



## Meeting of the Full Board

April 11, 2024

8:30am

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### **Discussion Item**

BOT – 2      Humanities at Work

### **Background Information**

From the College of Arts and Sciences, Associate Dean Maura Heyn, Dr. Jennifer Feather, and Dr. Heather Adams will present on Humanities at Work, a foundation-funded Internship Program at UNCG. They will be joined by students Wesley Britt and Katherine Wyrick.

Attachments:

- 2.1 Speaker Bios
- 2.2 Presentation

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie Storrs". The signature is written in black ink on a white background.

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Debbie Storrs  
Provost & Executive Vice Chancellor

## **Maura K. Heyn**

Maura K. Heyn is an Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Sciences, and her duties include curriculum and teaching, diversity initiatives, Freshman Seminars, student success, and career services. Before joining the faculty in Classical Studies in 2004, she was a Teaching Fellow in the Introduction to the Humanities (IHUM) Program at Stanford University for two years. Maura was the Director of the Archaeology Program from 2014-2017 and Head of the Department of Classical Studies from 2017 to 2023. Maura's research focuses on funerary sculpture in the Roman empire, particularly the sculpture from the Syrian city of Palmyra. She is interested in issues of social identity, cultural change, ancient clothing and dress, and the archaeology of the body. Over the last fifteen years, she has published many articles and book chapters on Palmyrene funerary sculpture and has benefited from research collaborations associated with the Palmyra Portrait Project (Aarhus, Denmark). Other research interests include the mural decoration of temples in Roman Syria, and the significance of hand gestures in Roman funerary portraiture.

## **Jennifer Feather**

Jennifer Feather is associate professor and head of English and cross-appointed faculty in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at the University of North Carolina Greensboro. She is co-founder the UNCG Humanities Network and Consortium (HNAC). In this capacity, she has coordinated a number of public events, developed projects in connection with the Humanities Action Lab, and supported a variety of faculty research projects. She is the author of *Writing Combat and the Self in Early Modern English Literature: The Pen and the Sword* (Palgrave 2011) and is currently working on a research project on the value of humanities education. She is principal investigator on several grants related to HNAC and to the Community Placemaking Action Lab, a partnership between UNCG and the Town of Princeville, North Carolina that explores community building through oral history and theater. She is an active participant in the National Humanities Alliance and the American Association of University Women.

## **Heather Brook Adams**

Heather Brook Adams is associate professor of English, cross-appointed faculty in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, and the current Director of the UNCG Humanities Network and Consortium (HNAC). Adams's scholarly and pedagogical interests include teaching writing at the undergraduate and graduate levels, advocacy education, health rhetorics, intersectional feminist methodologies, and undergraduate research. A rhetoric and writing studies scholar, Adams's research investigates themes such as health and wellness through a focus on rhetorics of reproduction and pregnancy in relation to affect, gender, race, and class. She is the author of numerous articles as well as *Enduring Shame: A Recent History of Unwed Pregnancy and Righteous Reproduction* (2022). Adams has been awarded the 2021-2022 Candace Bernard and Robert Glickman Dean's Professor in the UNCG College of Arts and Sciences and received a 2023 Partner Award from the UNCG Division of Student Affairs for her collaborative work with Humanities programs and UNCG's Career and Professional Development.

## **Wesley Britt**

Wesley Britt, a resident of Asheboro, North Carolina, will soon graduate UNCG with a Bachelor of Arts in English, minors in Professional Sales and Creative Writing, and a certification in digital marketing. With a GPA of 4.0, he has earned recognition on the Chancellor's List, Dean's List, and Honors College Dean's List for seven consecutive semesters. Wesley has studied abroad at the University of Roehampton in London and has held leadership roles within UNCG's *Coraddi* literary magazine, where he served as Head Director and Editor, revitalizing the publication with innovative content initiatives. He serves as a University Marshal and Student Representative and has interned at Randolph Hub and High Country Press. Wesley has been inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and won the Jefferson-Pilot Merit Award.

## **Katherine Wyrick**

Katherine Wyrick is an English major and American Sign Language minor who will graduate from UNCG this May with top honors (Summa Cum Laude) and with Disciplinary Honors in English. Wyrick is a graduate of UNCG's Ashby Residential College, a two-year live-and-learn community program on campus. Wyrick has worked in UNCG's Martha Blakeney Hodges Special Collections and University Archives and serves as a UNCG University Writing Center consultant. She was awarded second Place in the Emerging Scholars division of UNCG's 16th annual Thomas Undergraduate Research and Creativity Expo (2022), was inducted as a University Marshal (2022), received a scholarship to study abroad at the T. S. Eliot International Summer School (2023), and earned recognition on the Chancellor's List and Honors College Dean's List every semester while at UNCG. Soon she will be inducted into UNCG's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa. While studying at UNCG, Wyrick developed a passion for 20<sup>th</sup> Century British Literature and researched T.S. Eliot's *The Waste Land* for her Senior Honor's Thesis. Upon graduation, Wyrick will attend a research program in Florence, Italy to study art history as well as Dante's *Commedia* and will then return to the T. S. Eliot International Summer School at Oxford in England. She will begin her graduate work in English at Wake Forest University this fall.



**HUMANITIES**  
**AT WORK**

A Paid Internship  
Program at UNCG



Principal Investigator and Lead  
John Z. Kiss, Dean, College of  
Arts and Sciences

PI and Director  
Heather Brook Adams,  
Associate Professor, English

H@W  
Leadership

PI  
Maura Heyn,\* Associate Dean

PI  
Jen Feather, Head, English

\*On 1 May, Project Lead will transfer to Maura Heyn

# Project Concept

Humanities at Work (H@W), a paid, year-long internship and educational experience at UNC Greensboro, will empower students to envision and articulate how a degree in the humanities can “work” for them, for their future employers, and for their communities.

# The Team

Internship  
Coordinator

Career &  
Professional  
Development

Community  
Partners

Humanities  
Departments

Advisory  
Board

UNCG  
Advancement

# Key Elements of the Program

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Paid internships are one part of a year-long, curriculum-rich program.



Shift from the model of one-person per site to a small team and project-based model.



Approximately 250 students matriculate annually in the Humanities. Goal of placing 650 interns over 5 years at 130 sites across our community.

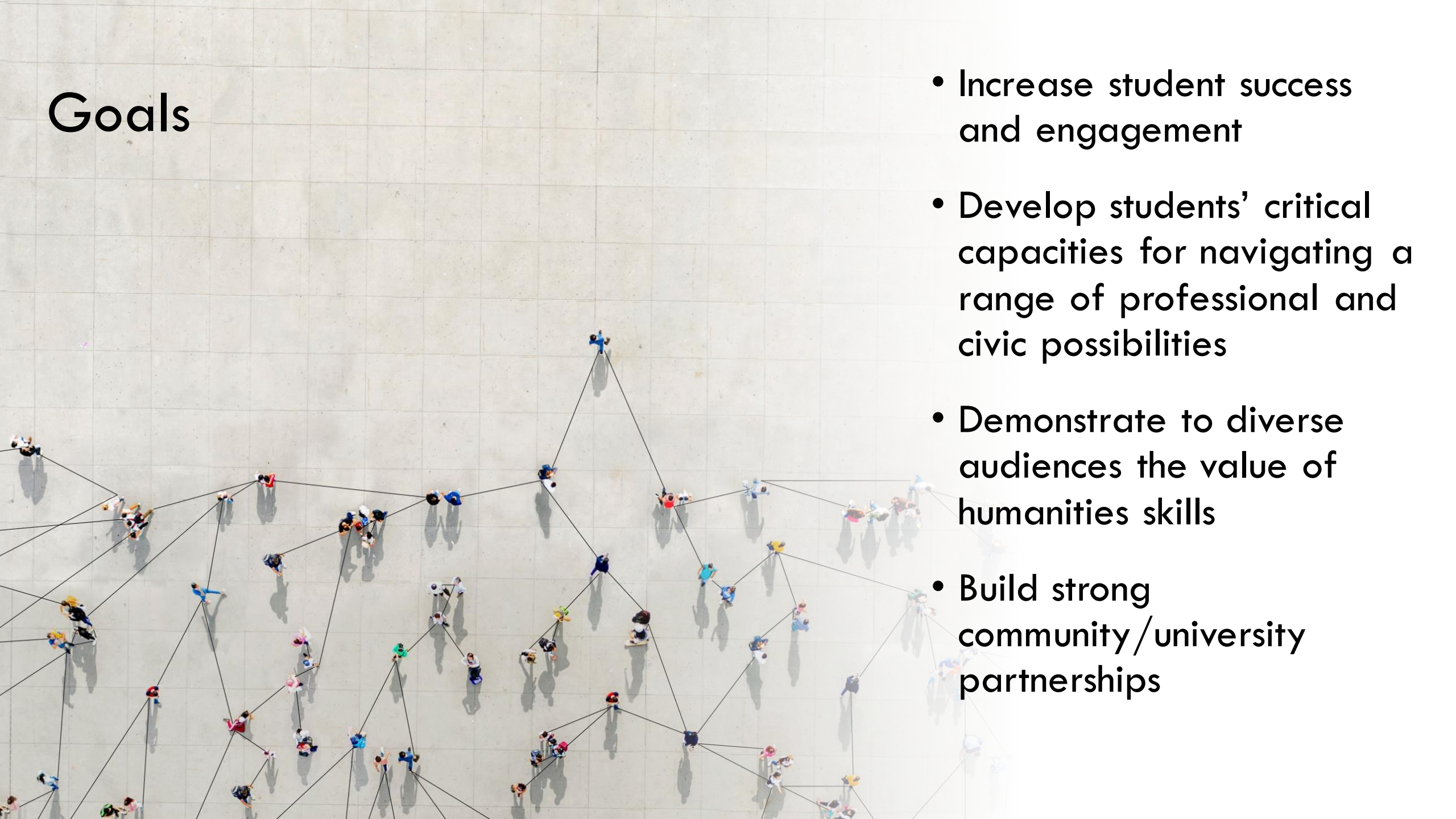


Students will also earn credit in their academic departments via a collaborative, Humanities-based curriculum that would accompany their field work experience.



# Goals

- Increase student success and engagement
- Develop students' critical capacities for navigating a range of professional and civic possibilities
- Demonstrate to diverse audiences the value of humanities skills
- Build strong community/university partnerships





"This program will not only bolster students' participation in the internship but will protect them from overload and resulting detracting from their studies, a problem that working students often face. This grant will provide a much-needed resource for our students."

*--Dr. Jazmin Graves Eyssallenne, Assistant Professor, African American and African Diaspora Studies, UNCG*



"Access to a paid, high-quality internship can change the trajectory of a person's career. According to NACE (2024), the median starting salary of those who had paid internships is \$20,000 higher than those who had unpaid internships. UNCG will open the door to career changing internships for 650 students thanks to Humanities @ Work."

*--Megan Walters, Director, UNCG Career and Professional Development*



"The Guilford Nonprofit Consortium's mission is to build capacity among our 300+ members to create a more efficient, effective nonprofit sector in Guilford County, NC. As a staunch supporter of the humanities and a beneficiary of strong liberal arts education, I see this project as critical to our mission as we are training up a new generation of non-profit leaders."

*--Mary Herbenick, Director of the Guilford Nonprofit Consortium*