

BRONCO NEWS

New Horizons

Second annual Research Student Conference to be held at FSU April 12-13

By Deborah Murph Jacobs

The 2nd annual Fayetteville State University student research conference is planned for April 12-13 in the Capel Arena. This year's theme "New Horizons" is designed to showcase the collaborations in scholarship and research between the students and faculty.

Students and faculty from a variety of disciplines will present their research at the conference. This event is open to all majors. There will also be panel discussions to share experiences and give advice about selected career paths.

"Students should attend the conference because it gives them an opportunity to learn information that will contribute to their development as twenty-first century scholars," said Dr. Stacye Blount, sociology professor. "Oftentimes, it is outside classroom experiences that have the most impact on student learning."

The keynote speakers for this year's conference are Dr. Kelly Mack and Dr. Garfield Warren.

Dr. Mack will be the opening keynote speaker on Friday. She has taught physiology and endocrinology for 17 years at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. She is also the executive director of the non-profit organization Project Kaleidoscope, which focuses on STEM undergraduate education.

Dr. Warren is a Fayetteville native, the first African American to achieve a physics PhD from University of Georgia, and is currently a professor at Indiana University at Bloomington. His research specialty is condense matter physics. He is scheduled to speak April 13.

The conference is sponsored by The Graduate School and HBCU Master's Degree STEM program and funded by a Title III grant from the US Department of Education.

There were approximately 200 students and faculty to participate in last year's event and it is expected to be a bigger turnout this year. Registration is currently \$25 for FSU students, \$50 for FSU faculty, \$45 for non-FSU students, and \$60 for non-FSU faculty.

For more information, contact FSUStudentResearchConference@uncfsu.edu.

STUDENTS ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN FSU SURVEY ABOUT LGBT ATTITUDES ON CAMPUS

FSU students have been asked to participate in a survey to "examine the cultural climate for sexual minorities on campus," according to an FSU campus e-mail.

Questions about the survey and link to the survey should be directed to Dr. Samantha Daniel an assistant professor of Psychology at sdaniel@uncfsu.edu.

CORRECTION: In the March 20 issue, The Voice indicated that Residence Life was responsible for the new policy requiring students living in dorms to take a drug and alcohol class to educate them about the potential harmful effects of substance use.

Student Affairs is responsible for the policy. Residence Life implements the program.

The program, which is being piloted at UPA this year, will be extended to the rest of the campus next year if it is successful, said Edwin Ware, resident director of Residence Life.

The program is being widely used by universities across the country.

VA Tuition Restored

The military's tuition assistance program has been saved from Congressional budget cuts.

The program, which has provided up to \$4,500 in the past to service members for annual college tuition costs, will be reinstated. However, military officials are uncertain when the funding will be restored, according to an article in Stars and Stripes by Leo Shane III.

Students already enrolled should not have any issues with receiving funds, but new enrollments are on hold, Shane III reported.

NC Democratic Senator Kay Hagan was instrumental in getting the tuition assistance program reinstated.

UNC FUNDING CUTS

Colleges in the University of North Carolina system, including Fayetteville State University, may be affected by the most recent set of state budget cuts.

Republican Governor Pat McCrory proposed \$143 million of cuts across the UNC system, which would potentially translate into a 6 percent budget cut to FSU, according to fayobserver.com.

McCrory also mentioned the possibility of closing or consolidating programs and/or schools in the UNC system, which includes 17 institutions.

McCrory recently found himself under fire after he publicly attacked liberal arts programs in favor of more vocationally oriented programs, but later clarified his statements to suggest that state funds to universities should be directly tied to employment rates post graduation.

US JUSTICES REVIEW GAY MARRIAGE

US Supreme Court justices took pause last week when arguments began as to whether gay couples who wish to marry are constitutionally protected.

According to reports in the NY Times, Washington Post, CNN and other major news outlets, Justices entered into a discussion about dismissing the case to allow states to have more control over gay marriage decisions.

However, the Justices moved forward and are currently reviewing California's proposition 8, a Defense of Marriage Act bill, which does not legally recognize or permit gay marriage, as well as an older DOMA case.

A US Supreme Court decision on the case is expected some time this summer, according to kqed.org, a California public media outlet.

Gay couples are not permitted to legally marry in NC. NC voters passed Amendment One, a DOMA ban on gay marriage, in 2012.