

Feb. 4, 2009

Top Story

Public health professor's research links nurses' chemical exposure to increased asthma risk

Cleaning chemicals used in health care settings put nursing professionals at an increased risk for asthma, according to Ahmed Arif, a faculty member in the Department of Public Health Sciences in the College of Health and Human Services.

Arif, along with co-investigators from the University of Texas at Houston, School of Public Health, recently released findings in the article "Occupational Exposures and Asthma among Nursing Professionals," published in *Occupational and Environmental Medicine*, a premiere journal in the field of occupational health and safety.

"Nursing professionals exposed to chemicals used in cleaning and sterilizing instruments as well as other disinfectants and solvents are at a higher risk of developing new onset asthma," said Arif, whose research expertise is in occupational epidemiology. This conclusion resulted from a large population-based study of health care professionals. Arif and colleagues at the University of Texas surveyed 3,650 health care workers in Texas. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health funded the study.

"These results are not surprising. It is well known that many chemicals are strong respiratory irritants," Arif stated. "However, the evidence suggests the need for nursing professionals to increase their use of personal protective equipment and the need to explore incorporating 'green' chemicals in the workplace."

Arif noted that the research did not look at specific chemicals, solvents or cleaning agents. He suggested future studies focusing on specific chemicals as well as the substitution of "green" or environmentally friendly chemicals is warranted, but such studies would require additional funding.

Around Campus

Budget Council creates Web site

UNC Charlotte's Budget Council has created a new Web site that provides updates to the University community regarding the impact of the economic crisis on UNC Charlotte. The [Web site](#) is located in the Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs Journal.

In dealing with the budget implications of the national economic crisis, UNC Charlotte recently formed a Budget Council to manage the University's evolving financial situation. Headed by Vice Chancellor for Business Affairs Beth Hardin, the council comprises business managers from the various University divisions and others.

At the Web site, faculty and staff members will find two recent additions. The first is a copy of Chancellor Philip L. Dubois' Feb. 2 memo on the topic of potential furloughs; the memo was e-mailed to all employees. A second posting, which appeared Tuesday, is a compilation of frequently asked questions – and answers – regarding the governor's Jan. 15 budget directives, including responses to concerns about potential for layoffs. A furlough is a very limited, temporary, mandatory unpaid leave, while a layoff is permanent or indefinite job loss.

The Web site also allows employees to submit questions to be answered by business affairs staff.

The Budget Council meets weekly and may begin to meet more frequently as the budget situation changes. Faculty and staff members can follow major developments via the business affairs Web site and by reading Campus News.

Computer Science Department announces new curriculum

The College of Computing and Informatics has launched a new initiative to position itself alongside the leaders in computer science across the United States, introducing a new curriculum to better prepare students to compete in global computing and IT.

“The whole area of computer science is much broader now as it touches almost all aspects of everyone's life,” said Min Shin, associate professor in computer science. “In order to prepare our students to meet the needs of what has become a very diverse computing and IT industry, we had to change our curriculum.”

The Computer Science Department currently offers two undergraduate degrees: bachelor of science and bachelor of arts. Under the new curriculum, computer science will streamline the core requirements for both degrees and establish focus areas available to students to ensure CCI graduates have in-depth knowledge in a specific area of computer science in addition to the core computer science knowledge. These focus areas are intelligent systems, game design and development, graphics and visualization, computing systems and networking and distributed computing.

“The days of the image of a computer scientist working in a cubicle in a windowless room are long over,” said William Ribarsky, interim chair of the department. “We are taking a leadership role in helping to develop the future workforce not only here in Charlotte but around the country.”

U.S. Bureau of Labor statistics indicate in the next eight years there will be more than 1 million IT job openings in the U.S. and that one in every 19 jobs created during that time period will be professional IT positions.

Architecture student elected president of national organization

Architecture student Je'Nen Chastain was elected recently as 2009 national president for the American Institute of Architecture Students (AIAS). The annual election is conducted at the AIAS National Forum in January.

This is the second time in 53 years that an AIAS president was elected from the floor of the convention without prior notification and communication to voting delegates. Current AIAS national vice-president and UNC Charlotte graduate Deana Moore was elected from the floor last year. She is currently serving in Washington, D.C.

As president, Chastain will work with students from nearly every architecture program in the U.S. on educational initiatives, policy changes, professional development programs and community efforts. She begins her term in July.

Chastain and Moore are the first UNC Charlotte students elected to AIAS national executive positions. UNC Charlotte alumna Ashley Woods-Clark is a former AIAS national regional director.

Abstract deadline for 2009 Graduate Research Fair

Faculty members are encouraged to announce the upcoming deadline for graduate student abstracts for the 2009 Graduate Research Fair “Graduate Research Across the Disciplines.” Abstracts are due by 5 p.m., Friday, Feb. 6. Cash prizes will be awarded in each discipline. UNC Charlotte faculty and industry leaders will serve as judges. Abstract application, competition rules and other information are available on the [Web](#). The ninth annual Graduate Research Fair, which is sponsored by the Graduate and Professional Student Government Association, will be held Saturday, March 21.

Staff Council sponsoring annual chili cook-off and spirit contest

The UNC Charlotte Staff Council will sponsor its annual chili cook-off and 49er spirit contest on Tuesday, Feb. 10, as part of Homecoming Week festivities.

Employees who proclaim to make the best chili on campus can submit their dish to let their fellow 49ers decide. Tasting will be from noon to 2 p.m. in the Cone University Center, Lucas Room.

Individuals and groups also are invited to create a cheer or chant for any 49er sport. The cheer/chant can be expressed through costume, song, dance, skit, rap, poem or any other creative method. Presentations will be judged at 11:30 a.m. in the Lucas Room.

Top winners in both events will receive gift cards. Click [here](#) to register online to compete. The deadline is Friday, Feb. 6.

University’s Arts & Science Council campaign starts Feb. 9

UNC Charlotte’s 2009 Arts & Science Council (ASC) campaign begins Monday, Feb. 9, and runs through Monday, Feb. 23. Organized in 1958, the ASC is a nonprofit group that collects resources that support local arts and science efforts in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg region. As part of the University’s campaign, Wednesday, Feb. 11, is designated a special “Giving Green” Day. Faculty and staff who make an ASC contribution on this day will be entered in a drawing for various prizes.

Becoming a WISER Woman conference set for March 21

The 2009 Women’s Leadership Conference “Becoming a WISER Woman” is scheduled for Saturday, March 21.

“The 2009 Women’s Leadership Conference is dedicated to bringing together women from all walks of life to discuss their personal and professional triumphs, challenges in everyday life and to identify creative success strategies in an effort to enhance the lives of conference participants,” said Lorraine Acker, assistant dean of students. “This all-day conference will feature sessions on a variety of topics by professors, students, staff and alumni concerning women’s leadership development and women’s issues.”

The theme for this year’s conference is Becoming a WISER Woman. Acker said, conference attendees will have the opportunity to interact with **W**ise, **I**ntelligent, **S**uccessful, **E**mpowered and **R**espected women in leadership. Keynote speakers for the conference are Dee Dixon, CEO of PRIDE magazine, and Kelly Love Johnson, author of “Skirt! Rules for the Workplace.” Additional details and registration information are available on the [Web](#).

Recognize a Cone University Center STAR

Employees who have had a commendable experience with a member of the Cone University Center staff are encouraged to share it by nominating that person for recognition through the STAR program.

The Service, Teamwork, Achievement and Results (STAR) program is open to all Cone University Center employees who are subject to the Fair Labor Standards Act. Employees can be nominated for recognition in categories such as innovation, collaboration and customer service. The deadline to recognize individuals from the fall semester is Monday, Feb. 9. Information about Cone Center offices and services as well as nomination forms is available on the [Web](#).

ITS schedules server maintenance for Feb. 7-8

The Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) will perform maintenance work on University servers on Saturday, Feb. 7, and Sunday, Feb. 8. On Saturday, Banner INB, Banner Self-Service and ODS will be unavailable between 2 and 7 p.m. On Sunday, the maintenance will interrupt the following services from approximately 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.: 49er Express, online help desk, password manager, Resource 25/Web viewer, Citrix, Report Caster, WebFocus, Report Central and Report Express. A complete list of ITS outages and alerts is available on the [Web](#).

Nominees sought for Woman of the Year Award

One UNC Charlotte student and one employee will receive the Woman of the Year Award during the upcoming Women's Leadership Conference, March 21. The campus community can nominate and sponsor a woman in a club/organization, department or area that exemplifies the qualities of the Woman of the Year.

When evaluating potential candidates to nominate, consider how the individual contributed to the following areas:

- Improvement of the quality of life and widening of opportunities for women at UNC Charlotte
- Expansion of knowledge about women's lives and contributions to the arts, sciences or humanities
- Provision of or contribution to services, programs or courses particularly aimed at women
- Artistic or creative excellence
- Leadership and service to their particular organization

Nominees will be recognized at a special conference program at 1 p.m., March 21. Nominators are encouraged to sponsor the nominee's conference registration fee (information available [online](#)); it is not required. Nominations forms, which can be downloaded from the [Web](#), are due by Friday, Feb. 20. Direct questions to Woman of the Year Awards Committee members Ben Cudia (bacudia@uncc.edu) or Nichelle Wilson (nwilson@uncc.edu).

Mail services can minimize bulk mail costs

United States Postal Service (USPS) regulations and size restrictions have changed and grown more stringent, and USPS enforcement of these rules has increased. Penalties ranging from .02 to .15 cents per piece could potentially cost the University tens of thousand of dollars per year, according to mail services officials.

“The best way to keep mailing costs to a minimum is to contact mail services before your communication is designed,” said Horace Lytch, director of mail services. He cited the following reasons to contact University mail services:

- New USPS regulations facilitate automation. Sizes/types of correspondence sent previously without penalty may not fare as well today.
- Size seriously matters. Common finish-sized pieces no longer conform to dimension restrictions for lower rate classes.
- Folding/fastening affects the rate. Saddle stitching (staples at the fold or spine) can make brochures, newsletters and catalogs unsuitable for USPS machines, which increases the cost to deliver.

Lytch said his department has the latest USPS measurement templates and personnel trained specifically in bulk-mail processing to offer advice as to what size would be most economical for the design of printed communications.

Another cost-saving service is through reducing the number of bad addresses on mailing lists. USPS requires every agency that mails standard mail to verify addresses first. Mail services has acquired advanced software to provide address verification and address correction at a steeply discounted price. Mail services also can provide bar coding, bundling, geocoding, envelope stuffing/sealing, labeling, tabbing and folding. Mail services’ expanded bulk mail processing center is capable of processing bulk/direct mail from 200 to 50,000 pieces with a turn around time of 12 hours for smaller orders (less than 5,000); larger orders completed within 48 hours.

“There is no reason to use a commercial mail house when mail services has put into place quality bulk/direct mail processes to effectively serve colleges, units and departments,” said Lytch. “We can decrease excess funding spent on off-campus third party agencies and further utilize, maintain and expand our own standard and bulk mail processing services.”

Authorized use of University’s ‘postage paid’ permit

UNC Charlotte’s prepaid postage permit imprint or indicia belongs to mail services and cannot be used without express permission. Regardless of how the indicia has been used previously, its use requires specific authorization. Printing companies and mail houses also must obtain permission for each mailing, even those entities that have used the permit previously. According to mail services, these permissions protect the University from unnecessary and unexpected charges.

“Every time the permit is used, the University incurs a fee,” said Horace Lytch, mail services director. “When mail is sent back, is a different weight or if the permit is placed on materials mailed and returned, postage is due. That money is immediately deducted from the University’s account, sometimes at a price greater than standard bulk mail.”

Bring correspondence bearing the indicia directly to mail services, where the permit is held; do not drop in a collection box. There are other restrictions, too, so to be safe, Lytch recommends that in addition to securing permission to use the permit on a specific mailing, units/departments/offices should allow mail services to imprint it (as opposed to having the indicia directly affixed from a printing press or copier).

“Do not risk additional charges or penalties against the University’s bulk mail permit. Contact mail services before preparing your bulk mailing, preferably before it is printed. Only then can you be sure that approval to use the permit has been secured and that your communication will be sent quickly, for the very best price,” Lytch stated.

‘Love the Animals’ pet food drive under way

Mecklenburg County officials have reported an increase in owner-surrendered pets, mainly due to the costs associated with caring for a pet, but also as a result of the current economic crisis. The UNC Charlotte Staff Council and Charlotte-Mecklenburg Animal Care and Control seek to provide pet food to families in need, which will allow them to keep their pets rather than surrender them to the shelter.

“Love the Animals Pet Food Bank Drive” is under way through Friday, Feb. 13. Organizers ask all University departments/offices/units to collect pet food (dog or cat) of all types (dry and canned for adult and puppy/kitten). Students, faculty and staff are welcome to participate in this effort; donations can be dropped off in designated areas around campus.

Individuals who wish to make a monetary donation can mail a check directly to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Animal Care and Control. Make the check payable to: City of Charlotte (note Pet Food Bank Donation in the memo line) and mail it to: Animal Care and Control, Attn: Food Bank Donation, 8315 Byrum Drive, Charlotte, N.C. 28217.

Direct questions or requests for Feb. 13 pickup of donations to Cynthia Stasiewski (e-mail castasie@uncc.edu, ext. 7-7938) or Diana Hill (e-mail dlgann@uncc.edu, ext. 7-2254).

More information on how to help with this program is available on the [Web](#).

Department of Counseling to host Supervision Institute

The Department of Counseling will host the inaugural Supervision Institute on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 27-28. The institute is intended for K-12 counselors, professional/school counselors, and master’s-level mental health clinicians to aid in their development of supervision skills and roles. Topics include multiculturalism in supervision, ethics and models of supervision and strategies. Prospective attendees can register on the [Web](#). For more information, contact Ed Wierzalis, counseling, at ext. 7-8970 or e-mail eawierza@uncc.edu.

COUC soliciting proposals for Chancellor’s Diversity Challenge Fund

The Council on University Community (COUC) is seeking proposals to support through the Chancellor’s Diversity Challenge Fund.

Created by Chancellor Philip L. Dubois, the Diversity Challenge Fund provides grants to support faculty, staff or student initiatives that promote the daily value of diversity in the intellectual life of campus. Awards are up to \$5,000. Restrictions on state funds apply, and food purchases are not permitted.

Potential uses of the fund include:

- Research on issues related to diversity
- Workshops, cultural programs, exhibits, speakers, film series or colloquia that celebrate diversity and foster a climate of inclusion and mutual respect
- Professional opportunities for faculty and staff, such as creating new courses and curricula that infuse diversity into the classroom
- Programs that increase diversity in the academic pipeline
- Projects that promote diversity through linkages with the Charlotte community

More information on the fund, including how to submit a proposal, is available on the [Web](#). The deadline for submissions is Monday, Feb. 16. Direct questions to Kerrie Stewart, COUC special assistant, at ext. 7-2059 or e-mail kdstewar@uncc.edu.

Faces

Name: Devin Hatley

Title: Environmental Educator

Department: Waste Reduction and Recycling

Location: Facilities Management/Police and Public Safety Building, Room 202

Keeping UNC Charlotte green is Devin Hatley's goal.

As the environmental educator in the Office of Waste Reduction and Recycling, Hatley concentrates on communicating across campus about issues related to conservation and sustainability.

"Whether it is recycling and reuse, water and energy conservation or anti-litter initiatives, if it involves the environment, I probably have some hand in it," said Hatley.

With a daily population of nearly 30,000, Hatley noted the University has a significant impact on the environment, and his role is to help educate students, faculty and staff on steps to make the campus more sustainable.

"From our daily commutes to the amount of water and electricity used in residence halls and academic buildings to what we purchase, there are opportunities to conserve and reuse," Hatley stated. "Last year, we produced several million pounds of refuse, but we did manage to recycle 1.3 million pounds."

Hatley, with the assistance of two student workers, delivers numerous presentations throughout the year. In residence halls, the presentations may focus on energy and water conservation. Another program targeting on-campus students is the "Take It or Leave It Tour." Hatley and his workers visit residence halls to collect "gently used" items that students plan to throw away. During the tour, other students can choose to adopt objects from the collection.

A native of Concord, Hatley joined the University in July 2006. Prior to his current role, he worked for Habitat for Humanity after a six-year tour in the U.S. Navy. Following his enlistment, he completed a bachelor's degree in communications with a business minor from East Carolina University.

Because of his outreach role across campus, Hatley has the opportunity to interact with students, faculty and staff, which enables him to build strong relationships with others involved in sustainability efforts, such as the Environmental Academy and the Earth Club, which his office sponsors.

During his relatively short tenure, Hatley has witnessed an increased interest in sustainability. As part of the Earth Day observance, he coordinated a campus cleanup effort, which yielded many positive results.

"We had more than 200 volunteers come out to participate, the majority were staff members," said Hatley. "It was great to see so many people take the initiative. Keeping UNC Charlotte green isn't just the responsibility of the grounds staff; we all have a stake. It's nice to see so many come together to accomplish a task with such positive results for the environment. It demonstrates there are more people thinking about sustainability and the impact we have."

Apart from the University, Hatley is an avid outdoorsman, either fishing or playing golf. "I guess that's why my job fits me so well. I believe in preserving the environment, for me it's very personal."

Hatley also enjoys spending time with his family. He and his wife Elizabeth are proud parents of two daughters, Alexys, 5, and Brooke, 3.

Upcoming Events

Faculty Research Conversations to focus on Dance Draw

Celine Latulipe, software and information systems, and Sybil Huskey, dance, will discuss their collaborative research that involves Latulipe's Dance Draw system and Huskey's choreography, at 1 p.m., Friday, Feb. 6, in Robinson Hall, Room 118. This presentation, part of Faculty Research Conversations, will include a video of a completed dance technology work followed by an interactive demonstration of the specialized software that allows dancers' movements to control projected visualizations.

The Center for Humanities, Technology and Science sponsors Faculty Research Conversations. These presentations, which blend the humanities with science or technology, are by faculty who receive funding from the center.

EndNote training open to faculty and staff

A trainer for EndNote will give two demonstration sessions on Monday, Feb. 9, about this Web-based tool for managing and citing references in papers and creating bibliographies.

"Building an EndNote Library" will run from 1 to 2:30 p.m. and will serve as an introduction to the software. The second session, set for 3 to 4:30 p.m., will demonstrate how to use EndNote while creating a Word document. Both sessions, open to faculty and staff, will be in the College of Health and Human Services, Room 380.

"Faculty and staff can attend one or both demonstrations," said Brad Warren, public relations and grants librarian. "The feedback will be valuable to ITS and Atkins Library administrators as they consider a campus-wide license for a software management program."

Orchids focus of two McMillan Greenhouse lectures

The McMillan Greenhouse is sponsoring two lectures on orchids.

At noon, Monday, Feb. 9, orchid specialist John Denti will present "Orchid Growing Basics: Anyone Can Do It." This **free** discussion is open to the campus community.

Greenhouse director Larry Mellichamp will discuss "Orchids 101: What You Need to Know" from 7 to 9 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11. As part of this presentation, Mellichamp will explain watering, fertilizing, repotting and seasonal care of orchids; attendees will receive a free one. The cost is \$25. Pre-registration is required as the class is limited to 20 participants. Contact Paula Gross at ext. 7-2555 or e-mail pmgross@uncc.edu.

Homecoming blood drive set for Feb. 11

The 2009 Homecoming blood drive, sponsored by the Charlotte 49ers and the Community Blood Center of the Carolinas, will be held from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.,

Wednesday, Feb. 11, in the Miltimore-Wallis Athletic Training and Academic Center Practice Gym (adjacent to the Student Activity Center). Click [here](#) to schedule an appointment online. Enter the code “49ers.” For more information, contact Mark Verburg at ext. 7-6308.

Wake Forest professor to lecture on black men and prisons

Earl Smith, Rubin Professor of Sociology at Wake Forest University, will present “African-American Males and the Prison-Industrial Complex” at 2 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11, in the Cone University Center, McKnight Hall.

Smith, director of WFU’s American Ethnic Studies Program, teaches courses in deviance, family, social stratification and undergraduate courses in American ethnic studies. He completed a master’s degree in sociology and a doctorate in anthropology from the University of Connecticut. The author of numerous publications in the area of professions and urban sociology, Smith also wrote “Race, Sport and the American Dream” and “African American Families.”

The Africana Studies Department is sponsoring this presentation as part of its 40th anniversary celebration.

Meditation workshop scheduled for Feb. 18

The Religious and Spiritual Life Office is sponsoring a workshop on meditation at 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 18, in Cone University Center, Room 112.

Arun Sehra, retired director of aeronautics and space programs and member of the Sahaj Marg Mission, will lead this free information session. Sehra is actively involved in teaching meditation for spiritual growth.

This event is part of the Multicultural Resource Center’s spring education series. For more information, call ext. 7-5471 or e-mail rsl@uncc.edu.

Troika Ranch to perform ‘16 [R]evolutions’

Multidisciplinary ensemble Troika Ranch will perform “16 [R]evolutions” Wednesday, Feb. 4, through Saturday, Feb. 7, in Robinson Hall’s Belk Theatre. Performances begin at 8 p.m.

“16 [R]evolutions” is a multimedia work that condenses 100,000 years of evolution into one evening-length performance. An integration of dance, theatre and interactive media, “16 [R]evolutions” depicts the struggle of four characters as they trace a path that begins with the pure drives of the pre-human animal through today’s post-intellectual man. Live video camera tracking captures dancers’ movements and generates real-time interactive three-dimensional imagery.

Troika Ranch, established in 1994, is the collaborative vision of artists Mark Coniglio and Dawn Stoppiello. Based in New York City and Berlin, Germany, Troika Ranch refers to the artists’ creative methodology, a hybrid of three artistic disciplines in cooperative interaction. As artists-in-residence, ensemble members will offer a master class to UNC Charlotte students during their visit.

Tickets, which are \$16 for the public, \$14 for faculty and staff, \$8 for senior citizens and \$6 for students, are on sale at the Robinson Hall Box Office. For more information, call ext. 7-1849.

Brown bag session to focus on RAMSeS

The Office of Proposal Development, in coordination with the Office of Research Services, will offer a brown bag lunch session devoted to the Research Administration

Management System and eSubmission (RAMSeS), used for electronic internal processing forms (IPF) implemented by the Division of Federal Research and Relations in December.

Ellen Zavala will deliver an overview of completing electronic IPFs and provide helpful tips to facilitate a smooth proposal submission and approval process. This overview is scheduled for 12:30 to 1:45 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11, in the College of Education, Room 007. Space is limited; click [here](#) to register online. For more details, contact Zavala at ext. 7-2592 or e-mail eezavala@uncc.edu.

Oregon architect Michael Tingley to lecture

Michael Tingley, a member of the firm Boora Architects, located in Portland, Ore., will talk about his work at 5 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11, in Storrs Building, Room 110.

Tingley has more than 25 years of design and management experience. Since joining Boora in 1993, he has focused on performing arts projects for civic and higher education clients. His projects include the Mesa Arts Center and the temporary theatre for the Portland Institute of Contemporary Arts. Currently, he is leading the Collin County Center for the Arts. In 1989, Tingley completed a Master of Architecture from the Harvard Graduate School of Design, where he also served as an adjunct faculty member.

The School of Architecture in the College of Arts + Architecture is sponsoring this event.

Homecoming 5K scheduled for Valentine's Day

The 2009 UNC Charlotte Homecoming 5K Run/Walk will be held at 9 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 14. Proceeds from this year's event, sponsored by the Office of Recreational Services, will benefit once again the American Heart Association in honor of Roy Fielding, aquatics director. Fielding, who suffered a heart attack in December 2007, will walk in the event.

The 5K course is certified, and Event Marketing Services will provide chip timing, an electronic method that collects and processes race results.

Early registration is through Friday, Feb. 6. Individuals who register early will receive a long-sleeve T-shirt. To register and pay online, visit the recreational services [Web site](#). The site also will accept donations to the American Heart Association from individuals who wish to give but who do not intend to participate in the race.

The cost to register for the Homecoming 5K is \$15 for students enrolled in any university or school; \$17 for UNC Charlotte alumni, faculty and staff; and \$20 for community members. After Feb. 6, all registrations are \$25 per person.

UNC Charlotte's Recycling Center, Athletic Training Student Organization and Kinesiology Student Organization are co-sponsors of this event.

McMillan Greenhouse to hold annual Valentine's Week Orchid Sale

The McMillan Greenhouse will hold its fourth annual Valentine's Week Orchid Sale Monday, Feb. 9, through Saturday, Feb. 14. A variety of healthy, blooming orchids will be on sale along with cyclamen and other select indoor plants. Orchids are priced from \$15 to \$30, indoor plants range in price from \$5 to \$20.

"We invite everyone to take a small break from their busy schedules to stroll through the greenhouse and soak in the beauty and warmth of these exotic plants," said Paula Gross, assistant director for the greenhouse. "Come by anytime between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m."

Family Day set for Feb. 14

Family Day, coordinated by the Office of Parent Programs, will be held on homecoming, Saturday, Feb. 14. Families of current students are invited to campus this day to experience University life. Among the activities planned for the day are the Chancellor's Breakfast, a luncheon, library tours, exhibits and a demonstration in the Motorsports Laboratory. Registration information is available on the Niner Nation Family [Web site](#).

Human Resources

Fidelity representative to visit campus

A representative from Fidelity Investments will visit campus Friday, Feb. 13 and 27 and March 13, to assist employees with the Fidelity Optional Retirement and Fidelity 403B Supplemental Retirement plans. To schedule an appointment between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on these dates, contact Dave Kitterman at 866-921-1109 or e-mail david.kitterman@fmr.com. Meetings will take place in Cone University Center, Room 109, except for Feb. 27, which will be in Room 265.

Important HR links

- [HR benefits and important news](#)
- [Personnel announcements](#) (Also visit the Human Resources Office in King Building, Room 222, to view the Employment Opportunities board.)

Training

The [Continuing Education](#) Office offers numerous training opportunities. Discounts of approximately 50 percent are available for faculty and staff. Note that the registration fee listed is the discounted fee for qualifying UNC Charlotte faculty and staff. Some upcoming courses are listed below.

Feb. 9–March 14 [Investment Planning](#). 6 to 9 p.m., Mondays and Wednesdays, Web-delivered course. Cost: \$550.

Feb. 10–11 [Project Schedule Development and Control](#). 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., UNC Charlotte Uptown. Cost: \$500.

Feb. 13–March 28 [Meeting and Event Planning Certificate Program](#). 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays, UNC Charlotte Ben Craig Center and off-site locations. Cost: \$950.

General information is on the continuing education [home page](#); click [here](#) for details about discounts and registration or call ext. 7-8900.

Swap 'n' Shop

For sale:

White wicker bedroom furniture, includes headboard and footboard, night table with drawer, highboy dresser with two drawers, six-drawer dresser and mirror and rocking chair. Five years old, excellent condition. \$350. Contact Germaine Chisholm at ext. 7-5435 or e-mail gchishol@uncc.edu.

Black and white GE electric stove, \$130. Matching white oven hood, \$75. Both items in very good condition. Contact Suzanne at 704-573-1343 or e-mail bosz7@aol.com.

Manual treadmill with "ski" poles for arm exercise/additional calorie burn. Folds, takes up limited space and can be placed anywhere - even an office. Computer inoperable but treadmill works great. Good condition. Must sell, asking \$25 or best offer. Call ext. 7-7324 or e-mail wjkee@uncc.edu.

For rent:

Large three bedroom, three bath, ocean-front condo in Hilton Head (Ocean Club Villas at Forest Beach Drive) available in May and August 2009. (No availability June or July). Fully stocked kitchen. AC, cable, pool, three decks. Unit faces pool but is on the beach. Special rate for UNC Charlotte faculty and staff: \$950 per week, Saturday-Saturday. Call Frankie at 864-246-2631 for details or to make a reservation.

Found:

Bracelet, outside of Scott Hall. Call ext. 7-7502 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. to give a description.

Seeking:

A good import auto mechanic or garage in the University area. E-mail Art Jackson at a.r.jackson@uncc.edu.

Fresh-cut flowers (especially roses) from bouquets past their prime but still holding their shape. Flowers will be dried and saved for use at a masked ball reception Oct. 31. With Valentine's Day coming up, think about recycling your roses, but please handle them with the same love in which they were sent. Contact Cris at ext. 7-5729 or e-mail cfhill@uncc.edu.

Of Note

UNC Charlotte is continually engaged in the community and its news coverage. From time to time “Of Note” is used to highlight some of that involvement.

Tony Plath, finance, was interviewed for the Birmingham (Ala.) News article “[Bumpy ride for Birmingham banks in new year](#),” the AP story “Bank of America slides to 4Q loss; gets more aid” and the Minneapolis Star Tribune article “[Loans threaten Minnesota community banks](#).” He also participated in the News 14 Carolina story “[Bank of America in need of another bailout](#).”

Denise Dwight Smith, University Career Center, provided comments for the WSOC-TV segment “[Students Preparing to Enter Workforce During Grim Economic Times](#).”

Ted Arrington, political science, was quoted in the Charlotte Business Journal article “[Transportation is taking center stage for city](#)” and the Charlotte Observer story “Issues drew young voters to Obama.”

Charles Bodkin, marketing, was interviewed by WBTV for a segment about the Belk retail chain.

James Oakley, marketing, was quoted in the Charlotte Observer article “[T-shirt, hat makers are cashing in on ‘Sully’](#).”

Steve Ott, business, provided comments for the article “Even Once-Strong Housing Markets Stumble” published on the BusinessWeek Web site.

John Connaughton, economics, was interviewed by the Charlotte Observer for the article “In N.C., business failures have set record.”

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