



The [Office for Undergraduate Research](#) newsletter is published two times per month to share news about undergraduate research at UNC, relevant events, accomplishments of our students and faculty, and more. For additional information, please visit our website at www.unc.edu/depts/our or email us at our@unc.edu.

November 1, 2012

OUR News	OUR Events
<p><i>OUR Blog:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• SURF Recipient Jessica Kennedy discusses her work on hunger and food studies.• Read about Layla Quaran's SURF research on the arts and Palestine. <p><i>GRC Blog:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consider the latest Thoughtbite and participate in our conversation on pedagogy.• GRC Ryan Frazer describes undergraduate field research in the geological sciences. <p><i>OUR People:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Meet Terah Crews, 2007 SURF recipient and UNC alum. <p><i>OUR News:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Just in time for registration: A tentative list of Spring 2013 research-exposure course is now available. Additional courses will be added in mid-December. <p><i>Other Events and News:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The Southern Oral History Project held a Celebration of Summer Undergraduate Oral History Engagement and Research on October 24, 2012.• Abstract submission for the April 5-6, 2013 Big South Undergraduate Research Symposium opens November 1.• The Center for Faculty Excellence offers its annual Faculty Showcase on November 2.• UNC Global is sponsoring its annual "Get-A-Passport Drive" on November 6 and 7 from 10:00 to 3:00 in the FedEx Global Education Center. US Department of State officials will be present and you can also have your passport photos taken on site. More details about required materials and payment can be found at: http://global.unc.edu/passportdrive.	<p>SURF Information Session <i>Tuesday, November 13, 2012</i> <i>5:30-7pm</i> <i>Frank Porter Graham Student Union</i> <i>Room 3408</i></p> <p>Are you considering applying for a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship this summer? Join us at our first information session and learn more about the program. You'll hear from former SURF recipients about their experiences and we'll also tell you about the support that is available to help you with your proposal.</p> <p>Writing a Grant Proposal Cosponsored by the Writing Center and Campus Y <i>Wednesday, November 14, 2012; 5:00-6:30 p.m.; SASB-North Room 0127</i></p> <p>Are you working on a funding proposal or considering submitting an abstract to a conference? Do you want to learn how to write a compelling grant and how to describe your research most effectively? Writing Center Director Kim Abels will help you think about framing your project for specific audiences and discuss the multiple strategies and approaches you might consider. Space is limited, so you must <i>RSVP</i> to Dr. Donna Bickford at dbickford@unc.edu.</p> <p>*****</p>

- Are you an undergraduate student working on issues related to Latin America and North Carolina. [Worldview](#) is accepting proposals for seminar presentations until December 14, 2012.

Alumni profile: Terah Crews

Curiosity. That's what started it all for Terah Crews '08. As an undergraduate at UNC, she discovered the archives where she began reading about the experiences of women at UNC before her. As a former high-school drop-out and first generation college student, Terah didn't know anything, she says, about research or academia. It was [Dr. John Sweet](#), who became her faculty mentor, and who encouraged her to apply for a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship. Terah was successful and received a SURF for her 2007 project, "Women's Higher Education in the Early Years of the Progressive Movement in N.C: Influences that shaped early advancements."

Terah credits the SURF experience, which allowed her to concentrate on her project and not have to work during that summer, with starting her career. It inspired her, and made her passionate about history. Of Dr. Sweet she says "he was one of the most influential professors I've ever had." In addition to his early encouragement of her work, he held her to extremely high standards. Terah commented that Dr. Sweet pushed her hard, teaching her to anticipate criticism and to be ready to respond to it.



Terah notes that she was always interested in history, social justice and education. After reading of the experiences of the "firsts" – the first woman, the first

Other Events and News (continued):

The CFE and ITS are pleased to present the 3rd Annual Faculty Showcase on November 2. Presentations by UNC faculty will address effective teaching with technology, flipping the classroom, tools to use for student engagement and other topics of interest. Register [here](#).

SOHP's Celebration of Undergraduate Oral History Engagement and Research highlighted three research projects. Oliver Rose talked about his experience interviewing World War II survivor Major Henry 'Duke' Boswell and shared clips from his documentary film [From North Carolina to Normandy](#). In her project *Invisible Help: Domestic Work in North Carolina*, Ivanna Gonzalez discussed the interviews she conducted with domestic workers and situated their experiences in the [national movement](#) for domestic worker rights. Jacob Sharp's project *Fuji Mountain Breakdown: The Geography of Japanese Bluegrass Music*, traced the bicultural movement of bluegrass music to and from Japan, and included [video of his performances](#) playing in Japan with Japanese bluegrass musicians.



Ivanna Gonzalez presents her research

Are you an undergraduate student working on issues related to Latin America and North Carolina? [World View: An International Program for Educators](#) at UNC at Chapel Hill seeks concurrent session presentation proposals for its annual Latin America and North Carolina Seminar on topics related, but not limited, to Latin America, Latinos living in NC, Latino identity,

African-American, etc., at UNC – she wanted to be one of those visionary leaders and thought obtaining a Ph.D. in History was the best path to achieve her goal. She earned a Master’s at Brown but began to be unsatisfied and frustrated with the “nuts and bolts” of getting a Ph.D. in History. When Terah was conducting her SURF research, she felt like what she was doing really mattered and she wanted to again have that sense that her work would make an impact. After talking with folks at the Graduate School of Education at Harvard, she enrolled in and completed a master’s program in Higher Education. One of the faculty with whom Terah interacted at Harvard was Dr. Judith Block McLaughlin (UNC ’70).

This moment where Terah changed the focus of her graduate study and career path was an exceptionally difficult one for her. She comments that deciding not to move forward with the Ph.D. was the hardest choice she had ever made. However, what it taught her was something she identifies as the greatest skill she’s learned since leaving UNC: you need to know how to “pivot” in life. Terah acknowledges that it’s scary when you decide that one dream isn’t right for you, but that’s also the moment that other opportunities open up and become visible.

Terah is currently a University Innovation Fellow at Arizona State University. This very prestigious and selective 12-month program offers her an opportunity to work in the Office of the President. ASU’s president, [Dr. Michael Crow](#) is, Terah observes, one of the most innovative leaders in higher education. He believes a university can be both excellent and accessible; ASU is committed to open admissions and accepts about 90% of its applicants. In fact, Terah is teaching a group of at-risk, low income ASU students this semester. As with UNC’s own Chancellor Thorp, Crow is a thought leader, incorporating concepts of entrepreneurship and innovation into university operations. Crow also emphasizes the absolutely crucial role of interdisciplinarity. One result of that emphasis was the merger of some traditional departments at ASU; another was the launch of the [Center for Science and the Imagination](#).

Terah described the Innovation Fellows program as a

etc.

Please submit a word document with the following information:

1. Proposed presentation title
2. Description of how the session will be structured, i.e., PPT presentation, lecture, web-based resources, images, hands-on artifacts, group activities, etc. (50-150 words)
3. Summary of research, conclusions, and/or point of view (300-500 words)
4. Additional comments that might assist us in review of your proposal, including relevance to the Seminar theme (maximum of 150 words)
5. Your faculty mentor for this research
6. Name(s) of any co-presenters
7. Presenter name, year of study, major, email address, and phone number

Proposals should be submitted by December 14, 2012. Please submit proposals and any questions via email to Katharine Robinson, Assistant Director for Curriculum, World View (krobinson@unc.edu).

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kind of fast-moving think tank/incubator where the Fellows figure out how to enact the transformative ideas that come across the President's desk. Some of the most recent have been starting a public service academy and funding social justice entrepreneurship projects. Terah also recently coauthored a white paper for Campus Compact entitled [*Engaged Learning Economies: Aligning Civic Engagement and Economic Development in Community-Campus Partnerships*](#); she presented this research to the Campus Compact Presidents Leadership Summit 2012 earlier in October.

Terah says that her degree from UNC is still the degree of which she is most proud. She states: "I was given a chance at UNC and now it's my job to make sure other first generation students have those chances." At some point, Terah will complete her Ph.D. Her future aspirations include senior leadership in higher education, perhaps as a college or university president.

