

Office of the Provost

**Board of Trustees – Information Item
Sabbatical Leave Approvals for 2024-25**

TO: President Andy Feinstein
UNC Board of Trustees

FROM: Kirsten Fleming, Provost & Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

RE: Sabbatical Leave Approvals for 2024-25

DATE: February 7, 2024

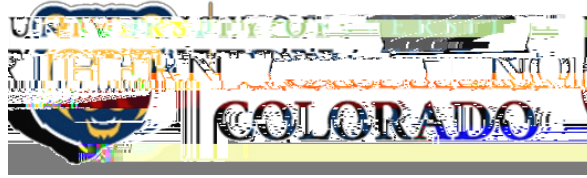
In accordance with the University of Northern Colorado Board of Trustees Policy Manual 2-3-1001, thirty-seven members of the faculty have been approved for a sabbatical leave during the 2024-25 academic year. Summaries of sabbaticals approved for 2024-25 are attached. Here are the numbers by term of leave (semester or full academic year):

Fall 2024: 11
Spring 2025: 17
Academic Year 24/25: 9

Details on process:

We began this year's sabbatical cycle with four previously approved proposals from faculty members whose sabbatical leave was delayed due to resource constraints or for personal reasons. Of those four, three were approved but delayed until AY 2024-2025 due to resource constraints (Berg, Harris, and Tomlin) and one was included on the list of funded proposals for AY 2023-2024 and was subsequently delayed by the faculty member (Dunn).

In Fall 2023, we received thirty-five new applications from eligible faculty members

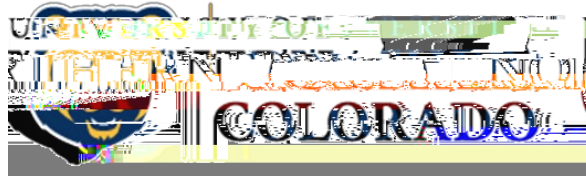


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Here is a summary of active proposals and results from the numbers by college:

College	Prior Active Proposals	New (Fall 23) Proposals	Total New Proposals Approved	Total New Proposals Delayed	Total Funded (AY 24/25)
Education & Behavioral Sciences	2	9	9	1	10
Humanities & Social Sciences	1	13	13	1	13
Monfort College of Business	0	4	4	0	4
Natural & Health Sciences	1	5	5	0	6
Performing & Visual Arts	0	4	4	0	4
University Libraries	0	0	n/a	n/a	0
Totals	4	35	35	2	37

The following sabbatical titles and summaries of approved proposals



Office of the Provost

**Funded Sabbatical Leaves
Academic Year 2024-25**

New Applications Approved for AY 2024-25

College of Education & Behavioral Sciences

Cassandra Bergstrom (Spring)
School of Psychological Sciences

Title:

professional growth, knowledge in the field of educational psychology, and student experiences will be enhanced, and ultimately UNC will benefit from the outcomes of my work.

Paula Conroy (Fall)
School of Special Education

Title: pation can

positively influence the mental well-being of individuals losing their vision.

Jim Erikson (Academic Year)
School of Teacher Education

Title: Flow of Literacy

Summary: Work in community literacy projects across the nation with Unite for Literacy, extending existing research and consulting efforts with this social enterprise, including research and evaluation in community-sponsored projects with literacy-stressed low-income communities (such as Bureau of Indian Education; Louisville, KY; Omaha, NE; Yakima, WA; Longmont & Fort Morgan, CO).

Brian Johnson (Fall)

Department of Applied Psychology & Counselor Education

Title: Developing Multicultural Competence and Applications

Summary: This plan includes: 1) collaboration with colleagues in China to develop/disseminate parenting modules, 2) development of a list of international mental health resources, and 3) independent study into culturally adapted psychotherapies. Work products will be disseminated internationally, enhancing UNC's reputation, and benefiting our students.

Jody Lawrence (Spring)

School of Teacher Education

Title: Preparing teacher candidates to become culturally responsive literacy teachers

Summary: The purpose of this research project is to examine how one international college of teacher preparation effectively prepares teacher candidates to become culturally responsive literacy teachers in an increasingly pluralistic, global society. I have applied to become a Fulbright Distinguished Senior Scholar.

Corey Pierce (Spring)

School of Special Education

Title: Understanding and Reducing Barriers to Become a Teacher

Summary: Numerous individuals face incredible barriers become a licensed teacher. Critical teacher shortages exist in Colorado and across the country while enrollment in preK-12 teacher preparation programs declines. My sabbatical work seeks to address these issues through targeted research activities related to teacher preparation in Colorado.

Kevin Pugh (Fall)

School of Psychological Sciences

Title: Implementing Transformative Experience Theory

Summary: Sabbatical work will focus on two collaborations. Project 1 involves designing professional development on transformative and cultural response science education for Akron Public Schools science teachers and developing an app. Project 2 involves developing a Place-Based Transformative Experience module framework to be implemented by 11 universities.

Lu Tian (Academic Year)

Department of Applied Psychology & Counselor Education

Title: Learning Qualitative Research Methods and Developing Grant Writing Skills

Summary: This proposal outlines scholarship projects, including a) completing three qualitative studies for publications; and b) submitting an external grant application. These projects will enhance my professional growth, knowledge in the discipline, students' educational experience, and the University's reputation.

College of Humanities & Social Sciences

Kristin Bovaird-Abbo (Spring)

Department of English

Title: A Gawain for the Gentry in Late Middle English Romance

Summary: I request one semester of sabbatical leave to complete two chapters for my book-length project, A Gawain for the Gentry in Late Middle English Romance.

Jeffrey Brown (Fall)

Department of Philosophy

Title: Nothing About Us Without Us: An Egalitarian Theory of Disability Law and Policy

Summary: I'm requesting sabbatical support in drafting and securing a book contract entitled "Nothing About Us Without Us: An Egalitarian Theory of Disability Law and Policy." This book project is the subsequent development of my professional growth as an academic. This book project would allow me to combine the various themes from my published work into a coherent monograph.

Karla Del Carpio Ovando (Spring)

Department of World Languages & Cultures

Title: Preservation and promotion of indigenous languages in education: The case of the indigenous Mayan language Tsosil and Spanish in Mexico

Summary: Through my research and accomplishments from this sabbatical my knowledge will be enhanced in the field of bilingual education, add to my professional growth as a scholar, enhance students' educational experience, and promote UNC's reputation nationally/internationally through the educational strategies gained along with informational reports, peer-reviewed articles, and presentations.

Mark Eiswerth (Spring)

Department of Economics

Title: Applied research in environmental economics

Summary: This sabbatical comprises three projects: (1) Innovative Institutions for Watershed Conservation, (2) Dark Night Skies and Colorado Tourism, and (3) Night Light Pollution Impacts on Human Fetal Health. The research is seminal and involves UNC students and enhances UNC's reputation through publications, regional service, and enhanced opportunities for UNC graduates.

Marian Hamilton (Academic Year)

Department of Anthropology

Title: Roots: How Our Evolutionary Past Shapes Modern Parenthood

Summary: This project will connect my academic research on diets, life history, and human evolution and my commitment to public-facing science communication through writing and publishing a book explaining how our unique evolutionary history shapes modern human life history, with a focus on gestation, birth, and early infancy.

Junpyo Park (Fall)

Department of Economics

Title:

Tara Wood (Spring)

Department of English

Title: Mixed-methods study focused on course delivery modalities and course caps for an intermediate general education writing course

Summary: As writing program administrator, I am continually evaluating our curricular approaches, drawing on best practices in the discipline of Writing Studies. For my sabbatical, I am planning an IRB-approved mixed-methods study focused on course delivery modalities and course caps for an intermediate general education writing course. I will publish findings in the Journal of Writing Assessment.

Lisa Zimmerman (Spring)

Department of English

Title: To complete a short book of poems

Summary: I would use the time to complete a suite of poems that will extend into a chapbook-length manuscript of historical and persona poems (a collection of 25-30 pages) relating to the history of astrology, ancient astrologers and astronomers, planets, and their astrological implications and signatures.

Monfort College of Business

Christine McClatchey (Spring)

Department of Finance

Title: Analysis of the HECM mortgage market and pedagogical enhancements

Summary: I will pursue self-directed research and pedagogical pursuits which will add to my instructional currency, enhance our curriculum, and add value to my profession.

- 1: Evaluate new BAFN474 simulation: Revise lectures and publish article.
- 2: Home Equity Conversion Mortgage: Literature review and gather data.
- 3: Publish two pedagogical articles.

Jim Reardon (Academic Year)

Department of Marketing

Title: Research on Vaccine Hesitancy and Improving International Relations

Summary: I will work on research related to both my teaching subjects (Retail and International business) as well as additional research on public health issues related to vaccine acceptance. In addition, I will work on strengthening and developing international partnerships that can be leveraged by UNC in the future.

Philipp Schaberl (Spring)

Department of Accounting

Title: Intangible Liabilities, Inflation Impacts, and Coding

Summary: Complete a paper on intangible liabilities, a paper on how inflation impacts the relative relevance of accounting information, and complete a Python coding boot camp to enhance my research capabilities and potentially enhance my ability to teach analytics to our undergraduate and graduate students.

William Wilcox (Fall)

Department of Accounting

Title: How Online Adaptive Learning Technologies and Online Simulations: Can They Help with Performance, Retention, and the Problem with Debits and Credits

Summary: Different teaching tools are available to aid in student learning; this study will examine two different tools for effectiveness in student success and retention in accounting majors. These are important to the university and MCB.

College of Natural & Health Sciences

Michael Aldridge (Academic Year)

School of Nursing

Title: A Delphi Study to Identify Core Psychomotor Skills for Undergraduate Nursing Education

Summary: This project seeks to identify a core list of skills for nursing students to master by graduation. Researchers agree that nursing programs teach too many skills, leading to overall poor skill performance. Teaching fewer skills allows for skill mastery, which students and employers desire for safe patient care.

Sharon Bywater-Reyes (Spring)

Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences

Title: Geologic Perspective of Bofadales

Summary: Studying the bofedales wetlands of the Chilean Andes and consider the hypothesis that the regional extent of the bofedales is controlled by its geologic and geomorphic context, implying Ways of Knowing by indigenous people extend beyond currently recognized knowledge. Teaching components will include technical workshops for University of Tarapacá students.

Timothy Grover (Spring)

Department of Earth & Atmospheric Sciences

Title: Deciphering the tectonic evolution of two Proterozoic accretionary terranes using field studies, metamorphic petrology and petrochronology

Summary: I propose to continue my research on the tectonic evolution of two Proterozoic accretionary terranes. I have two field areas for this research, one is located in the northern Colorado Front Range and the other is in the eastern Adirondacks in upstate New York.

Oscar Levin (Academic Year)
Department of Mathematical Sciences

College of Natural & Health Sciences

Chris Harris (Academic Year)

Department of Mathematical Sciences

Title: Applying Artificial Intelligence Techniques to Emergent “Real World” Challenges

Summary: I propose to spend the year collecting agricultural research data using Artificial Intelligence (AI). I will also gather data to investigate AI biases in algorithms, speak at conferences, and work with other collaborators. I anticipate this will lead to several high-quality peer