

Winter 2008

## Pathways to China Celebrates 2008 Summer Olympics

The College of Performing and Visual Arts, in partnership with several campus and community organizations, is sponsoring *Pathways to China* in celebration of the upcoming 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing. A variety of activities and programs will provide participants an opportunity to experience and understand China's rich cultural heritage.

Activities include the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition, *Documenting China: Contemporary Photography and Social Change*, on display in early spring 2008, as well as classes, concerts, art workshops, plays, and many more. This year's gala, *Let the Games Begin*, will salute the spirit of the Olympics. Activities will run through June 2008, and a complete schedule is available at

[www.arts.unco.edu/china08/default.html](http://www.arts.unco.edu/china08/default.html).



## UNC Teacher Program Awarded Christa McAuliffe Award

In 2007, the University of Northern Colorado received the Christa McAuliffe Award in recognition for innovation and exemplary practice in the assessment of elementary and secondary teacher education programs. UNC's College of Education and Behavioral Sciences was one of only three schools nationwide honored with this award. The award recognizes excellence in college and university teacher education programs at institutions that belong to the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU).

UNC received the award for its *Assessment and Program Innovation for Quality Teacher Preparation* system, which supports continuous program improvement, teacher candidate development, and innovative use of technology for classroom assessment. President Kay Norton accepted the award on behalf of the University, noting the importance of teacher preparation in the historical and current mission of UNC and the excellent work of the faculty in educating future teachers.

The award is named for Christa McAuliffe, a teacher who perished in the 1986 Space Shuttle Challenger tragedy. Other institutions receiving the award include St. Cloud University and Western Carolina University.

## Microbiology Professor Investigating Hantavirus



**Tony Schountz**, Assistant Professor of Microbiology at UNC, recently published ground-breaking research that could lead to improved treatment for hantavirus. Hantavirus, a

disease that causes severe respiratory illness in humans, is carried by deer mice. Although the disease has a 36% fatality rate among humans, deer mice don't appear to suffer any negative effects.

*Continued on page 11*

## IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Provost . . . . .	2
Around Campus . . . . .	2
Recent Grants . . . . .	8
Accomplishments . . . . .	9

## A Message from the Provost

Dear Colleagues, it gives me a great pleasure to share with you the inaugural issue of our academic affairs newsletter. This biannual newsletter is intended to capture the scope of your activities and showcase the many contributions of our faculty and academic affairs staff that make UNC a sanctuary for academic quality and collegiate experience.



As a relative newcomer to UNC, I am gratified to learn every day the breadth and depth of our academic offerings and the quality instruction and scholarship that take place on our campus. The caring attitude of our faculty and staff and the importance we place on the quality experience of our students is indicative of our undisputable devotion to their educational attainment. Your commitment to our profession by remaining active in your respective disciplines is evident throughout this collection of your recent accomplishments and speaks loudly to many quality dimensions the UNC experience offers to our students.

The academy and higher education are becoming increasingly competitive requiring accountability and articulated value added measures, emphasizing the importance of quality and personalized experience that our students deserve—a competitive niche that could set UNC apart from its competitors. As the academy shifts its focus from input to throughput and output, the significance of collegiate experiences and learning outcomes becomes more pronounced and consequently sought after by internal and external stakeholders. UNC, by virtue of its size and student focus, is strategically poised to continue to engage in intentional strategies that the higher education market requires from its competitors.

With your assistance and encouragement, we are employing many strategies that will position UNC for capturing new heights in years to come. As we embark on these new initiatives, mirroring best practices, and improving upon the residential academic and student life experience of our students, your continued support and cooperation will become more indispensable in creating the best collegiate experience for our students—the experience that will transform their lives forever.

Thank you for your contributions to UNC and our students.

Abe Harraf  
Provost

## Around Campus

### New Children's Literacy Program Begins Fall 2007

A new literacy program, Talking and Listening for Preschoolers (TALP), began enrolling children fall 2007. Staffed by trained professionals and graduate students in UNC's Speech-Language Pathology program, TALP provides an intensive group experience open to children with language problems and non-language impaired peers.

Funded through a grant from the Scottish Rite Foundation of Colorado, the Daniels Fund, and Wells Fargo Bank, the program uses children's books to improve literacy and interaction.

### NHS Launches Student Ambassador Program

Eight students from the College of Natural and Health Sciences were selected as NHS Student Ambassadors, a new program designed to involve students in supporting College activities. Students selected as ambassadors provide college tours for visitors, assist with recruitment activities and college events, and gain valuable leadership experiences.

To be considered eligible for the program, students must be majoring in an NHS program and have a minimum 2.80 GPA. Students selected as Ambassadors for 2007-2008 include Christopher Erwin, Marika Johnson, Megan McFarland, Kevin Penn, Audra Schovel, Eva Sorrentino, Nicole Sottnik, and Adam Wilson.

## Institute on Scholarly Communication

Several UNC faculty and administrators were selected to attend the third annual Institute on Scholarly Communication. Sponsored by the Association of College and Research Libraries and the American Library Association, the institute offers an immersive learning experience designed to prepare participants to take the lead on their home campuses in addressing scholarly communication issues. The institute was held July 18-20, 2007, in Washington, DC.

Those chosen to attend included **Jayati Chaudhuri**, Reference Librarian and Assistant Professor of University Libraries, **Joan Lamborn**, Head of Library Administrative Services and Associate Professor of University Libraries, **Helen Reed**, Associate Dean and Associate Professor of University Libraries, and **Robbyn Wacker**, Assistant Vice President for Research and Extended Studies and Dean of the Graduate School. Participants were selected through a competitive process, and those selected were required to conduct an environmental scan of their campus and prepare an outreach program plan to implement upon their return from the institute.

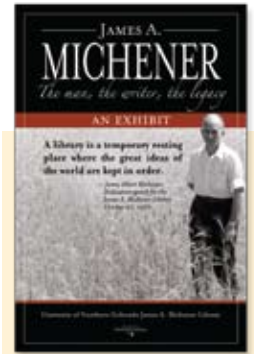
## Michener Library Hosts Banned Book Week

In an effort to shed light on books that have been banned from schools, Michener Library hosted Banned Books Week October 1-5, 2007. Students, faculty and members of the community gathered to read passages from favorite banned books such as *The Indian in the Cupboard*, *Blubber*, and *To Kill a Mockingbird*.

## James A. Michener Centennial Celebration

Members of the Michener Society, local enthusiasts, and other fans of UNC alum James Albert Michener from as far away as New York City, Texas, and Washington attended the University of Northern Colorado's 2007 James A. Michener Centennial Celebration, held on October 5 and 6. Events included lectures on the geography of *Centennial*, Michener and family history, Michener at UNC, Michener and writing, and how to become an author.

The Celebration also included the grand opening of the permanent exhibit, *James A. Michener: The Man, the Writer, the Legacy*, located on the mezzanine of the James A. Michener Library. The 26-minute DVD of *James A. Michener: An Epic Life* was shown and given to all attendees. The DVD is a trailer for the 90-minute documentary of Michener's life for which the university is currently raising external funds.



Attendees of the 2007 Michener Centennial Celebration enjoy specially prepared refreshments prior to the opening of the permanent exhibit, *James A. Michener: The Man, the Writer, the Legacy*. Photo courtesy of *The Book Stops Here*, Albuquerque, NM.

## Diversity Scholar Sponsored by University Libraries

Diversity scholar Loretta Parham discussed diversity in higher education with various campus groups on November 13 and 14. Sponsored by the University Libraries, Parham held an interactive session with library personnel, met with cultural center directors and students, taught a class session in the "Introduction to Africana Studies" course, and gave a formal presentation to a campus-wide audience. In all venues she emphasized diversity and community while concentrating on various definitions of and approaches to diversity.

Parham is currently the Chief Executive Officer and Library Director of the Robert W. Woodruff Library of the Atlanta University Center



Loretta Parham speaks on diversity in higher education to a campus-wide group on November 14. Photo courtesy of Ebbie Sanchez.

serving Clark Atlanta University, the Interdenominational Theological Center, Morehouse College and Spelman College. She is co-founder and chair of the Historically Black Colleges & Universities (HBCU) Library Alliance and is co-author of the book, *Achieving Diversity: A How-To-Do-It Manual for Librarians*.

## Political Science Program Co-Sponsors Constitution Day

Working in collaboration with the League of Women Voters and the Weld County libraries, UNC's Political Science Program co-sponsored Constitution Day on September 17, 2007. The event featured a mock congressional hearing followed by a panel discussion with judges and attorneys on "Safeguarding U.S. Democracy through an Independent Judiciary." Participants also had the opportunity to register to vote and observe a voting machine.

## School of Social Sciences Institute Focused on Community

The Community Development and Outreach Institute (CDOI), one of several institutes housed in the School of Social Sciences, combines research and applied, experiential learning to address community-based issues related to growth and development.

Most recently, CDOI has worked collaboratively with 22 UNC and Greeley community organizations on the Realizing Our Community Project (ROC), supported by a grant from the Colorado Trust. The project entered the first year of a four-year implementation phase in fall 2007.

Intended to support the integration of immigrants and refugees into the Greeley community, ROC brings UNC faculty and students together with local residents to build a stronger community. UNC's primary contribution will be to develop and identify funding for parallel projects and to contribute faculty and student expertise and service in support of the project.

## Cumbres Celebrates 10 Years at UNC

Fall 2007 marked the tenth year for Cumbres, a teacher preparation program whose purpose is to recruit, retain, and graduate students who complete endorsements in Bilingual Education or English as a Second Language. Program supporters and Cumbres scholars gathered in November at a scholarship reception to celebrate ten years of excellence.

Over 151 students have graduated from UNC through the Cumbres Program, and for those seeking immediate employment, the placement rate is nearly 100%. In addition to supporting their development as future teachers, the program also emphasizes leadership development and community service.

## Gifts Support Scholarships and Classrooms at MCB

During fall 2007, the Monfort College of Business received over \$260,000 in donor gifts to support scholarships, classrooms, and programming. Donors include Colorado accounting firm EKS&H, the Monfort Family Foundation, and State Farm Insurance.



*Kepner Hall, home of the Monfort College of Business*

**EKS&H** will give \$100,000 over the next ten years to support the College's School of Accounting, provide scholarships, and sponsor a class in Kepner Hall. According to Robert B. Hottman, chief executive officer of EKS&H, the gift is intended to "recognize and sup-

port the College's accounting program and faculty for their commitment to educating and guiding students."

Over the next three years, the **Monfort Family Foundation** will give \$75,000 to renovate the Monfort, Inc. classroom in Kepner Hall. "We recognize the importance of providing business students and faculty with a high quality learning and teaching environment," Dick Monfort explained.

**State Farm Insurance** provided an \$86,500 donation to MCB and an additional \$13,000 to other University programs. Ken Cook, vice president of operations for State Farm's western zone, said that "the programs we've developed with the Monfort College of Business have been a great asset to us and the College."

The gift will provide scholarships to business students who mentor freshman business majors and support business-related programming in the University's First Year Experience seminar.

## Seniors Achieve Highest Possible Scores on National Business Exam

Graduating seniors from the Monfort College of Business have again reached the top five percent on the nationally-administered Educational Testing Service Major Field Test in Business. Fall 2007 scores put MCB seniors in the highest scoring band possible on the exam and match the College's performance in previous semesters. In addition to the overall strong performance, 30% of the students scored in the top 10%.

According to Tim Jares, interim dean, "Our students continue to perform at the highest levels as compared to students at peer undergraduate business programs nationwide." All MCB graduating seniors must complete the exam.

## Students Claim Second Place in National Direct Marketing Competition

For the second year in a row, a student team at the Monfort College of Business claimed second place at the Direct Marketing Educational Foundation's annual Leonard J. Raymond Collegiate ECHO Competition. This marks the ninth time a team from UNC has placed in the top three in the national competition.

"Such high praise for our team's direct marketing campaign gives our students and the Monfort College of Business much deserved national recognition," said **Denny McCorkle**, Professor of Marketing and faculty advisor for the campaign. "This award reveals the depth of talent we have in our marketing students who were competing against the best nationwide."

The team's direct marketing campaign for Litle & Co.—named *Inc. Magazine's* 2006 fastest growing private company—was one of 65 student campaigns entered in the nationwide competition this year.

## Student Success Advisory Council Initiatives

The Student Success Advisory Council (SSAC), chaired by Dean of Students **Samantha Ortiz Schriver** and comprised of representatives from student services programs across the campus, will focus on several initiatives for the 2007-2008 year. The first of these consists of a series of professional development workshops on topics such as student development and learning, diversity, and legal and ethical issues in working with students.

In addition to the professional development series, SSAC will also work to improve coordination of campus leadership programs and create additional

opportunities for students to develop leadership skills. Another important initiative planned by SSAC involves the development and implementation of an early warning system to help the University identify students in need of assistance early enough in the semester to increase their persistence at UNC.

## Undergraduate Studies Welcomes New Directors

**Ann Anderson** has accepted the position of Director of Disability Support Services. Anderson, who holds an MFA



*Marcus Garvey Cultural Center*

from Arizona State University, previously served as the Disability Services Coordinator/Retention Specialist for the Student Support Services program at Black Hills State University.

The new director of the Marcus Garvey Cultural Center is **Ty'Ray Thompson**. Thompson is a UNC alum who holds a Bachelor's degree in Sociology with an emphasis in social issues. He is currently completing his Master's degree in Clinical Sociology here at UNC and expects to graduate this summer.

**Rob Umbaugh** became the new director of Learning Communities in summer 2007. Prior to joining the learning communities program, Umbaugh served as the Coordinator of Academic Services in University Housing and Residence Life at UNC. He holds a Master's degree in Student Development in Postsecondary Education from the University of Iowa.

## Learning Communities Growing at UNC

Data collected at UNC suggest that students who participate in our learning communities tend to be more successful than students who do not participate. They report feeling more connected to the campus, are more likely to complete their program's recommended first year courses, and are retained at higher percentages than students not enrolled in a learning community.

Interest in learning communities continues to grow, with 1,150 students participating in fall 2007, a 21% enrollment increase from the previous year. An important part of the learning communities is the First Year Seminar course, FYE 108. UNC offered 57 sessions of the one-credit course during fall 2007.

To ensure consistent, high quality delivery of the FYE 108 course, **Rob Umbaugh**, Director of Learning Committees, initiated a series of faculty development activities. These will form the basis in the future for a comprehensive faculty development program for working with first year students which Umbaugh hopes to offer through a collaborative partnership with the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning.



*Central Campus Residence Halls*

## Embracing Community Forum Reveals Creative Possibilities

On November 29, 2007, approximately 400 UNC campus and Greeley community members gathered to share presentations on collaborative projects and explore possibilities for new partnerships. **Michael Kimball**, 2007-2008 Robert O. Schulze Chair, sponsored the event to “create an opportunity where the entire university community can build bridges with the surrounding community.”

Featuring poster presentations, information tables, and a World Café for people to discuss issues and challenges, the forum was enthusiastically received by participants, resulting in several new partnerships being formed on the spot. During spring 2008, Kimball plans to

post a summary report of the results from the World Café discussions on the Schulze website [www.unco.edu/mind/schulze/index.html](http://www.unco.edu/mind/schulze/index.html).

The Robert O. Schulze Chair in Interdisciplinary Studies was established in 1995 to bring distinguished scholars to UNC for a visiting year. Kimball, who is an Associate Professor of Anthropology and Sociology at the University of Maine-Machias, brings a wealth of experience in interdisciplinary research and teaching. In 2006, he received the Campus Compact Award in Maine for his work in service learning teaching.

When asked what the event revealed to him about Greeley and UNC, Kimball said, “there is a hunger for interaction and communication across all the boundaries between campus and community. There is incredible potential here for creating and seizing

opportunities to dissolve the walls and reach out to each other.”

## Assessment Institute Offers New Approach to Professional Development

Beginning fall 2007, the Office of Assessment and the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning launched the Student Services Assessment Institute (SSAI) to improve the use of assessment among student services professionals at UNC. Over 30 staff members from across campus have met monthly since August 2007 to explore topics ranging from basic assessment terminology to specific measurement tools and strategies.



The Institute kicked off with a full day workshop conducted by national expert Marilee Bresciani. Participants had the opportunity to learn about outcomes-based assessment, examine their current practices, and begin identifying ways to integrate assessment in support of student learning.

In addition to monthly workshops, SSAI members will also develop assessment plans for their programs. During spring 2008, each participant will design and conduct an assessment project. Projects under consideration include developing and testing an advisor knowledge rubric, a career services needs assessment, and an evaluation of financial aid outreach presentations.

Results of the assessment projects will be presented at a reception in June 2008. SSAI instructors **Kim Black**, Director of Assessment, **Angie Koponen**, Assessment Coordinator, and

## UNC Employees Receive Fulbright Awards

In summer 2007, **Karen Barton**, Lecturer in Geography, conducted a curriculum project in Brazil through funding from a Fulbright-Hays Travel award. Barton spent time in six different regions of Brazil, investigating the role of cattle farmers in environmental protection activities such as ecotourism. Her findings will be integrated into UNC's Geography curriculum.

**Andrew Svedlow**, Dean of the College of Performing and Visual Arts and Professor of Art and Design, was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to travel to Japan in June 2007. Svedlow was selected to participate in an intensive month-long program that provides opportunities to obtain firsthand knowledge of Japan's academic infrastructure and culture and to create lasting collaborations and connections between institutions of higher education in both countries.

While in Japan, Svedlow met with presidents of Japanese universities, government officials, college students, Japanese international education administrators, as well as parents of students in Japanese universities. He also made special connections with programs in the arts in Tokyo, Kyoto, Nagoya, and Hiroshima.

Past Fulbright recipients include **David Caldwell**, Dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, **Rik D'Amato**, Professor of School Psychology, **Errol Haun**, Associate Professor of Music, **Sara Heimbecker**, Adjunct Professor of Music, **Paul Hodapp**, Professor of Philosophy, **Robert Lynch**, Professor of Computer Information Systems, **Rutilio Martinez**, Associate Professor of Business Statistics, **Lee Anne Peck**, Assistant Professor of Journalism, **Gary Swanson**, Hansen Journalist in Residence, and **Sharon Wilson**, Professor of Music.

*Marilee Bresciani (above photo) conducts kickoff workshop for the Student Services Assessment Institute.*

**Stephanie Moore**, Program Specialist, will give a presentation about the institute at the NC State Undergraduate Assessment Symposium to be held April 25-27, 2008. Dean of Students **Samantha Ortiz-Schraver** and Executive Director of Academic Support and Advising **Stephanie Torrez** are also members of the SSAI coordinating team.

## CETL Continues Support of Effective Teaching and Learning Practice

In fall 2007, the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning (CETL) expanded its support of improved teaching practices, the seamless integration of technology into the classroom or virtual classroom, scholarship activities, and collaborative professional development.

New educational technologies include real-time and course archiving for podcasting applications such as Wimba or the “social networking” tool, Pronto. During spring 2008, CETL will also provide training on the Respondus lock-down browser, which “locks” students’ computers during online testing.

With a small but highly talented and effective staff, CETL has expanded its collaboration with other campus programs, partnering with PASC, the Office of Assessment, and Academic Support and Advising to develop and offer expanded professional development on topics such as diversity, assessment, and the instruction of first year students.

In fall 2007, CETL launched the Graduate Teacher Program (GTP) with support from the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences. The program provides professional development for graduate teaching assistants and other graduate students interested in pursuing faculty careers.

## Enrollment Management Sponsors Middle School Campus Visit

Middle school students from Greeley-Evans School District 6 visited the UNC campus in November 2007. 260 eighth graders from area middle schools spent a half day at UNC touring the campus and watching demonstrations from the meteorology, arts and chemistry programs.

According to Raul Cardenas, Assistant Vice President for Enrollment Management, the program was designed to engage local students and provide an early introduction to the opportunities afforded by a college education. The University plans to expand the program in the future with the goal of eventually providing a campus visit to every Greeley-Evans middle school student.



UNC Students at Ross Hall

Students attending the program received UNC T-shirts, lunch, and “Bear Club” passes for free admission to a UNC sporting event. Organizers hope that by expanding UNC’s outreach into the local community, eventually more students from Greeley-Evans will choose UNC when the time comes to go to college.

## Falcon to Partner on Smithsonian Bracero History Project

**Priscilla Falcón**, Professor of Hispanic Studies, will partner with the Smithsonian Institution and the University of Texas at El Paso to conduct the Bracero History Project. The consortium of participants will collect oral histories of former migrant workers of Mexican origin, known as braceros, their families, and people touched by the program. This national project has completed over 500 oral histories to date. UNC participation will include interviews conducted in Northern Colorado and in Mexico by undergraduate students. UNC is a particularly important partner in the Bracero History Project because of the prevalence of braceros who worked in area sugar beets production. The Smithsonian Institution will assist in training students and will provide interview questions and related materials. All the oral histories will be uploaded to the project website ([www.braceroarchive.org](http://www.braceroarchive.org)) and will include a link to UNC.

## Enrollment Services Getting a New Look

Visitors to Carter Hall may notice that something has changed. That something is a new look for several enrollment services offices. The changes started with fresh paint featuring a UNC color scheme and the UNC bear logo and continued with the addition of an information kiosk staffed by friendly student employees during hours of business. Students and visitors have responded positively to the new kiosk, expressing appreciation for the service, which includes answering questions and providing directions to offices located in Carter Hall.

Continued on page 11

# Grants

## Recent Faculty and Staff Grants

**Rick Adams, Associate Professor of Biology** – Boulder County Parks and Open Space (\$5,000): *Continued Census and Incidence of West Nile Virus at Heil Valley Ranch.*

**Rick Adams and Mark Hayes, graduate student** – Colorado Division of Wildlife (\$18,500): *Roosting Ecology of Fringed Myotis in Colorado.*

**Steven Anderson, Professor of Earth Sciences** – National Science Foundation (\$168,976): Collaborative Development of an Expanded Geoscience Concept Inventory: *A Webcenter for Question Generation, Validation and Online Testing.*

**Michelle Athanasiou, Associate Professor of School Psychology** – University of Denver (\$14,557): Project InSPECT: *Integrated School Psychology Early Childhood Training (continuation funding).*

**Marilyn Banta, Assistant Professor of Biology** – Colorado Division of Wildlife (\$26,578): *A Multi-Year, Multi-Season Field Survey of the Olive-Backed Pocket Mouse (*Perognathus fasciatus*).*

**Theodore Bashore, Professor of Psychology** – Henry M. Jackson Foundation for the Advancement of Military Medicine (\$3,100,000): *Physiological Investigations of Blast Lethality and Injury.*

**Anne Bell, Director, Teaching Primary Resources** – Library of Congress (\$160,000): *Teaching with Primary Sources Regional Center Demonstration Project Supplement.*

**Robert Brunswig, Director, School of Social Sciences, and James Doerner, Professor of Geography** – U.S. Department of the Interior (\$11,000): *Pilot Study for Investigations into Cultural-Natural Landscapes and Ecological Patch Island: Forest Canyon Pass.*

**Robert Brunswig and Frederic Sellet, Assistant Professor of Anthropology** – Colorado State Historic Fund (\$46,914): *North Park Cultural Landscapes Project.*

**Sarah Chase, Director, McNair Scholars Program** – U.S. Department of Education (\$1,011,384): *Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program.*

**Jackie Cisco, Program Director, RSVP** – Weld County (\$500): *Project Connect (continuation funding).*

**Rhonda Corman, Lecturer in Economics** – Upstate Colorado Economic Development (\$4,400): *Analysis of Greeley/Weld Economic Development (FY07).*

**Matthew Downey, Professor of History** – Colorado Commission on Higher Education (\$160,000): Reading in the Social Studies Project: *Teaching Reading in Civics, Economics, Geography, and History.*

**Kathleen Fahey, Professor of Audiology and Speech-Language Sciences** – Colorado Department of Education (\$90,344): *State Program Improvement Grant IHE/CDE Collaboration to SLP Project (continuation funding).*

**Kay Ferrell, Professor of Special Education** – Pennsylvania College of Optometry (\$100,230): *National Center for Leadership in Visual Impairment (continuation funding).*

**Catherine Gardiner, Director, School of Biological Sciences, Rick Adams, Associate Professor of Biology, Gregory DeKrey, Assistant Professor of Biology, and Robert Reinsvold, Lecturer in Biological Sciences** – U.S. National Science Foundation (\$750,000): *Strategies to Enhance Recruitment and Retention of Biology Majors at the University of Northern Colorado.*

**Reid Hayward, Associate Professor of Sport and Exercise Science** – National Institutes of Health-National Cancer Institute (\$306,020): *Exercise and the Attenuation of Chronic Doxorubicin Cardiotoxicity.*

**William Hoyt, Director, School of Chemistry, Earth Science, and Physics** – Colorado State University (\$62,596): *Title II-B Math and Science Partnerships.*

**Susan Keenan, Assistant Professor of Biology** – NIH-NIAID Rocky Mountain Regional Centers of Excellence (\$300,000): *Development and Optimization of Novel Anti-Flavivirus Compounds.*

**Susan Keenan** – University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (\$44,103): *Evaluation of PEG-MTIP Inhibitors in Plasmodium falciparum Growth.*

**Phil Klein, Associate Professor of Geography** – Association of American Geographers (\$129,347): *Developing an Online Center for Global Geography (Phase Two).*

**Phil Klein** – National Geographic Education Foundation (\$105, 813): *Rebuilding a Statewide Network for Geography Educators (Year 3).*

**Phil Klein** – National Sciences Foundation (\$496,481): *The Online Center for Global Geography Education.*

**Leilani Johnson, Director, DOIT Center** – Various Agencies (\$357,000): *Educational Interpreting Certificate Program.*

**Leilani Johnson** – Colorado State University-Northridge (\$120,000): *PEPNet West Outreach Site.*

**Leilani Johnson** – State of Louisiana (\$320,982): *Louisiana Educational Interpreting Project.*

**Dana Landry, Associate Professor of Music** – Colorado Council on the Arts (\$18,000): *38th Annual UNC/ Greeley Jazz Festival.*

**Debra Leners, Director, School of Nursing** – U.S. Department of Health and Human Services-HRSA (\$31,115): *Professional Nurse Traineeship.*

**Robin Macaluso** – Assistant Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry – Argonne National Laboratory (\$11,776): *Development of Metallic Single Crystal Growth Facility.*

**Steve Mackessy, Professor of Biological Sciences** – Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (\$52,100). *New Compounds from Snake Venoms: A Proteomics Approach toward the Development of Drugs from Toxins.*

**Madeline Milian, Professor of Bilingual/ESL Education** – Georgetown University (\$145,800): *Professional Development for Teachers in Central American and the Caribbean.*



**Tracy Mueller, Assistant Professor of Special Education** – Colorado Department of Education (\$18,000): *Promoting Effective Parent Teacher Partnerships (continuation funding).*

**David Musick, Professor of Sociology** – Weld County (\$103,400): *Interagency Oversight Group Evaluation Project.*

**Lori Reinsvold, Director of Technology, and Jodie Novak, Associate Professor of Mathematical Science** – Weld County School District 6 (\$157,665): *Weld County School District 6 Math Science Partnership.*

**Eric Rennaker, Director, César Chávez Cultural Center** – U.S. Department of Education (\$1,000,000): *Upward Bound Program.*

**Julie Robinson, Assistant Professor of English** – National Writing Project (\$5,000): *Rocky Mountain Writing Project.*

**Lisa Rue, Assistant Professor of Applied Statistics and Research Methods** – Pal Tech, Inc. (\$28,304): *Quarterly Research Update for Community-Based Abstinence Education Training, Technical Assistance and Capacity Building Contract.*

**Lisa Rue** – Earle School District (\$225,000): *Earle School District Community Based Abstinence Education Evaluation.*

**Lisa Rue** – Friends First (\$90,000): *Adolescent Family Demonstration Project (year 1).*

**Tony Schountz, Assistant Professor of Microbiology** – Colorado State University (\$88,000): *Development of Immunological Models of Deer Mice, Hamsters, and Bats (year 3).*

**Connie Stewart, Assistant Professor of Visual Arts** – Colorado Office of Economic Development & International Trade (\$100,000): *Center for Integrated Arts Education Partnership.*

**Robbyn Wacker, Assistant Vice President for Research and Extended Studies and Dean of the Graduate School** – Weld County Department of Social Services (\$69,120): *Building Healthy Marriages Evaluation.*

**Robert Walch, Professor of Physics, and Cynthia Galovich, Professor of Physics** – University of Colorado at Boulder (\$9,250): *Undergraduate Research and Education in Space Science.*

**Jennifer Weber, Associate Professor of Audiology** – Siemens Hearing Instruments (\$10,000): *Examining the Patient Benefits and Satisfaction for a Modification of the NAL-NLI Fitting Algorithm.*

**Michael Welsh, Professor of History** – U.S. Department of Education (\$1,238,816): *The Four Corners Paraprofessional Education Project Professional Development Program.*

## Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

## Accomplishments

**Recent Conference Highlights**

In January 2008, Professors of Music **Diane Bolden-Taylor** and **Charlotte Mills** were invited to present a vocal/lecture recital at the 6th Annual Hawaii Conference on the Arts and the Humanities. Their recital, *Songs of Freedom and Faith from Slavery to the 1960's*, featured works from William Grant Still, Margaret Bonds, H.T. Burleigh, and Jester Hairston.

McNair Scholars **Tasha Bryant** and **Traci Parry** received research presentation awards at the 13th Annual SAEOPP/UTK McNair Scholars Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. This marks the third year in a row that UNC McNair Scholars have been recognized at the national conference for excellence in research.

The University of Northern Colorado was well represented at the 27th annual convention of the National Academy of Neuropsychology in November 2007. Professors of School Psychology **Rik Carl D'Amato** and **Achilles Bardos**, together with six current students and seven program graduates, accounted for nine presentations at this year's convention. A complete list of the presentations may be found at [www.unco.edu/cebs/news/student\\_presents.html](http://www.unco.edu/cebs/news/student_presents.html).

Instruction Librarians and Assistant Professors **Lyda Ellis** and **Annie Epperson** travelled to Savannah, Georgia, in early November to present a poster entitled *Positioned for Partnership: Collaborating with Academic Librarians* at the Association of American Colleges and Universities "Network for Academic Renewal" conference. The poster was well-received, drawing a crowd of curious faculty, student support staff, academic advisors, and administrators with questions about the role of the library in collaborative programs. Because only one other session included library personnel, Ellis and Epperson were somewhat unique among the 180 conferees.

CHE staff members **Cynthia Mitchell**, Coordinator of Reading and Writing, and **Will Helling**, Coordinator of Technology, delivered a presentation on their linked multimedia curriculum in English 122 and Educational Technology 100 at the National Conference for Teachers of English. The collaborative curriculum requires students to research, write, direct, produce, and edit films which are then screened at the end of each semester. Mitchell and Helling were co-presenters with Marjorie Lerner, co-director of the Critical Friends Group.

**CEBS Faculty Receive National Awards**

**Diane Bassett**, Professor of Special Education, earned the prestigious Oliver P. Kolstoe Award for her work on the transition to adulthood in youth with disabilities. The Council for Exceptional Children's Division on Career Development and Transition presents the award to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the field of career development and transition through means other than direct classroom instruction. The award is named in recognition of Oliver P. Kolstoe, a founding member and past president of the Division on Career Development and Transition, whose early research and publications significantly shaped the field of transition.

The National Federation of the Blind of Colorado recognized **Kay Ferrell**, Professor of Special Education and Executive Director of the National Center on Severe and Sensory Disabilities, with the 2007 Ray McGeorge Award in honor of her service and work in the field of education for the blind. Ferrell was presented with the award at the Colorado federation's 53rd annual convention October 6 in Denver. The National Federation of the Blind is the largest membership organization of blind people in the nation.

**Three Appointed by Governor Ritter**

**Reo Leslie** was recently appointed by Governor Bill Ritter to a two year term on the Commission on Criminal and Juvenile Justice. Leslie is an adjunct faculty member in Africana Studies and director of the Colorado School for Family Therapy. Experts in criminal justice, corrections, mental health, drug abuse, victims' rights, higher education and local government make up the 12-member commission. The group reports to the governor, legislature, and the chief justice of the State Supreme Court on issues involving analysis of Colorado's criminal code, sentencing laws, prevention programs and other facets of the criminal justice system.

**Eugene Sheehan**, Dean of the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences, was appointed by Governor Bill Ritter to the P-20 Education Council. Convened in August 2007, the council was formed to address state educational systems from pre-school through graduate school. The Council's charge is to recommend strategies for aligning educational programs to regional needs. As a Council member, Sheehan also serves on the Educator Recruitment, Preparation, and Retention sub-committee.

**Karen Turner**, Assistant Professor of Accounting, has been

# Accomplishments

## Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

appointed by Colorado Governor Bill Ritter to a four-year term on the Colorado State Board of Accountancy. The board is responsible for regulating the certified public accounting profession in Colorado, including identifying, examining, and licensing qualified accounting practitioners and firms.

### Hispanic Studies Faculty Receive National Recognition

Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, bestowed the Premio Minaya Alvar-Fanez award to **Efrain Garza**, Assistant Professor of Spanish and Hispanic Studies. The award is given each year by Sigma Delta Pi in recognition for excellence as a chapter advisor.

In addition to Garza's award, UNC's Pi Zeta Chapter of Sigma Delta Pi was also recognized for its ranking in the top ten honor chapters.

Introduction a la Literatura Hispanica, a course taught by Hispanic Studies Professor **Ester Gonzalez**, was recently named one of the top ten Spanish Literature courses in the nation by the College Board Advanced Placement Course Study. In her class, Gonzalez introduces contemporary writers of theater, novels, short stories and poetry. Through its selection as one of the top courses in the nation, the class has been designated a best practice course in Spanish Literature and will serve as a content and pedagogy model for National Advanced Placement high school courses.

### PVA Faculty Accomplishments

**Andrew Dahlke**, Assistant Professor of Music, recently joined the nationally acclaimed Capitol Quartet, a saxophone ensemble that performs regularly throughout the United States. In fall 2007, the quartet conducted a jazz and quartet clinic at Elon University in North Carolina, performed with the Indianapolis Symphony, and performed the Philip Glass Saxophone Quartet with the Peoria Symphony in Illinois.

**Galen Darrough**, Professor of Music, has been elected president of the Southwestern Division of the American Choral Directors Association (ACDA) for 2008-2010. The Southwestern Division encompasses seven states and hosts



Ester Gonzalez

an annual convention that features music clinics, presentations, and performances by honor choirs from across the nation. Planning the 2010 convention will be Darrough's key priority as president of the division.

**David Grapes**, Director of the School of Theatre Arts and Dance, premiered *Simply Simone: The Music of Nina Simone* at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro in February 2008. A new musical revue, the show's music ranges from gospel to rock and roll and features Simone classics such as "The Look of Love" and "Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood."

**Dana Landry**, Associate Professor of Music, and Assistant Professors of Music Jim White and Erik Applegate premiered a new work at the International Association for Jazz Education in Toronto. The three professors have also recorded a new CD that will be released in summer 2008.

**Jim White**, Assistant Professor of Music, performed with bluegrass artist Alison Krauss at the 2007 Country Music Association Awards show in November 2007. White spent the previous summer touring with Krauss and her band Union Station, logging in 43 shows, including the Eric Clapton Crossroads festival.

### MCB Faculty Accomplishments

**Cynthia Evans**, Executive Professor and Director of the Monfort Executive Professor Program, received a Distinguished Alumni Award on October 12, 2007. Evans is a 1973 graduate of the University of Northern Colorado's journalism program. Nominators praised her for bringing business leadership traits and experiences to the classroom, commenting, "Cynthia is clearly an outstanding role model for UNC's business students. You can always count on her to participate and she delivers every time."

The Colorado Society of Certified Public Accountants recently honored **Ron Reed**, Professor of Accounting, as an "everyday hero." He received the award in recognition of his dedication to students, his enthusiasm, and his efforts to give back to the profession. In particular, he was cited for his work in helping "to place legions of accounting students in professional positions." The award was presented at the annual "CPAs Make a Difference" event in November 2007.

### Moore to Serve as Guest Editor

A special edition of *New Directions in Higher Education* will feature instructional designer **Stephanie Moore** from the Center for the Enhancement of Teaching and Learning as

guest editor and will include articles from UNC faculty and other institutions based on the CETL Ethics in Education presentation from last year. Moore, who holds her doctorate in Educational Technology, has extensive experience in creating online learning environments, assessment of learning, and instructional design.

**UNC Library Accomplishments**

**Lisa Blankenship**, Head of Reference Services, was appointed Chair of the Art Libraries Society of North America, Mountain West Chapter.

**Jayati Chaudhuri**, Assistant Professor and Science Reference Librarian, published a book review on *Wikis: Tools for*

*Information Work and Collaboration* in the journal *Online Information Review*.

**Jennifer Leffler**, Assistant Professor and Technical Services Librarian, was appointed to the Colorado State Library's Acquisition of Internet Resources Statewide Advisory Taskforce.

**Stephen Luttmann**, Associate Professor and Music Librarian, published two prefaces (German/English) for scores in the "Repertoire Explorer" series (Musikproduktion Jürgen Höflich, Munich).

**Bette Rathe**, Associate Professor and Education Reference Librarian, became a member of the JSTOR Education Journal Content Advisory Group.

Stories Continued

**Financial Aid Working to Reduce Financial Barriers for Students**

The Financial Aid Office initiated two new strategies that resulted in 175 students receiving additional grant aid, making it possible for these students to continue their education at UNC. Students owing money by the end of fall semester 2007 were contacted, and 100 of these were found to be eligible for additional grant funding.

An additional 75 students with no Expected Family Contribution (EFC) were offered new or additional grants to cover the cost of tuition, fees, room and board. The Expected Family Contribution is based on a formula provided by the federal government that determines a family's ability to contribute to a student's cost of education. The Financial Aid Office is also increasing its involvement in recruitment activities to ensure that students and their families are well informed regarding financial aid options and processes.

*Continued from Cover*

**Microbiology Professor Investigating Hantavirus**

Schountz, working in partnership with Brian Hjelle from the University of New Mexico, has discovered a special immune cell in deer mice that produces a protein which suppresses the inflammatory immune responses that lead to illness in humans.

It may be possible to develop a treatment from the protein molecule produced by the mice which could be injected into humans. Schountz intends to continue his work by investigating whether the process that occurs in deer mice is also present in other rodent species.

*Continued from Page 7*

**Enrollment Services Getting a New Look**

More changes are on the way with a renovation to the Registrar's Office. The purpose of the remodeling is to provide improved service to students in addressing complex, detailed registration and student record issues.

**Student Editor of Academic Affairs Newsletter**

Crystal White, a senior journalism major, is the student editor for the 2007-2008 Academic Affairs Newsletter. White brings creative ideas and a passion for writing to the Provost's staff. She hopes the newsletter can bring to light the great achievements throughout the University of Northern Colorado campus.

The Academic Affairs Newsletter is published twice yearly. Send comments or future articles to Jane Graff, Office of the Provost, University of Northern Colorado, Box 9, Greeley, CO 80639. Email: jane.graff@unco.edu.



University of Northern Colorado

# BEARINGS



ACADEMIC AFFAIRS NEWSLETTER

Winter 2008



UNC Teacher Program Awarded  
Christa McAuliffe Award



## IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Provost .....	2
Around Campus .....	2
Recent Grants .....	8
Accomplishments .....	9



University of Northern Colorado  
Office of the Provost  
501 20th Street, Greeley, CO 80639

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 21  
EVANS, CO