year-round and nonstop.”

Another key area of concern during college football games is security.
UNC Charlotte Police Chief Jeff Baker and his staff worked on a security blueprint for months, starting with a comprehensive written security plan that covered issues like evacuation, medical emergencies and emergency management.

On game days, the department brings in its Mobile Command Post, which serves as an Emergency Operations Center. A Charlotte Fire Department ladder company also sets up
in a staging area behind the Student Union.

On hand to direct operations is a fire department battalion commander, an FBI special agent and a UNC Charlotte police captain. They serve as a unified command in case of an emergency.

OFFICERS ON WHEELS

“We also have officers on bicycles, T3s, or personal electric vehicles, mules, which are similar to All-Terrain Vehicles, and other police vehicles to patrol the campus and tailgate areas,” he said.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police also assist in managing traffic in the area surrounding the campus, Baker said.

Barnes came to UNC Charlotte after working with two of the largest and most successful football programs in the country, ones at the University of South Carolina and the University of Alabama. One big difference here, he said, is preparing for first-ever games in Richardson Stadium.

“Working at those programs, you had a history on your side,” he said. “There was a way of operating and working with thousands of workers. You had a template and experienced staff in place. You take for granted that Worker A has worked the play clock for the last 22 years and knows everything about the rules and technology behind it. Here, you have to hire someone new, train them and get them to game speed.”

Barnes said a lot of lessons were learned at the football team’s spring game, which attracted a near-capacity crowd.

“The first thing that I really learned was how passionate our fans were. The crowd was great and the fans really came out,” he said. “At that point I felt we were really headed toward something special. The other part was that we really did have a good plan and support system in place. We did have minor issues but most were unnoticed by the fans. My confidence level was really boosted after the spring game.”
Here’s what a variety of 49ers - alumni, students, staff and faculty - had to say about the approach of intercollegiate football at UNC Charlotte. These comments were compiled during the spring and summer of 2013, right up until kickoff of the inaugural game on Aug. 31.

“As a ’78 graduate, one of my favorite memories is that of the spirited enthusiasm of the entire university community during the shared experience of our basketball team in the national tournaments of the NIT and NCAA. At that time, there was a lot of talk and ‘what ifs’ about football. Seeing the ‘Football Ahead’ signs when entering campus for the recent spring football scrimmage game was a sign of a long ago dream becoming reality. I’ve continued to stay engaged with the University over the years and watched the phenomenal growth that’s taken place, but football is a true game changer and will ignite the University in new ways. It is with great excitement that I look forward to our first 49er football season and all it brings now and in the future - tailgating, fall homecoming, the return of alumni to watch us play, and the support and engagement of the Charlotte community!”

Debbie Pittman, President, Alumni Association, 2013-2015

“We initially felt that UNC Charlotte should focus on academics, not football, but then realized that UNC Charlotte football will enhance the academic focus by adding excitement and pride to the alumni. We’re now proud FSL owners and look forward to spending more time on campus and are more proud to be UNC Charlotte alums than ever before.”

Jim ’70, ’82 and Nancy Hill ’81, ’92

“August 31, 2013 is a date that I have been waiting for since I arrived on the campus of UNC Charlotte as a freshman in August 1992. Over the last 20 years UNC Charlotte has raised its profile and experienced tremendous growth, despite the lack of football, through the expansion of undergraduate and graduate programs, the hiring and retention of world class instructors, building state of the art classrooms and residence halls, having a university set in the largest city in the Carolinas and offering a superb education at the fraction of the price of comparable universities. But with all that being said, the lack of football has always put UNC Charlotte “a step below” other universities in the minds of others, the citizens of Charlotte and many alumni of the University alike. Football will not only help to change the perception of UNC Charlotte but to help the University to ‘get over the hump’ and take its rightful place in the upper tier of universities in America. The 1977 Final Four ‘put UNC Charlotte on the map,’ but Charlotte 49er Football will ‘change the game.’”

Rodney Graves ’97

“Football at UNC Charlotte is exciting especially for the students. Students have been the largest supporter of the football program both financially and also emotionally. I’m quite excited, the
University is quite excited and most importantly the students are most excited.”

Art Jackson, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

“The football program will put UNC Charlotte in the media spotlight more often, help encourage alums and community neighbors to visit campus, and create an environment that encourages students to stay on campus during weekends. In turn, these factors will help to better establish UNC Charlotte as a community rather than just a campus. In a few short years, hopefully we’ll see local retailers who carry 49er athletic gear, bank lobbies decorated in green and white, and Saturday traffic congestion on highways 29 and 49 on days other than commencement.”

David Causey ’83, former President of Alumni Association

“I am a five-time graduate of UNC Charlotte and a member of the faculty in the College of Education. I have seen a lot of changes over the years, however NEVER have I seen everyone as excited about anything as I have football. Football is truly changing the culture of our campus and community. I am a teacher by trade and in education we often use acronyms or create ‘backronyms’ from existing words...so here is mine for FOOTBALL - Family Oriented Opportunity To Build Alumni LifeLong.”

Misty Hathcock ’85, ’91, ’92, ’96, ’04

“As a member of UNC Charlotte’s track and field team, I’m definitely excited about football coming to campus. I think it will be a great opportunity for us moving into Conference USA, for new challenges and greater competition.”

Jessica Morgan, Senior

“I’m really excited about football here at UNC Charlotte. Some of my greatest memories going to school were going to Saturday football games and the fact that our students will be able to have that same experience is really exciting.”

Brad Fach, Senior Associate Executive Director of the Office of Technology Transfer

“I was completely enthralled with the pride, passion and pageantry displayed during our spring football scrimmage. Charlotte 49er Football seemed to unite students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends and family in a manner unlike any other event I have experienced since walking onto campus in 1989. When I think of UNC Charlotte’s future, my thoughts are, ‘Wave your colors proud Niner Nation!’ I believe Charlotte 49er Football will build more fellowship amongst our campus community; and this fellowship will help to underscore our magnetism and greatness amongst universities.”

Debbie Baker ’93, Senior Lecturer, Communication Studies

“We expect to see a huge impact on weekend programming with the advent of football. When you think about all the students, the increased enrollment, more students living on campus and more residence halls opening, weekend life is going to be a lot different here at UNC Charlotte.”

Lyndsay Richter, Marketing Director for the Student Union

“I think it’s going to be a great opportunity. I think the diversity is going to be there for people to come in from different areas to see what the campus has to offer outside of the football element.”

Kera Wilson, Administrative Assistant in the Student Union ID Office

“Football is really big here in North Carolina, so we’re ready to stand amongst the great football schools and stake our claim. It’s going to be really awesome this year!”

Brittany Davis, Marketing Assistant for the Student Union

“As a student I’m excited for tailgating and the overall student life to take off. I’m ready to see students stay on campus during football weekends to experience all of the fun things to do with football and I’m eager to see the camaraderie not just around campus but throughout the entire city of Charlotte grow and I think it will help to make our diplomas more and more valuable as the years progress.”

Russell Burton, Junior

“I think football at UNC Charlotte is the icing on the cake for this university and region. We now have 21 doctoral programs and a wonderful football program!”

Ruth Burnett, Associate Director of the Office of Technology Transfer
Walk (or drive) this Way

49ers football isn’t the only thing new around campus – not by a long shot. One other significant feature is the renaming of Toby Creek Rd., which runs beside the Harris Alumni Center at Johnson Glen. The road, which continues through the new South Village student housing complex, is now called Alumni Way, in honor of UNC Charlotte’s more than 105,000 living alumni.

Here, Jenny Jones, executive director of Alumni Affairs; Chancellor Dubois; Debbie Pittman, president of the Alumni Association; Brett Keeter, immediate past president of the Alumni Association; and Niles Sorensen, vice chancellor for University Advancement prepare to cut the ceremonial ribbon.

So next time you’re on campus, walk this way.
Dean Ellen McIntyre Seeks to Expand Research, National Recognition

Ellen McIntyre, a leading scholar and advocate in the field of education, recently took the helm as dean of the College of Education. She joins UNC Charlotte after serving as interim associate dean of academic affairs at N.C. State.

Prior to N.C. State, McIntyre was a professor in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Louisville. Her research focused on instruction for populations of students with a history of high failure rates in U.S. schools. She was appointed as University Scholar at the University of Louisville in recognition of her research productivity and ability to obtain external funding.

McIntyre recently sat down with UNC Charlotte magazine to talk about her new leadership position at UNC Charlotte.

WHAT DREW YOU HERE?
When I found out about the dean position and started to investigate more about the University and the College of Education, I became more and more interested. It felt like an exact match for who I am and my past work, and it felt like exactly what I wanted to do. When I saw that the brand is “urban research institution,” I thought ‘Wow’ — it just felt like it defined me. My work has been in urban education, and I’ve done a lot of research and scholarship in this area.

When I started looking closer at the college, I also saw that I could really fit in here in terms of my value and my perspective on education. I just thought this feels like a dream job. I was also drawn to the fact that UNC Charlotte has such a beautiful, growing campus and a great positive feeling about it.

WHAT IS ON YOUR LIST OF THINGS TO COMPLETE IN YOUR FIRST YEAR? HOW ABOUT LONG-TERM?
By the end of my first year I want to have a process in place for developing a clear strategic plan that will take us into the next five years. This process would be in collaboration with the faculty and staff and involve external stakeholders as well.

By the end of my first year I want to know the people and the programs well. I want to have a process in place for developing a clear strategic plan that will take us into the next five years. This process would be in collaboration with the faculty and staff and involve external stakeholders as well.

I want to build on the legacy established by the former dean and the current associate dean. There are going to be some small changes and new expectations, as with any leadership change, but I truly want this to continue to be a place...
“Education students are going to be expected to address difficult topics — some they’ve probably shied away from in their lives.”

where people love to work and a place where we are viewed as the go-to for outstanding professional development.

In the longer-term, I would like to see the College of Education raise the research infrastructure so that we not only do great research in schools and communities but here on our own programs. I would like to be able to say this college directly impacted the learning of children, youth and adults in very specific ways and be able to show it with really concrete sophisticated data. In the next five years, I would like to see that this college is recognized nationally for a few programs that have a high, measurable, local impact.

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES HAVE YOU ALREADY SEEN FOR COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND OTHER COLLEGES OR DIVISIONS?

I’ve already become aware of a lot of great collaborative efforts with other colleges on campus, including the Colleges of Liberal Arts & Sciences and Arts + Architecture. Certainly the College of Health and Human Services will be a great partner because its work naturally fits in with the work that we’re doing in schools and community learning centers.

But I also see great opportunities with other areas such as the College of Computing and Informatics, the William States Lee College of Engineering and the Belk College of Business. There are people across the nation developing products in their computing, engineering and business programs that are geared toward education and schools, and I believe the ones that will be most effective are ones that have a strong collaboration with educators.

WHAT ARE THE MAJOR ISSUES FACING EDUCATORS NOW?

One of the major challenges is educating children of poverty and children of lower economic means just as well as we educate middle class and wealthy children in this country. A lot of great work has been done around this topic, and we’ve made some inroads, but it is still a very tough issue to tackle. Across the country we see a trend where children of poverty, more often than those from middle or higher income families, are taught by less experienced or inexperienced teachers, are exposed to teachers who have a high mobility rate and tend to receive a lower quality of education — and it’s not OK.

Addressing this issue not only takes resources but it really takes a concerted focus on re-educating teachers. I believe that we need to teach educators about issues related to race, class, gender, disabilities, and how they can successfully reach all children.

IF YOU WERE TALKING WITH PROSPECTIVE OR INCOMING COLLEGE OF EDUCATION STUDENTS, WHAT WOULD YOU MOST WANT THEM TO KNOW ABOUT YOU AND YOUR EXPECTATIONS FOR THEIR UNIVERSITY EXPERIENCE?

I would take the time to share a little bit about my experience as an elementary school teacher because those were some of the best years of my life, yet some of the toughest in my career. I would want them to know about some of the mistakes I made and how these experiences became a huge part of who I am and my development. More than anything, I would want them to know how much I love teaching.

These students also need to know that in coming to the UNC Charlotte College of Education they will be challenged! They’re going to be expected to address difficult topics — some they’ve probably shied away from in their lives. They will learn about people who are different from them, and they’ll have to deal with tough issues. For example — what they should do the moment they see a child verbally or physically bullied. These are tough issues and we want to prepare them for dealing with them.

It’s definitely not going to be easy; in fact, it’s going to be challenging, but I want them to look forward to and love that challenge and see it as a good thing.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION’S ROLE IN BRIDGING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY AND THE COMMUNITY?

I really believe that working directly with our community partners is the only way to make a real impact in anything that we do. In my role, I plan to place a high emphasis on building connections. I intend to spend a considerable amount of time building those relationships because I know it’s only then that I can start to see connections between people and missions, goals and organizations, and skills — and begin to think of how we can work collaboratively to really make a difference.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE, WHAT ARE THREE THINGS YOU JUST CAN’T LIVE WITHOUT?

I love my books, my family and my friends, but honestly, I would adapt if I were forced to live without them. I think life itself is the gift and that’s what I treasure most, not the material things in it.

Latricia Boone is communications director for the College of Education.
Spend any time in the small and unadorned Projective Eye Gallery in uptown Charlotte and it is hard to imagine how this awkward trapezoid space that fronts Ninth Street has been at the center of such significant socio-cultural events in Charlotte since early 2012.

Ken Lambla, dean of UNC Charlotte’s College of Arts + Architecture, and Crista Cammaroto, director of galleries for the University, comprise the nucleus of a formidable team responsible for the two prominent University galleries: Projective Eye and Storrs on the main campus.

Projective Eye is redefining the role of art in an urban setting.

That bold and challenging exhibitions are coming from a University gallery underscores the realized vision of these two key innovators, instigators actually, in setting out to create a crossroads for ideas and art that makes a difference in the way an urban community interprets and sees itself.

When planning for the UNC Charlotte Center City building, which opened in 2011, Lambla was adamant about having a prominent gallery within the space. “It was critical in my mind to have an academic exhibition incubator in the center city and showcase the creative work that was being done,” he said. “I resisted even calling it a gallery, preferring at the time to speak in terms of incubator and a laboratory — the University has a responsibility to a community to use engagement not as a form of entertainment but as a platform for taking risks other people can’t take.”

What he means by taking such risks is that this gallery isn’t for “nice” faculty work and “safe” exhibitions.

ENGENDERING DIALOGUE

Cammaroto concurred with Lambla on taking risks and wanted the gallery to create lively forums and curious encounters based on the works of global, regional and local artists in a wide variety of media. She also wanted the gallery to be an opportunity for students
and faculty seeking to make statements and engender dialogue through their art.

"Part of my job is to shine a light on the best of our UNC Charlotte creative intellect by creating a venue that exudes an openness to the community of Charlotte for collaborative ‘new work’ exhibitions and performances from our own faculty,” Cammaroto explained.

The gallery’s opening exhibit in early 2012 featured Charlotte artists and educators John Hairston Jr. and Antoine Williams, both UNC Charlotte alums. They depicted Queen Charlotte as a Moorish queen bee surrounded by worker bees in a mural suggestive of students and their teacher. Their art challenged the relationship between those traditional roles and the notion of who serves whom and in what capacity.

One of the gallery’s most recent shows raised the controversial notions behind a community’s homeless population taking a role in the development of its own shelter. Organized by Charleston’s Halsey Institute, “Favelas: Architecture of Survival” offered 48 large-format photographs by Brazilian photographer Pedro Lobo depicting the notorious Rio de Janeiro squatter settlements.

“This gallery is not a space for student shows or faculty boasting,” Lambla said. “What happens here is scholarship … bringing forward the role of culture in the identity of UNC Charlotte.”

SIGNIFICANT TRIUMPH

The “Violins of Hope” exhibit is a great example. It has been the gallery’s most significant triumph of cultural programming, representing an artistic coup that saw the broad community rally to both participate and celebrate the exhibition in the spring of 2012.

Curated by the College of Arts + Architecture, Violins of Hope made its North American debut in Charlotte, showcasing 18 violins recovered and restored from the Holocaust by Israeli master violinmaker Amnon Weinstein.

The extensive programming surrounding the exhibition brought together faith-based, academic and cultural institutions in ways that strengthened community bonds. Receiving international accolades, Violins of Hope helped to define Charlotte as a New South city with its own artistic landscape.

Beyond such blockbuster programs, Projective Eye Gallery has also used its influence to raise public awareness of important community contributors and artists worthy of deeper exploration.

Cammaroto snared one of the most significant arts patrons in Charlotte and turned the tables on him, showing his talent, depth and breadth as an artist. In the exhibition “Andreas Bechtler — The Artist,” Cammaroto got her subject to open up and share his energy and enthusiasm for his work and the zeal in which his process all but consumes him.

DNC AS SPRINGBOARD

Another exhibit that spurred community discussion was “E Pluribus Unum,” which opened in advance of the 2012 Democratic National Convention in Charlotte.

“Both residents and visitors need to know we (the University) are not afraid to have open conversations about issues that matter,” said Cammaroto. “It was important to me to present a divergent point of view with this (exhibit) and not make this about one party or the other.”

E Pluribus Unum was one of the most striking and “in your face” exhibitions at the gallery to date. Cammaroto chose more than a half dozen regional artists to display work that confronts the viewer with profound questions about the role of government, individual responsibilities and civil disobedience. It was a remarkable montage that took advantage of convention timing and showed off the space with a meaningful exhibit that spoke to the concept of democracy. Some galleries simply let their space out to the highest bidder during this period, missing an opportunity to showcase their core values the way Projective Eye did.

In what has become quite a ride, the University is now seen as a promulgator of arts and culture in uptown Charlotte in ways that the public may not have anticipated, but clearly are fulfilling the goals of Lambla and Cammaroto.

Lambla also points out that many arts and cultural activities are tertiary benefactors of the building and the gallery space, which have hosted concerts, discussions, films and other events that may have struggled in years past for a venue. Possibilities being realized in the space seem endless. And that is a key point for a gallery that is expanding the notion of the arts and culture in Charlotte.
Michael Barrett, ’96, has served as a senior legal advisor to three governors in two states, and he credits his UNC Charlotte experience as helping to put him on the path to public service.

“Dr. Dennis Dorin’s constitutional law and civil rights and liberties courses covered issues such as the death penalty that really got me thinking for the first time,” said Barrett. “He was one of the first professors who encouraged me to think critically and challenge what we think is true. For example, with the death penalty — whether it was being administered fairly or was it being administered in a discriminatory manner.”

A New York native, Barrett arrived on campus to compete in track and cross country, which he did for his first two years as a middle distance runner for the 49ers. “UNC Charlotte was my first choice, and I enjoyed every minute of it. I pledged a fraternity. I got involved in student government, and I joined the pre-law society,” he said. “Even though there were only the eight or 10 buildings around the Belk Tower, it was a great campus.”

After graduating with a bachelor’s degree in political science in 1996, Barrett entered the U.S. Army and studied Arabic at the U.S. Defense Language Institute in Monterey, Calif.

**STUDYING COUNTERTERRORISM**

“This was three years after the first World Trade Center bombing in New York — the one that wasn’t successful, and I thought such acts had the potential to become an
in a firm, so I took a job with the public defender’s office at half the pay,” Barrett said. “It was the best move I ever made. It’s the legal equivalent of an emergency room, where the caseloads are so large that lawyers are forced to triage cases. That job allowed me to get trial experience right away.”

A few months later, a position as a staff attorney opened up with the New York General Assembly. Following the election of Gov. Eliot Spitzer, Barrett became executive counsel for criminal justice and public safety, a position he continued under David Paterson, who assumed the governorship upon Spitzer’s resignation. Barrett served on Paterson’s Economic Recovery and Revitalization Cabinet and the Advisory Council on Interactive Media and Youth Violence. He was also counsel to the New York Commission on Sentencing Reform.

NOW AN AUTHOR

Currently deputy general counsel to Gov. Jay Nixon of Missouri, Barrett has expanded his repertoire to become a published author. His novel “The Keeler Principle” uses a backdrop that borrows from his time at UNC Charlotte, including the very same civil rights and liberties class that had such a lasting impact.

A Web synopsis described the plot this way: “Professor Keeler always had suspicions about how much justice actually came out of the justice system. But he never thought of putting those suspicions to the test. A scheme to stage his own murder in order to prove how personal agendas can get in the way of a homicide investigation was nothing short of a gamble. And allowing his best friend to play the role of suspect was never meant to involve even a single day on death row. But things don’t always go as planned. As the execution nears, Professor Keeler’s attempt to uncover a conviction based on lies is thwarted by someone who doesn’t want the truth revealed. Now all hope rests in an untested rookie reporter. But no one is listening. And time is running out.”

Barrett, who took up writing one day while waiting for his cases to be called in court, is working on two other manuscripts. “The Keeler Principle” is fictionally set at the University of Ohio, and he uses some of UNC Charlotte’s building names, such as Colvard, to describe the campus.

On writing, Barrett explained, “Some people play the guitar for enjoyment; they don’t expect to be signed by Sony Records, and I write with the same attitude. I never thought I would finish anything.”

A proud member of the Niner Nation, Barrett now resides in Columbia, Mo., with his wife Sebrina, executive director of the Missouri Bar Association, and their children Mason, 6, and Molly, 8 months. He still keeps up with his alma mater, and he is excited about 49er football.

“If it’s long overdue,” Barrett joked during a recent visit to UNC Charlotte. “It’s great to see all the growth on campus, and returning to Conference USA, which is the conference we were in when I was here, is a good move.”
One way to understand what burglars are thinking is to ask them.

UNC Charlotte researcher Joseph Kuhns with the department of criminal justice and criminology did just that. He led a research team that surveyed more than 400 convicted burglars in three prison systems, resulting in an insightful look into the minds of burglars.

“When you talk directly to offenders and ask what motivates them, that information is useful to scholars and law enforcement,” Kuhns said. “A lot of the burglary research that has been done in the past hasn’t used that approach.”

The study’s sample size and other characteristics also add to the confidence level in the data, because the observed patterns of behavior can be generalized across much of the burglar population, he said.

The researchers delved into the decision-making processes and methods of 422 incarcerated male and female burglars selected at random from state prison systems in North Carolina, Kentucky and Ohio. They investigated motivations and techniques of burglars and what they considered when choosing or avoiding targets. They also studied differences between men and women in these factors.

“People can use this information to remind themselves of how they can protect their home or their business,” Kuhns said. “There are a lot of residents and business owners out there who just don’t think about victimization likelihood. This study can help them get back to taking simple steps that can reduce their likelihood of being burglarized.”

Law enforcement officials can use the information in a similar fashion as they provide crime prevention tips and keep an open mind when responding to crimes, he said.

The study — “Understanding Decisions to Burglarize from the Offender’s Perspective” — was funded by the Alarm Industry Research and Educational Foundation, a tax-exempt foundation serving the electronic security industry under the auspices of the Electronic Security Association.

SELECTING TARGETS

The study found that when selecting a target, most burglars said they considered the close proximity of other people — including traffic, people in the house or business, and police officers — the lack of escape routes and signs of security, including alarm signs, alarms, dogs inside and outdoor cameras or other surveillance equipment.

Eight out of 10 of the burglars surveyed — or 83 percent — said they would try to determine if an alarm was present before
attempting a burglary, and 60 percent said they would seek another target if there were an on-site alarm. This was particularly true among the subset of burglars who were more likely to spend time deliberately and carefully planning a burglary.

Glen M. Mowrey, who retired as deputy chief with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department and is now national law enforcement liaison with the Security Industry Alarm Coalition, had thought for years that a survey of burglars would provide useful insights. He had never forgotten what he saw in the late 1980s when overseeing crime prevention efforts as a sergeant with the Mecklenburg County Police Department.

“Housebreakings were increasing at an alarming rate in Charlotte-Mecklenburg,” Mowrey said. “We had strong support from the community’s crime prevention association.” The police department brought in two inmates to talk with over 200 neighborhood watch members.

“We let them tell their stories,” Mowrey said. “They said, ‘Whenever I go into a community and see the neighborhood watch sign, I go somewhere else.’ Listening to those guys, it validated the neighborhood watch system and the signs announcing them.”

Path of Least Resistance
Similarly, the recent study validates the impact of deterrents — from deadbolt locks to alarm systems. “We know a high percentage (of burglars) are opportunists,” Mowrey said. “They are looking for the path of least resistance.”

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department burglary detective Dan Cunius, who recently completed his master’s degree in criminal justice at UNC Charlotte, also studied burglaries for his master’s thesis and has studied with Kuhns. Cunius also earned his bachelor’s degree in criminal justice at UNC Charlotte.

“Drugs play a major role when people are committing burglaries,” Cunius said his research and experience has found, similar to a finding in Kuhns’ study. “Whether they commit burglary to get the drugs or get high prior to committing a burglary, it seems like the main motivations always revolved around drugs.”

Offenders’ views are important aspects of the discussion on reducing crime, Cunius said. “It reinforces and turns it from an anecdotal thing to something that you can hang your hat on,” he said. “We really need to understand the entire context if we’re going to try to deal with these crimes. I examine all the burglaries in my division, for example, and look for patterns and really try to get at the root of the problem.”

If burglars do enter a home or business with an alarm, the sounding alarm can shorten the time spent there, which reduces loss and damage, Cunius said. The involvement of witnesses is also important to solving burglaries, as officers who are called to crime scenes more often are able to catch criminals in the act, he said.

In addition to Kuhns, other researchers were Kristie Blevins of Eastern Kentucky University and Seungmug “Zech” Lee of Western Illinois University. UNC Charlotte students Alex Sawyers and Brittany Miller also worked on the study. Kuhns and his fellow researchers are presenting the study results at several law enforcement, community crime prevention and alarm industry meetings. The study is available at www.AIREF.org.

Lynn Roberson is communications director for the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences.

Burglary Study: More Findings
In addition to what is noted in the main story, the researchers found the interesting information below in their interviews with burglars.

- Among those who discovered the presence of an alarm while attempting a burglary, half reported they would discontinue the attempt, while another 31 percent said they would sometimes retreat. Only 13 percent said they would always continue with the burglary attempt.

- Respondents indicated their top reasons for committing burglaries were related to the need to acquire drugs (51 percent) or money (37 percent), which was often used to support drug habits. Only one burglar indicated interest in stealing firearms, which is a common misperception.

- About half reported primarily burglarizing homes, while 31 percent typically committed commercial burglaries.

- Most burglars reported entering open windows or doors or forcing windows or doors open. About one in eight burglars reported picking locks or using a key that they had previously acquired to gain entry.

- About 12 percent indicated that they typically planned the burglary in advance, 41 percent suggested it was most often a “spur of the moment” event and the other 37 percent reported that it varied.

- Women and men differed in some ways. Men tended to plan their burglaries more deliberately and were more likely to gather intelligence about a potential target ahead of time, while women appeared to be more impulsive overall, engaging in spur-of-the-moment burglaries.

- Women indicated a preference for burglarizing homes during the afternoon, while men tended to focus on businesses in the late evenings.

- Drug use was the most frequently reported motive given by women, at 70 percent, while men cited money as their main motivation.
Athletics Director Judy Rose Earns Recognition

The Charlotte Business Journal awarded Director of Athletics Judy Rose received its Lifetime Achievement Award at the publication’s Women in Business Awards Luncheon June 20 at the Charlotte Convention Center.

“I am so humbled to join the previous winners of the Lifetime Achievement Award,” Rose said at the presentation. “On behalf of all of the past and current winners, I extend a heartfelt ‘thanks’ to the Business Journal, Northwestern Mutual, Wells Fargo, Duke Energy and all the sponsors. Your focus on women in business creates an awareness of just how far women have advanced in the Charlotte business community.”

Rose, who became UNC Charlotte’s director of athletics in June 1990, has overseen significant growth in the University’s sports program. At the time of her appointment, she was one of just three women who served as athletic directors at NCAA Division I schools.

In 2000, she became the first woman to serve on the NCAA Division I Men’s Basketball Committee. In 2001, she was named the Southeast Regional Athletic Director of the Year by the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA), and in 2003-04, she served as president of NACDA.

Over the last 20 years, the 49ers have added approximately $100 million in athletic facilities — including the Barnhardt Student Activity Center/Halton Arena, the Irwin Belk Track and Field Center/Transamerica Soccer Field, the Robert and Mariam Hayes Baseball Stadium/Tom and Lib Phillips Field, the Halton-Wagner Tennis Complex, the 49ers Golf Practice Facility at Rocky River Golf Club, the DL Phillips Sports Complex/Wells Fargo Field House and the recently completed Jerry Richardson Football Stadium.

Also during Rose’s tenure as athletics director, the 49ers have helped bring to the region the 1994 NCAA Men’s Basketball Final Four, the 1999 and 2000 NCAA Men’s Soccer College Cups, the 1997 AAU Junior Olympics and an array of NCAA regional tournaments.

Fittingly, the award comes in 2013 as the University debuts its football team this fall. Adding such a major program is another top accomplishment for Rose, who began her career at UNC Charlotte in 1975 as the school’s first coach in both women’s basketball and women’s tennis.
MEN’S SOCCER RANKED IN TOP 25

The men’s soccer team, which has reached the NCAA tournament the last two years, is ranked No. 21 in the preseason national poll of the National Soccer Coaches Association of America and No. 24 in the preseason College Soccer News Poll.

The 49ers have seven starters and 15 letter winners back from last season’s Atlantic 10 regular-season championship squad. The team finished 15-4-3 overall and 7-1-1 in the Atlantic 10, a year after reaching the NCAA national championship game.

Kevin Langan, who is entering his second season as head coach, returns several key players, including Atlantic 10 and Mid-Atlantic Region selections Tyler Gibson, Klay Davis, Thomas Allen and Giuseppe Gentile.

Other top returnees are Nick Barnhorst, Dominic Bonilla, Biko Bradnock-Brennan, Aidan Kirkbride, David Mayer, Will Mayhew, Kyle Parker, Anthony Perez and Robby Thomas.

In key games this season, the 49ers play 17th-ranked nonconference opponent Coastal Carolina on the road Sept. 6. The 49ers also play 18th-ranked Wake Forest at the 49ers’ Transamerica Field Oct. 1.

Now in Conference USA, the team will face such top league foes as 20th-ranked New Mexico Oct. 4 and 15th-ranked Tulsa Oct. 13. Both games are on the road. Charlotte also plays Old Dominion, who received poll votes, at Transamerica Field Oct. 9.

On Nov. 13-17, the University will host the Conference USA men’s soccer championship.

VOLLEYBALL SET TO ‘DIG PINK’

Keep an eye out for volleyball players out and about in September and October exchanging their 49ers green for pink.

In 2002, the 49ers volleyball team began what is now a nationwide “Dig Pink” campaign. The event, which includes college and high school teams, raises money and awareness for breast cancer research through the Side-Out Foundation.

And the 49ers have excelled in the effort. They have led the nation in fundraising three of the last four years, including last year when the team brought in over $14,000.

Activities have featured an auction of game-worn pink jerseys from the volleyball and men’s soccer teams, a “Jail and Bail” promotion in which campus leaders need to raise bail money to be released, fundraising at Carolina Panthers’ home tailgates, special events and deals at area restaurants and this year — a campus-wide corn hole tournament to be held in conjunction with 49ers home football games.

Dig Pink will culminate this season in the volleyball team’s home match against Tulsa Oct. 18. Donations will be accepted at the game, pink T-shirts will be given away and the championship of the corn hole tournament will be played during intermission.

Former 49ers volleyball coach Lisa Marston started the campaign back in 2002, and current coach Chris Redding makes the event a priority as well. The Dig Pink game has set attendance records for the volleyball program in each of the last three seasons.

Those wishing to donate to Dig Pink can do so by going to www.charlotte49ers.com and clicking on the donation button.

Charlotte’s Jennifer Hailey, the 2013 Atlantic 10 Player of the Year, has agreed to a professional contract with C.U.S. Cagliari of the A1 Italian basketball league.

The squad is based in Cagliari, Italy, a southern port city off the island of Sardinia in the Mediterranean Sea.

Hailey concluded her outstanding career with the 49ers this past season by reaching 1,000-point and 1,000-rebound milestones during her senior campaign. She also finished as the school’s all-time leader in blocked shots and was a four-time Atlantic 10 Player of the Week in 2012-13.

She is currently one of the three allotted Americans on the Italian team’s roster, and www.Eurobasket.com has projected her as a member of the team’s starting five under head coach Restivo Antonello.
THE NEW
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ALUMNI PERKS
MEMBERSHIP CARD
PERFECT FOR CEOS
AND OTHER VIPS

This card works for 49er Alumni, as former Board of Trustee Chair Gene Johnson, ‘73 knows.

You’ll get special discounts on everything from museums to hotel rooms to performances on campus! The UNC Charlotte Alumni Membership Card is available to all alumni and the basic version is FREE! Or for $49 you get even more discounts and options....think of it as a first class upgrade!

To get your Alumni Membership Card, go to
alumni.uncc.edu/perks

fill out the form and your card is on the way to you!

The UNC Charlotte Alumni Card, show your 49er pride!

alumni.uncc.edu/perks
Bigger Aspirations

Organization changes name to Women + Girls Research Alliance

It’s not every day that you get to change your name. But when your aspirations get bigger and your impact can be greater, a name change can mark a new beginning.

This year marks a new start for the Women + Girls Research Alliance, formerly the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Women’s Summit, with bigger aspirations for a greater impact on the Charlotte region.

The mission is unchanged: To serve as a catalyst for improving the lives of women and girls through research, education and community engagement.

But the Alliance looks forward to the day when it enjoys the same stature — and impact — in its research domain as the University’s Urban Institute, its colleague in Metropolitan Studies and Extended Academic Programs, say Alliance co-directors Susan Jetton and Lisa Yarrow.

The Alliance will continue to invest resources in rigorous research on issues affecting women and girls, sharing unbiased data and analyses with the community and hosting a biennial summit designed to educate and mobilize the community, they say.

The 2014 summit, “Convergence: Mapping Success, Wellbeing + Empowerment,” will be held April 11, 2014 in the Student Union.

Amanda Wilson, chief strategy officer for Safe Alliance, noted, “We became involved with (the Women + Girls Research Alliance) at the very beginning when the founders contacted us because they wanted to address violence against women.”

Safe Alliance asked the organization to provide data on domestic violence in Mecklenburg County, then used the research to write grant proposals that funded the organization’s new Clyde and Ethel Dickson Domestic Violence Shelter and its Legal Representation Project, said Wilson.

With the chancellor’s authorization of the Women + Girls Research Alliance on a permanent basis in July 2012, it has been engaged in self-study and reorganization.

The organization reorganized its advisory council as a working group of community and University leaders headed by Alisa McDonald, vice president of the Duke Energy Foundation. The group engaged in an intense strategic planning process.

The 2014 summit, “Convergence: Mapping Success, Wellbeing + Empowerment,” will be held April 11, 2014 in the Student Union.

Since its inception in 2006 and its integration on a trial basis into UNC Charlotte in 2010, the Alliance has aimed at producing research that nonprofit service agencies, the business/corporate community and local government can use to make a difference.

That led to the rebranding of the Women’s Summit as the Women + Girls Research Alliance. It also led to a renewed commitment to provide research, education and community engagement aimed at improving the social and economic well-being of women and girls in the greater Charlotte region.
In 2004, UNC Charlotte received the gift of a home in Waxhaw and the 130 acres of beautiful land that surrounded it. Though the University has been the beneficiary of many wonderful gifts through the years, this one stood out for several reasons.

The benefactor, Lucius Gaston Gage Jr., had no formal connection to UNC Charlotte and he insisted that his generosity go unrecognized until after his death. Named “Mossgeil,” which means “my story” in Gaelic, the property had an appraised value of $8.45 million at the time of the gift, making it the largest planned gift ever received by the University to date.

Born in Charlotte on June 7, 1925, Gage and his younger brother, Gaston, were raised in the family home near Morehead Street and attended Charlotte city schools. After his junior year in high school, Gage enrolled in Duke University and went on to Duke Medical School. He then completed his residency at the University of Virginia, his father’s alma mater.
**MODEST, BRIGHT**

“I think he probably went through college and medical school in almost record time,” said Gaston. “He was a very modest person and one of the brightest people academically that I ever knew.”

Their father had been instrumental in founding the Nalle Clinic in uptown Charlotte. Lucius joined him in practice and eventually became director of the allergy and arthritis department.”

In addition to his medical knowledge, he was an avid student all of his life,” Gaston said. “Once he began to practice medicine, his determination and interest extended to preservation of the land and nature.”

That love of nature and open spaces led “Doc”, as he was affectionately known by family and friends, to purchase the Waxhaw property in several pieces beginning in the mid-1950s, paying $550 per acre. There, he cultivated beautiful gardens and developed a sanctuary for wildlife. He also enjoyed his love of horses and trained hunters and jumpers.

The home and several acres were carved out and became the basis for a charitable gift annuity, while the remainder of the acreage comprised an outright gift. One of the few requirements Gage made was that the UNC Charlotte Foundation maintain ownership of his home and the land for five years after his death or so long as any of the three horses he owned lived. Gage passed away on September 4, 2011. The one remaining horse survived him by just a few months.

**‘HIS MOST PRIZED POSSESSION’**

“The late Lucius Gage gave to UNC Charlotte his most prized possession — his land,” said Niles Sorenson, vice chancellor for university advancement.

“He acquired the acreage and home over a period beginning more than 50 years ago. UNC Charlotte is grateful for the gift and especially gratified to be a major part of the final chapter of Mr. Gage’s life story.”

Gage’s decision to leave his land to an institution of higher learning did not come as a surprise to his brother. “He called me to discuss the land and its disposition,” recalled Gaston. “I suggested that it would be of great if he could leave that land intact for the benefit of the community. The people need open space and a place to visit. You need open land for children to grow up in and enjoy and not be jammed up in cities all the time.”

Gage believed deeply that a key to improving the human condition is education, and that helping someone obtain an education is perhaps the most lasting gift of all. He spoke to several other institutions but ultimately concluded that his heart and soul was in Charlotte and that the UNC Charlotte Foundation was most prepared to make best use of his gift.

Melba Newsome is a freelance writer based in Charlotte.

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**NOW YOU CAN MAKE A GIFT FROM YOUR IRA!**

Congress has re-authorized the provision until December 31, 2013 that allows you to make a tax-free gift directly from your IRA to UNC Charlotte. That means you have a new source of tax-advantaged funds to use to make a gift. If you’re 70½ or older, find out how your charitable giving just got easier!

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UNC CHARLOTTE
Predecessors

Now that the Charlotte 49ers have taken the field with UNC Charlotte's first intercollegiate football team, let no one doubt that the University has always been a football school at heart—even before it was a university! As this photo from 1947 attests, the yen for gridiron glory was alive in bygone days. Here, the pensive jocks of the Charlotte Center of the University of North Carolina Owls sit for a team photo.

Go Niners!

Photo courtesy of Special Collections, Atkins Library
Back to the Future

FOOTBALL RETURNS TO UNC CHARLOTTE

By Ken Sanford, UNC Charlotte Director of Public Information 1964-1994

Sixty-seven years have passed since UNC Charlotte first fielded a football team. Students and alumni have been campaigning for another team almost since that first program ended in 1948 for financial and institutional reasons. Along the way someone started a rumor that Bonnie Cone killed off the program because she opposed football. The truth was that she was the school’s only chief executive to have a football team until Chancellor Phil Dubois authorized the steps that led to the building of the stadium and the recruiting of today’s players.

When D. W. Colvard became the first chancellor in 1966, he said he understood the role of athletics at a university. But when he contemplated what kind of program was feasible for a new university, he said he believed basketball offered the quickest route to success.

Was he ever right! Harvey Murphy was coaching a low profile team at the time, in addition to teaching physical education. Colvard brought Bill Foster on board to build an NCAA team from scratch. With a knack for spotting great but overlooked players Foster built a nationally competitive team. Foster felt he was being overlooked by tournament leaders and those who schedule games, and he left to coach Clemson. Lee Rose had the good fortune of inheriting the team and taking it to the finals of the 1976 National Invitation Tournament. The following year, the team went to the NCAA Final Four. Thus basketball was established at UNC Charlotte and a strong athletic program launched.

But the drumbeat for football never ceased. E. K. Fretwell, who followed Colvard as chancellor, helped build UNC Charlotte into a fast-growing university that achieved excellence and recognition for its academic programs. He believed, however, that football might undermine academic programs and drain funding from other needed projects.

The next chancellor, Jim Woodward, also had ambitious goals for the University that did not include fielding a football team.

In those days, I spoke at many alumni and civic club programs. The audiences responded enthusiastically to my reports of progress at the University. When I invited questions, there was always a particular one, “When are we going to get football?” I had a ready answer, believing that our chancellors had wrestled with the issue and were thus not inclined to change. So, I would say, “Do you think any chancellor would scratch his head and say to himself, ‘What we really need is football’?”

Some of the UNC system’s past leaders tried to dissuade UNC Charlotte from moving ahead with a football program. That wasn’t quite fair, since they had not during their tenure tried to de-emphasize football on any campus.

It is true that football programs are troublesome. Many university administrators around the country have tried to dodge responsibility, thus allowing wayward programs to get out of control. I have been deeply saddened by the troubles encountered by my alma mater, UNC-Chapel Hill, in dealing with football, thus tainting a storied academic tradition. Money and media coverage have tempted administrators to turn their eyes away from what they consider minor infractions.

Yet, I believe courageous, ethical and dedicated administrators can balance clean athletic programs with their commitment to academic integrity. I believe UNC Charlotte is fortunate in having Philip Dubois as chancellor at this critical time and in having Judy Rose in place as athletic director. Brad Lambert has indicated as head coach that he will adhere to the same high standards.

The University is also fortunate also in having athletic supporters and contributors who are generous with their money and yet principled in how they use their resources and their influence. If UNC Charlotte leaders stay on this path, future success should be assured.
UNC CHARLOTTE BESTED EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY, THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH CAROLINA, THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE, WAKE FOREST AND OTHERS IN A GRILLING CONTEST IN AUGUST. 49ERS INCLUDED (LEFT TO RIGHT) LORETTA TO, GABRIELLA GRAVES, MORGAN HINTON, ALEXANDER GRAVES, LIZ WAGNER AND RODNEY GRAVES. GABRIELLA AND ALEXANDER ARE THE CHILDREN OF RODNEY AND LIZ.