

**Brown Bag Lunch Series on  
The Crossroads of Student Success: Academics, Wellness and Engagement**

*Faculty and staff, welcome to our 8th year offering informative  
and engaging discussions to enhance student success at Carolina.*

**Spring 2016 Schedule**

All lunches are from 12 noon – 1:30 p.m. in Hanes Hall Room 239

**February 22 – Annual Student Success Conference: Growth Mindset**

We look forward to seeing faculty and staff at the 2016 Student Success Conference on this day. Please see the [conference website](#) for the full description and details.

**March 4 – Understanding the Experiences and Opportunities of Students Who Choose ROTC**

*with Spencer C. Edwards (GS-11), Admissions Officer, Department of Military Science*

There are many reasons why undergraduate students choose to participate in military learning experiences and service while in college. Students who participate in ROTC have access to unique scholarship and travel opportunities as well as rigorous leadership training for 21st century careers. This discussion will include insight on some of the personal, academic, financial and professional incentives for students choosing military pathways at UNC, as well as information about the resources and opportunities provided by ROTC programs. The various experiences of students who are enrolled in ROTC and how they may differ from students who are active-duty military or in the National Guard, and how to support them, will also be discussed.

**April 15 – Neurodiversity: Supporting Students and Campus Professionals with Different Minds**

*with Laura Grofer Klinger, Ph.D., Executive Director, TEACCH Autism Program and Associate Professor, Psychiatry*

The [neurodiversity movement](#), “embraces and celebrates the differences and unique abilities exhibited by people with autism and Asperger’s Syndrome.” Instead of framing differences as disorders, the neurodiversity movement frames neurological differences as alternative ways of being that should be appreciated within the context of our increasingly diverse world. At UNC Chapel Hill, many students, faculty and staff learn, teach, and engage with neurological differences including Asperger’s and autism. This session will provide more information about these and other related neurological differences and how insight from the neurodiversity movement could inform best practices for supporting members of our academic community with different minds.

**May 6 – Religion, Spirituality, and College**

*with Rebecca Crandall, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Interfaith Diversity Experiences and Attitudes Longitudinal Survey (IDEALS), NYU Steinhardt*

Laurie Schreiner, keynote speaker for the spring 2015 Student Success Conference *Thriving in College*, describes spirituality as one of the four major pathways to thriving (Schreiner, 2012). However, this deeply personal topic can be controversial in the context of our increasingly diverse University community. This session will explore how spirituality can impact the way students and professionals on college campuses navigate and persist through academic environments, including spirituality’s potential impact on mindset, resiliency, grit, goal-setting and problem-solving. Considerations about the demographics of North Carolina and implications for spiritual and religious beliefs and practices (including atheism and agnosticism) within educated communities and potential implications for our campus will also be discussed.

**Bring a friend! All lunches are from 12 noon – 1:30 p.m. in Hanes Hall Room 239**

For further information or requests for future topics, contact:

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