



CAMPUS WEEKLY

FOR FACULTY AND STAFF

Rep. Miller takes in STEM, tours SOE

November 23, 2011 By Campus Weekly

U.S. Rep. Brad Miller visited UNCG Thursday, Nov. 10, 2011, to meet with faculty and graduate students involved in UNCG's GK-12 program, take a brief tour of the new School of Education Building and participate in a panel lecture titled "Money, Money, Money ... and Politics: Free Speech vs. Campaign Finance Reform." Miller, who represents North Carolina's 13th district in the U.S. Congress, is a member of the Committee on Science and Technology and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight.

Participants in the GK-12 roundtable discussion provided Miller and his staff with an overview of the unique partnership with Guilford County Schools and described the impact the program is having on participants from both UNCG and Guilford County Schools. Several graduate student fellows shared personal stories about how time spent in the K-12 classroom as resident scientists alongside Guilford County Schools teachers has taught them to effectively communicate their research to a wide variety of audiences. These Fellows also described interactive experiments they have used to engage elementary, middle and high school students and develop their interest in science.

Dr. John Lepri, associate professor, Department of Biology, and co-PI of the NSF GK-12 project; Austin Rouse, policy and funding analyst, Office of Government Relations; Mike Tarrant, director of strategic initiatives, Office of Government Relations; and Dr. Julia Jackson-Newsom, special assistant to the vice chancellor, Office of Research and Economic Development also participated in the discussion.

In conjunction with the Teacher Education and Higher Education department in the School of Education, the GK-12 program partners graduate student Fellows from three departmental graduate programs (Biology, Chemistry and Biochemistry, and Geography) with teachers and students at three Guilford County Schools in High Point, NC: Montlieu Elementary, Welborn Academy of Science and Technology and Andrews High School. Formally titled Transforming Minds in a Transitioning Community, the Fellows, teachers and students form discovery teams to scientifically investigate the biological, chemical, physical, health-related, and socioeconomic effects of changing land use patterns in the region.

After the discussion, Dr. Sam Miller, associate dean for academic and student affairs and professor, Department of Education, and Angel Biegert, administrative assistant for facilities, School of Education, gave the congressman a tour of the new School of Education Building.

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CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Faculty Senate meeting

Wednesday, Dec. 7, 3 p.m., Virginia Dare Room, Alumni House

JSNN open house

Thursday, Dec. 8, 9 a.m., 2907 E. Lee St.

Staff Senate meeting

Thursday, Dec. 8, 10 a.m., Cone Ballroom A, EUC

"Climate Refuges," Sustainability Series film

Thursday, Dec. 8, 6:30 p.m., Weatherspoon

"Flannel Shorts," short plays

Friday, Dec. 9, 8 p.m., Brown Building Theatre

Winter commencement

Thursday, Dec. 15, 10 a.m., Coliseum

"Amahl and the Night Visitors," UNCG Opera

Friday, Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m., War Memorial Auditorium

Men's basketball vs. VCU

Thursday, Dec. 22, 7 p.m., Coliseum

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