The CLAS Diversity Program was established by Dean Nancy Gutierrez to promote a climate of diversity. In 2013, UNC Charlotte students came from 97 North Carolina Counties, 45 American states and over 100 countries. Currently, the University has 36% Minority representation, 1300+ International students, 100+ Multicultural student organizations, 34 Religious student organizations and over 200 Courses exploring cultural differences. One element of the CLAS Diversity Program is working with Departmental Diversity Liaisons (DDLs) who provide leadership in diversity research, initiatives, and scholarship. Diversity includes, but is not limited to ability/disability, age, culture, gender, language, race, religion, sexual orientation, and socio-economic status.

Dr. Michael A. Fiddy
Professor of Physics and Optical Science
DDL Initiatives and Projects

Since Fall 2013, DDLs have identified and have been working on a number of diversity-related issues. Our group strives to provide leadership, more resources and information for faculty, staff and students.

Developing website and newsletter content: Rickelle Mason, Ritika Prasad, Mike Fiddy. Student essays: Justin Cary and Christine Germain.

Follow-up on last year’s undergraduate perspectives on diversity in CLAS report (see white paper) Anthony Fernandes

Identifying resources and working with campus & graduate ombuds, comparing with peer institutions’ approaches and guidelines: Mike Fiddy, Nick Caste.

Identifying challenges faced by international faculty and departments (e.g. hiring, retention) Identifying resources and make suggestions: Garth Green.

Working with ADVANCE to obtain diversity in faculty recruitment & retention data (e.g. discipline, gender, race etc.): Judy Aulette.

Working with department review committee, online evaluations and exploring issues of diversity in student evaluation of teaching (SET). Scott Hippensteel, Didier Drea, Christine Germain.

Connecting with student organizations and conveying the importance of diversity in the workplace. Bruce Arrigo, Phil McReynolds.

Tracking current students and exploring best practices elsewhere as it relates to women and minorities in science. Sara Levens, Joanna Krueger

Building social media presence with goal of hosting public space discussions: Justin Cary, Christine Germain, Rickelle Mason.

Exploring best practices elsewhere and acting as liason to ADVANCE in relation to Campus Climate Surveys: Bruce Arrigo, Anthony Fernandes, Rickelle Mason.
The Council on University Community is accepting proposals for the Chancellor’s Diversity Challenge Fund. The purpose of the Fund is to support initiatives promoting the daily value of diversity in the intellectual life of the campus. Students, faculty, and staff are eligible to apply for awards up to $5,000. Restrictions on state funds apply.

Potential uses of the Fund include:

- Presentations, workshops, trainings, cultural programs, exhibitions, films, or speakers that address issues of diversity
- Research on issues related to diversity
- Programs to integrate diversity into the classroom
- Programs that increase diversity in the academic pipeline
- Projects that promote diversity through linkages with the Charlotte community

**Deadline for submission is March 17, 2015.**

For more information about the Fund, including descriptions of previously funded projects and details on how to apply, please visit:

http://diversity.uncc.edu/challengefund/

**Undergraduate Student Profile**

1.) [The Feminine Zeitgeist](http://hpavcikeip.weebly.com) by Hannah Pavcik

In this digital web-text, Hannah Pavcik explores both the modern state of feminism and how it is viewed in America in addition to several important historical periods' attitudes toward Feminism. She also tracks significant changes and evolutions in the Feminist movement over time. This interactive, multi-modal web-text really captures why Feminism is so important now and the author comes to very important conclusions about contemporary women’s issues.

2.) [Neighborhood Watch Gone Wrong](http://hpavcikeip.weebly.com) by Aleigha Edwards

In this argumentative research project, Aleigha explores the way modern media portrays racial violence and offers insights into ongoing racial tensions between many racial groups across America. This essay uses multimedia elements to support important argument points and relies on extensive research, compelling writing and stark examples to support an important, contemporary argument.
**Past Events**

**Dr. Michele Tracy Berger:**

**Viability of Women's and Gender Studies Programs**

“What can you do with an interest in women's and gender studies?” is an often heard question from students, parents, the general public and even some educators. Dr. Michele Tracy Berger's and Dr. Cheryl Radeloff's book Transforming Scholarship: How Women's and Gender Studies Students are Changing Themselves and the World grapples with this question. Dr. Berger highlighted and reflected on important trends in demographics, undergraduate learning opportunities, how graduates translate skills and feminist concepts learned in the classroom to the workplace, and popular career pathways. She also connected these trends to a discussion on women's and gender studies undergraduate training in the 21st century.

**Multicultural Leadership Conference**

Cerebral Palsy advocate and star of AMC’s “Breaking Bad” RJ Mitte was the keynote speaker at the Multicultural Leadership Conference where he detailed his personal battle with cerebral palsy and advocated for speaking out against bullying.

**Anne Tompkins Visit**

United States Attorney for the Western District of North Carolina, Anne Tompkins, visited campus on January for an intimate lunch and informal chat.

**Spring 2015 Events**

**February**

*Todd Drake’s Rotating Photo Exhibition. Student Union. February 23-March 13*

Dee Dixon: Her Story, Her Journey. Atkins Library, Halton Room. February 26 at 2:00pm. Space is limited. Please contact Denelle Eads at deads@uncc.edu to RSVP for this event.

**March**


6:00pm to 8:00pm // 200 E. 7th Street, Charlotte, NC, 28202 // RSVP’s required: anwillia@uncc.edu or 704.687.0015.

Friendly Peer Training: Being an Ally. Tuesday, March 10 from 5-6pm at Student Union Room 200.

Women of Color Conversations. Tuesday, March 10 from 6-7pm, Student Union Room 266.

*Todd Drake’s Visiting Artist Lecture and Reception. Tuesday, March 10 at 7pm. Center City Campus. Photo Exhibition: February 26-April 13.*

**FREE Artist Workshop on Photography Skills. Wednesday, March 11 at 7pm in the Student Union. Reception at 6pm.*

Asian American Lecture Series: Voices for Change. **Guest Lecture & Panel Discussion with Dr. Jane Hamilton-Merritt.**

**Wednesday, March 18, 2015:**

5:30 p.m.-6 p.m. Reception. 6-8pm Opening Remarks and Lecture.

**Thursday, March 19, 2015:**

10 a.m.-12p.m. Opening remarks and Introduction. Q&A and Panel Discussion.

**April**

Women’s and Gender Studies Speaker Series: Melissa Harris-Perry “Mommy, Mammy and the Maid: Race, Class and Women’s Political Power” Wednesday, April 1st. Book Signing at 7pm. Student Union Rotunda. Lecture at 8pm. Student Union 340. Tickets required. **Visit Website** Free for UNC Charlotte Students, $10 Faculty/Staff, $15 Public

Breaking the Silence with Guest Mandy Carter. Monday, April 13th from 6-8pm at Student Union 340GHI.

Women of Color Leadership Luncheon. Friday, April 17 from 11am-2pm. Student Union 340 AGHI. For more information please contact Regena Brown at rybrown1@uncc.edu or (704) 687-7123.

*Todd Drake will be hosting a series of events during his visit. Please see the official poster on the next for additional information and a related contest.*
Visiting Artist
Todd Drake

Selfies Celebrating Diversity @ UNCC
Enter Your Selfie to Win:
1st place $150.00
2nd place $100.00
3rd place $50.00

To enter take a selfie next to your favorite image by Todd Drake and post it on Instagram with hashtag #DiversitytoYou. Include a 25 word description of what diversity means to you. To be considered, your Instagram profile must be public.

Todd Drake’s Visiting Artist Lecture & Reception
UNC Charlotte Center City
Tuesday, March 10 at 7pm
Exhibition of Drake’s photos: Feb 26th – April 13th

FREE Artist Workshop on Photography Skills
UNC Charlotte Student Union
Wednesday, March 11th, 7:00 PM
Artist Reception 6:00 PM

Todd Drake’s Rotating Photo Exhibition
UNC Charlotte Student Union
February 23rd – March 13th

Sponsored by the College of Education, College of Arts & Architecture, & College of Liberal Arts and Sciences through the Chancellor’s Diversity Challenge Grant, and by the UNC Charlotte Student Union.