



UNIVERSITY OF  
**NORTHERN  
COLORADO**

Office of the Provost

TO: President Andy Feinstein  
UNC Board of Trustees

FROM: Mark R. Anderson, Provost and Senior VP for Academic Affairs

RE: Sabbatical Leave Approvals for 2021-22

DATE: February 1, 2021

In accordance with the University of Northern Colorado Board of Trustees Policy Manual 2-3-1001, twenty-five members of the faculty have been approved for a sabbatical leave during the 2021-22 academic year.

Total Applications: 25

Total Recommended: 25

Fall 2021: 7  
Spring 2022: 10  
Acad. Yr. 21/22: 8

College	Approved
Education & Behavioral Sciences	7
Humanities & Social Sciences	6
Monfort College of Business	1
Natural & Health Sciences	3
Performing & Visual Arts	7
University Libraries	1
<b>Totals</b>	<b>25</b>

The following sabbatical titles and summaries were provided by faculty during the application process.



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Office of the Provost

**Sabbatical Leave Proposals  
Academic Year 2021-22**

**College of Education and Behavioral Sciences**

**Molly Jameson** (Spring)

*School of Psychological Sciences*

Title: A Program of Research: Developing a New Line and Continuing Expertise

Summary: This leave will provide time to 1) develop and submit a grant proposal exploring the role of faculty learning communities in pedagogical change and student learning, and 2) complete and submit two manuscripts with student coauthors. Both projects involve mentoring student researchers, focus on conducting and disseminating high-quality research, and bring recognition to UNC.

**Heng-Yu Ku** (Fall)

*School of Teacher Education*

Title: Professional Growth and Renewal as a Teacher-Scholar by Engaging in a Visiting Scholar Program, Educational Research, and Collaborative Publications

Summary: My sabbatical leave is to devote efforts to the following endeavors. 1). Participate in the Fulbright Specialist Program and be a visiting scholar overseas, 2). Complete a research study that focuses on educational technology competencies for pre-service teachers, and 3). Collaborate with UNC students on research projects and publications.

**Maria Lahman** (Academic Year)

*Department of Applied Statistics and Research Methods*

Title:

Summary: This proposal reflects a line of research in all stages, from data collection to dissemination, consultation as a visiting scholar, creation of a textbook titled *Qualitative Research—Becoming Culturally Responsive Researchers* and methodological articles, and continued professional development as a methodologist. The projects, reflecting activities beyond the standard workload expectation, are focused on research methodology as appropriate to my role at the university. I will be a visiting scholar at Eastern Mennonite University (EMU). I will conduct original research employing in-depth narrative interviews with professional women who transitioned to working from their home full-time and had children, aged birth-18, also in their home during the COVID-19 pandemic. This research builds on past scholarship of mine on parenting. Through this research, I will also explore methodological issues in visual and virtual research since I will gather information about virtual experiences during COVID-19 and photos and mementos representing the participants' experiences.

**Madeline Milian (Spring)**

*School of Teacher Education*

Title: Diverse Learners and their Teachers: National and International Perspectives

Summary: The sabbatical leave will allow me to concentrate on the preparation of teachers who work in diverse educational settings. More specifically, I will expand on my previous work which connects emergent bilinguals' linguistic and cultural trajectories as a vehicle for pre-service teachers to engage on the design of effective practices that lead to academic growth.

**Eric Peterson (Fall)**

*School of Psychological Sciences*

Title: Writing a textbook entitled: *Understanding Childhood Maltreatment: A Developmental Science Perspective*

Summary: The proposed sabbatical will advance the writing of a textbook, unique among those in the market, entitled *Understanding Childhood Maltreatment: A Developmental Science Perspective*. We expect to complete the background research and four to five more chapters during the sabbatical period.

**Marilyn Welsh (Fall)**

*School of Psychological Sciences*

Title: Writing the textbook entitled *Understanding Childhood Maltreatment: A Developmental Science Perspective*

Summary: The proposed sabbatical will advance the writing of a textbook, unique among those on the market, entitled "Understanding Childhood Maltreatment: A Developmental Science Perspective." My colleague and I will write four to five chapters, as well as continue to shop the book proposal to publishers and agents.

**Stephen Wright (Spring)**

*Department of Applied Psychology and Counselor Education*

Title: Developing Effective Grant Writing Skills and Learning Technology App Based Research and Intervention Skills

Summary: Following the teacher-scholar model, I am proposing to complete two scholarship projects. Both projects will enhance my professional growth and renewal, as well as enhance students' educational experiences and benefit the university. These include: 1) developing grant writing skills by submitting a multiyear grant; and 2) learning app based research and intervention skills by completing an empirical study to be submitted for publication.

**College of Humanities and Social Sciences**

**Karen Barton (Academic Year)**

*Department of Geography, GIS, and Sustainability*

Title: Rwanda's Sustainability Leadership: Zero Plastic Bags in the Land of One Thousand Hills

Summary: My sabbatical leave project will encompass three tasks: (1) collect four months of archival and interview data in Rwanda on the nation's key environmental policies related to green growth and plastics pollution; (2) analyze field data from all five provinces and write half of chapters for newly proposed monograph; (3) submit book proposal to a publisher specializing in Africa and/or sustainability education.

This research builds upon my recent book publication in Senegal, “Africa’s Joola Shipwreck: Causes and Consequences of a Humanitarian Disaster” (in print January 2021, Rowman & Littlefield – Lexington Imprint).

**Kenneth Chan** (Spring)

*Department of English*

Title: The Posthuman Fantastic in Contemporary Cinemas

Summary: I plan on producing a book manuscript exploring posthumanism and how it helps us understand science fiction cinema and the fantastic. The project will focus on animality, ecology, inorganic life, digitality, and artificial intelligence. My status as an actively publishing academic will enhance the scholarly standing of the university. The knowledge I acquire will also allow me to offer cutting-edge courses for the film studies program and the Department of English.

**James Doerner** (Fall)

*Department of Geography, GIS, and Sustainability*

Title: Response of High Elevation Limber Pine to Climate Change in Rocky Mountain National Park

Summary: I will investigate the impacts of climate change on limber pine in Rocky Mountain National Park (RMNP). I expect the findings to produce multiple scholarly products and classroom data sets. This can raise UNC's visibility as RMNP is one of the most visited parks in the National Park System.

**Thomas Endres** (Spring)

*Department of Communication Studies*

Title: Cosplay, Community, and the Construction of Self: Using Symbolic Convergence Theory to Investigate Rhetorical Visions of Cosplayers

Summary: Building upon previous photo-ethnographies (bikers, tattooed people) this long overdue investigation of cosplayers emphasizes narratives of representation. Building upon Endres' longstanding applications of Bormann's Symbolic Convergence Theory, this work puts UNC at the forefront of cultural investigation, providing content for both widespread presentation and COMM's increasing focus on popular culture.

**Stan Luger** (Spring)

*Department of Political Science and International Affairs*

Title: The Public-Private Dynamics of Corporate Power

Summary: A book that offers a reinterpretation of the public and private aspects of corporate power which includes topics such as lobbying and campaign contributions, but also market concentration, antitrust doctrine and enforcement, at will employment, and corporate personhood which lie outside my discipline. The knowledge gained will enhance my courses, professional growth and discipline.

**Robert Weis** (Academic Year)

*Department of History*

Title: Historical Writing: An Act of Empathy

Summary: Research scholarship on teaching and learning history in order to develop a manual for historical analysis and writing; observe teaching and classroom activities in high schools to attain

understanding of the skills and preparation students have upon entering college. Book will address university students directly, but will also be designed for history instructors.

### **Monfort College of Business**

**Mehrgan Mostowfi** (Academic Year)

*Department of Computer Information Systems*

Title: Scaling Sleep-Capable Network Links, and Other Contributions

Summary: The goals are to enhance scholarly activity in the field of energy-efficient networks, explore two research areas, and design a new course. The first and second goals help professional growth and contribute to the knowledge in the discipline, and the third enhances students' educational experience. All goals contribute to enhancing the University's reputation.

### **College of Natural and Health Sciences**

**Graham Baird** (Academic Year)

*Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences*

Title: Revision of the "Introduction to Mineralogy" textbook and submission of a manuscript to a high-impact factor international journal on the tectonics of the eastern Adirondacks

Summary: The purpose of the sabbatical will be to revise a mineralogy textbook and to submit a manuscript to a peer-reviewed journal on the tectonics of the Adirondacks. Professional growth is evidenced by undertaking the novel task of textbook revision and application of new research techniques. New knowledge in the discipline will be provided through the journal article. Students at UNC and worldwide will be benefited by the revised textbook and UNC students will be benefited by the class content that stem from the research paper. The University's reputation will be enhanced through its connection to the top mineralogy text and through facilitating the widely disseminated, peer-reviewed publication.

**David Lerach** (Academic Year)

*Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences*

Title: Investigating Air Quality and Pollution Impacts on Precipitation Systems in the Alps as a Teacher-Scholar in Trento

Summary: My purpose is to teach and conduct research at the University of Trento. The experience will enhance UNCO's reputation in science education through international faculty and student collaborations, yield a student mentorship program, broaden my teaching, provide socio-economic benefits to northern Italy, and result in professional publications and external grants.

**Jodie Novak** (Academic Year)

*School of Mathematical Sciences*

Title: Teaching Experiments to Improve the Mathematical Preparation of Pre-service Secondary Mathematics Teachers

Summary: My sabbatical is to 1) engage in research that results in materials for preparing secondary math teachers; 2) develop a grant to fund research that results in materials for preparing secondary math

teachers; 3) develop expertise in teaching experiment methodology; and, 4) mentor graduate students in grant writing and research.

### **College of Performing and Visual Arts**

#### **Erik Applegate** (Academic Year)

*School of Music*

Title: An original book of exercises and études based on the music of a diverse group of bassists.

Summary:

The original exercises and études will be based on players diverse in race, gender, nationality and age.

Unique in concept and content, it will advance knowledge and enhance the University's reputation. Personal

growth will be an increase in my musical skills and knowledge which will positively impact our students experience.

#### **Jonathan Bellman** (Spring)

*School of Music*

Title: \*Transcultural Music and Its Discontents\*, a book for which I am under contract with Oxford University Press

Summary: I intend to spend my sabbatical semester finishing my next book, which will be something of a culmination of my work over the past thirty-plus years on musical exoticisms. This project, tentatively titled *Transcultural Music and Its Discontents*, will begin with an overview of the historical trends and patterns in the critical reception of "transcultural" or "polycultural" musics, including musical exoticism and amalgams of popular and concert music styles. The situation I seek to address is the way that an unabashed love for "exotic" or "characteristic" concert music shared by performers and audiences alike exists side by side with a kind of supercilious dismissal or even open contempt for such music in the Critical Realm (particularly within the areas of Cultural Criticism and Post-Colonial Studies). Having identified and sketched out the origins and development of this critical stance, I will then offer perhaps four detailed, chapter-length studies demonstrating how "national" elements can provide the basis for an informed musical analysis, rather than being considered an embarrassing stylistic sidelight.

#### **Melissa Malde** (Spring)

*School of Music*

Title: Art Song in Hebrew Website and Vocal Teaching Toolbox

Summary: 1) Enhance UNC's reputation by founding SingInHebrew.com, a website that will provide educational and performance materials on classical art songs in Hebrew. 2) Enhance students' educational experience by codifying and synthesizing knowledge I have gained in the disciplines of Vocal Pedagogy and Body Mapping into a teaching toolbox e-book.

#### **Andrea Moon** (Spring)

*School of Theatre Arts and Dance*

Title: Radical Generosity: A Manual for Teaching Movement in the 21st Century

Summary: On my sabbatical leave I will be completing the final stages of research for my book *Radical Generosity: A Manual for Teaching Movement in the 21st Century*, completing a prospectus and writing the first three chapters to submit for publication.

**Lei Weng (Spring)**

*School of Music*

Title: Research and perform piano duo transcriptions of Taiwanese traditional music; translate Josef Lhevinne's *Basic Principles in Pianoforte Playing* to Chinese

Summary: My sabbatical leave project will encompass two tasks: (1) Research and perform piano duo transcriptions of Taiwanese traditional music; (2) translate Josef Lhevinne's *Basic Principles in Pianoforte Playing* to Chinese. These sabbatical activities will: 1) enhance my professional growth by conducting research and performance on an underserved musical genre, and translating an influential piano book to Chinese; 2) advance my knowledge in the discipline through studying new piano repertoire, musical genre, and principles of piano playing by a distinguished pianist; 3) enrich students' educational experience via introducing relevant musical genre, pedagogical principles, and new piano compositions to my classes; and 4) expand UNC's international reputation by conducting research and performance in Taiwan, and translating an English piano book to Chinese.

**William Wilson (Fall)**

*School of Music*

Title: Travel to Europe to ensure UNC European Summer Opera Sustainability, Professional Performances in Germany and Holland

Summary: 1) Restructure the UNC European Summer Opera Program to ensure sustainability: renew contacts in Germany that make the program possible, and integrate UNC's Director of CIE into the structure of program. These efforts enhance students' educational experience and knowledge in the discipline. 2) Professional performances in Germany: Nabucco in Nabucco, Alcindoro in La Cenerentola and Baritone Solo, Beethoven 9<sup>th</sup>. Recitals in Wiesbaden, Darmstadt, Bad Schwalbach. Performances enhance professional growth. 3) Visit UNC graduates who are professional musicians in Germany: obtain videos and testimonials for use on the UNC/PVA website. Enhances UNC's reputation and ability to recruit.

**Adam Zukiewicz (Fall)**

*School of Music*

Title: Beethoven in the Rockies, Chopin Unknown, and Concertos

Summary: This project will have three components that will directly enhance my professional growth as an artist, educator, and community-engaged musician. Through the Beethoven project I will create a community focused concert series based at UNC's Campus Commons. This will also become a major recruiting opportunity for my unit, and will be advertised state-wide, reaching 6+ mln people, enhancing UNC's reputation.

Chopin Unknown project will focus on preparing lecture and recital of his recently discovered study works and present their influence on his late masterpieces. The project will culminate in a series of concerts and lectures presenting the research, ending with a concert at the prestigious New York's Carnegie Hall.

Concertos component of the project will allow me to learn 4 concertos during my sabbatical and prepare the commissioned piano concerto by Chinese-Canadian composer Wendy Lee. These concertos will be performed with orchestras in Colorado, some of which are already scheduled.

All proposed components will enhance my students' development and enhance university's reputation. Please see the detailed proposal for more information.

## **University Libraries**

**Jennifer Mayer (Fall)**

Title: Open Educational Resources (OER): Student and faculty impacts

Summary: My proposal focuses on the impacts and perceptions of open educational resources on teaching and learning, with the goals of adding to the body of student-centered research and examining the faculty perspective. I would create an OER Faculty Learning Community, which would be a model for other universities.