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September 2020 Newsletter

UNC Greensboro's outlet for engagement and outreach spotlights, announcements, upcoming events, funding opportunities, publications, resources, and more.

Director's Note

Times of change and crisis require more of us than ever. As we encounter manifold choices, we can begin to suffer from decision fatigue, the exhaustion of having to make so many decisions that even small ones (what to eat for dinner?) can seem overwhelming. Right when we need our energy the most, it can feel sapped. How do we advance not just the moment, but the movement? How do we practice *wise effort*? ICEE is here to support you and your partnerships as you work to discern your wisdom for this movement. In the coming days, we will be offering opportunities for shared learning and mutual support. Please reach out with questions, ideas, and requests. We are here for you, our community.

Sincerely,
Emily M. Janke, PhD
Director



From the Vice Chancellor

Community Engagement is important at any time but especially in the times we find ourselves. The expectation and responsibility of a minority-serving, public university to partner in authentic ways with our community has never been greater. UNCG is committed to how community engagement contributes to knowledge, student, and regional transformation and appreciates the ongoing contributions of our faculty, staff, and students, especially in light of the challenges facing us at this moment.

In this together,
Terri Shelton, PhD
Vice Chancellor of Research and Engagement



Welcome to Erica Wrencher

ICEE welcomes Erica as a graduate assistant this year. She is a public educator, speaker, vocalist, and activist working with young folx, churches, and neighborhoods to build beloved communities. Her teaching and faith-rooted community leadership spans urban and rural contexts in North Carolina and Chicago. Erica holds a Bachelor of Arts in History, a Master of Arts in Teaching, and she is currently pursuing a PhD in Educational Leadership and Cultural Foundations. She is active as an organizer for racial equity and justice and considers herself a human connection educator. Erica is committed to speaking from her context as a Black woman who is rooted in history and truth. She enjoys singing, eating good food and drinking good wine with her community and family. Erica is married to her best friend Brandon and they are the parents of two sons, Phillip and Morris.



Feature

LEAP Introduces its Community Board

The LEAP Community Board is comprised of community residents who are interested in amplifying the priorities and interests of their various communities in the research process for topics related to healthy eating and physical activity. Appropriately, the inaugural convening of the board occurred on Feb. 29, 2020, leap day! Board members received training on specific research language and processes, offered feedback about content for a hospital survey, and approved the recommended changes to the LEAP report. After a bit of a hiatus, due to the Covid pandemic, the Board is gathering again, virtually this time, for some strategic planning over the next couple of Saturdays. This year, the board will meet every other month to ask questions, offer feedback, and help guide the foci of future research and programming related to individual and structural topics relevant to healthy eating and physical activity. If you are interested in meeting with the board, please contact LEAP@uncg.edu.



Thomas Ehrlich Civically Engaged Faculty Award

Diya Abdo, Director of the Center for New North Carolinians, received the Thomas Ehrlich Civically Engaged Faculty Award in March 2020. Honorees are recognized for exemplary engaged scholarship, including leadership in advancing students' civic learning, conducting community-based research, fostering reciprocal community partnerships, building institutional commitments to service-learning and civic engagement, and other means of enhancing higher education's contributions to the public good.



Resources

grounded ourselves in the theme of "wise effort during uncertainty" as we continue navigating our partnerships. We heard from three wonderful panelists, Dr. Diya Abdo from the Center for New North Carolinians (CNNC), Andrew Willis Garcés from Siembra NC, and Dr. Terri Shelton from Office of Research and Engagement. They shared insights about dispelling divisive myths and ways to maintain and strengthen our partnerships in these difficult times. The teams also had time to gather in working groups during the kick-off to move forward in their work. Partnerships and Pathways is a scholarship fellows program that spans three years, centers community-engaged practices and outcomes, supports team-based scholarship, and provides professional development to P2 Fellows. Applications are due October 9, 2020. [Apply through InfoReady Review.](#)

Upcoming Deadlines

["Deadlines from the Field" Calendar](#)

Keeping track of conference dates, call for proposals, award deadlines, etc. can be overwhelming. ICEE has designed a resource to help you keep track of these deadlines from the community engagement field. This sharable [calendar](#) is updated regularly to make local, regional, national, and international opportunities more accessible to you. You can view the calendar by visiting our website or add it to your google calendar list for more immediate access.

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[Institute for Community & Economic Engagement](#)

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