

238	14	12	31
U	N	C	P
92	7	6	15

NEWSLETTER

March
2018

Chemistry and Physics Department, Oxendine Science Building – Room 3101, Pembroke, NC 28372
chem_phy@uncp.edu 910/521-6247

GlaxoSmithKline

On Friday, March 2, Mrs. Felicia Scott took two students, Amelia Brown and Kaitlyn Smith, to the NC GlaxoSmithKline Women in Science Conference at the Research Triangle Park. Job well done, Felicia.

Community Service (STEM Outreach)



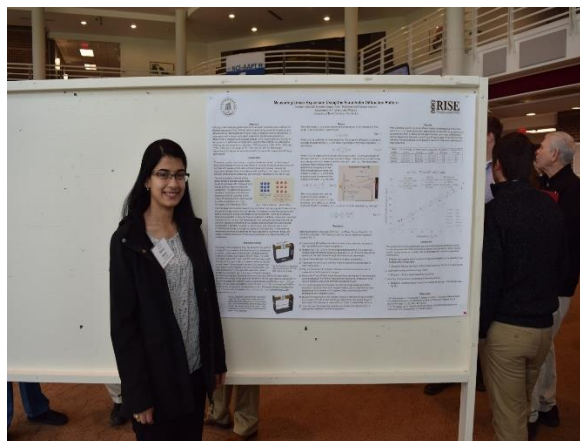
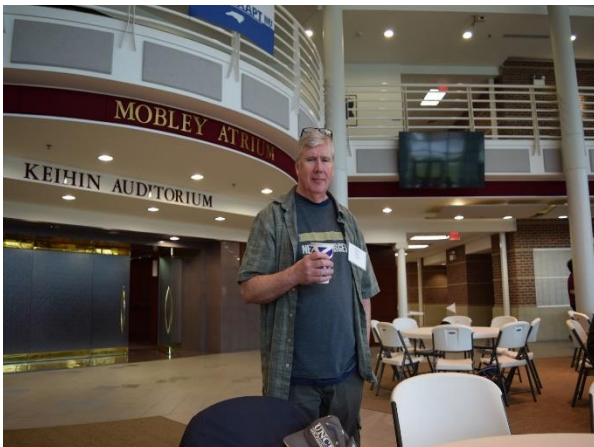
On March 6th, Dr. William Brandon presented the “Electrical properties of materials, batteries and motion study” for 53 students at the Pembroke Middle School in Pembroke, NC.

Also during the months of January – March, Dr. Brandon worked with his Hawk Assistants on five modular apparatuses used to measure Boltzmann constant. They designed, constructed, and tested the apparatuses. This was part of the University Service (STEM infrastructure). We appreciate for all you do for the department and to the University.

NCS-AAPT - Edgecombe Community College



Dr. Jose D'Arruda presented a paper on the Rocket Launch to the American Association of Physics Teachers at the 23rd spring meeting, March 9 – 10, 2018, in Tarboro, NC. View the link <https://photos.app.goo.gl/KPM5VeaCDPLIqNhu1> to see the wonderful job done by our colleagues: Drs. Dooling, Brandon, D'Arruda, and their students at the Physics NCS-AAPT meeting last week. Job well done of the great presentation for their dedication and working with students.



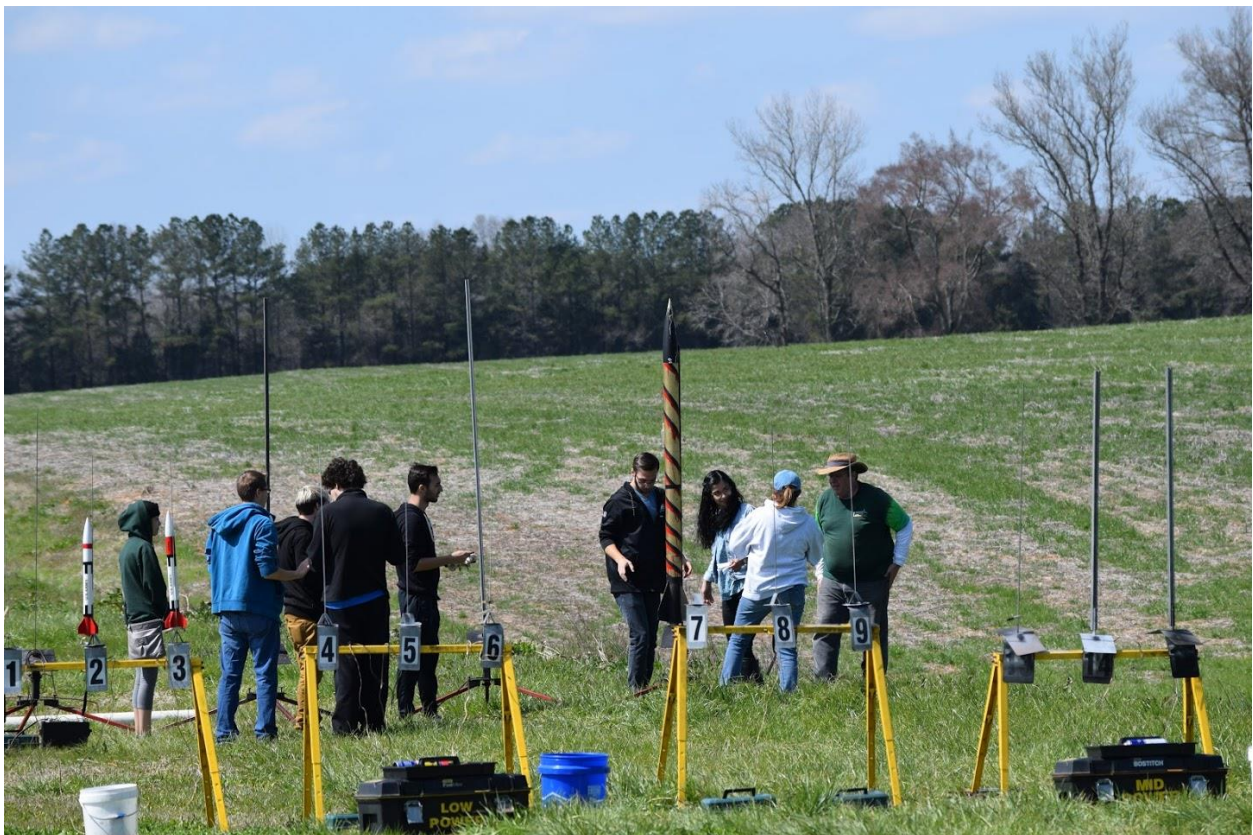
Dr. Sandra Buffkin

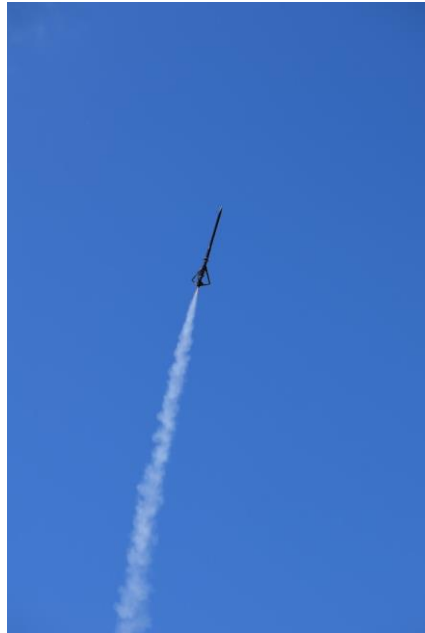
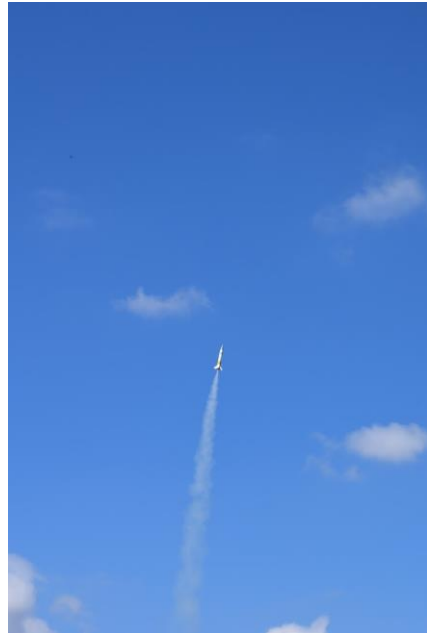
Dr. Buffkin visited with our students on March 16th. She graduated from UNCP with a degree in Chemistry with a pre-health concentration. She recently earned a Doctorate of Chiropractic Medicine. Her advice to the students is **"Never stop chasing your dream no matter what anyone tells you."**



Rocket Launching in Charlotte, NC

Dr. Jose D'Arruda has shared pictures of the rocket launching on March 18 in Charlotte, NC. To view more pictures, here is the link <https://photos.app.goo.gl/RJOIGcsnCaV6I6tI2> to see the wonderful job performed by the students. Lots of fun and excitement. Thank you, Dr. D'Arruda. Great job.



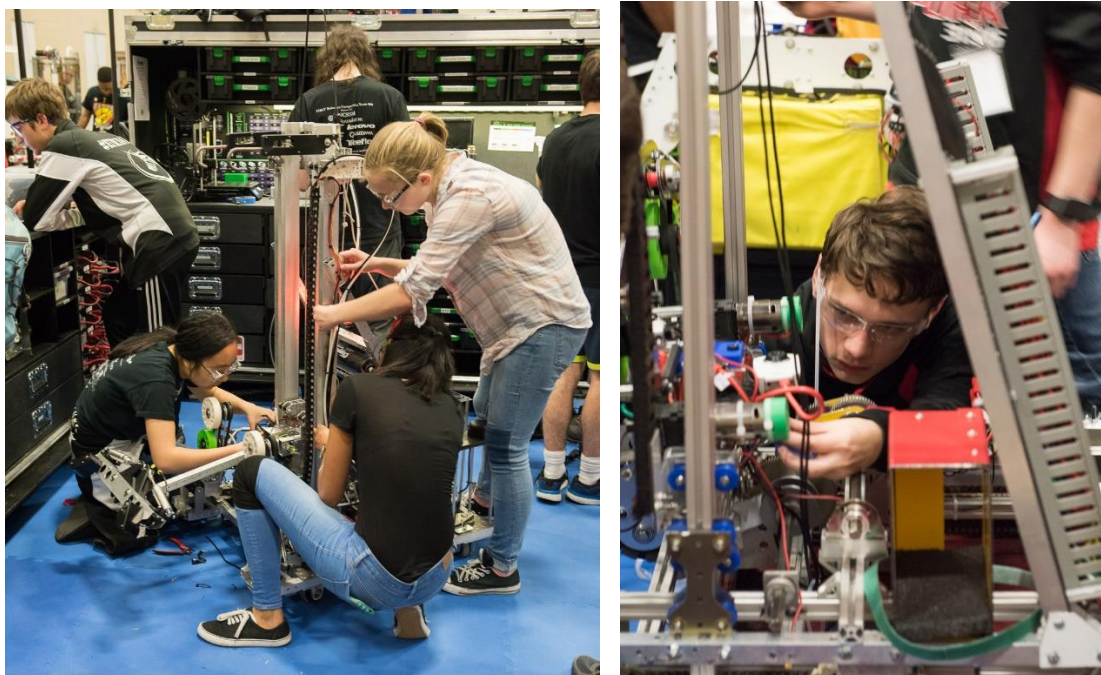


Robotics Competition at UNC Pembroke: March 17-18



Thirty-seven high-school robotics teams (1500 students) from across North Carolina had the opportunity to display their hard work of designing and building an original robot in the FIRST NC ROBOTIC COMPETITION on March 17 - 18. The event was held inside the Jones Center on the campus of UNC Pembroke. Robeson Early College High School's team, ROBCOBOT, led by Coach Keenan Locklear, will be among the competitors. The competition sponsored by FIRST North Carolina, a nonprofit organization created to inspire youth to pursue careers in science and technology and to help them acquire the skills to compete in a technologically driven economy. Drs. Quinton Rice and Benjamin Killian served as judges for the FIRST NC ROBOTIC COMPETITION. They were simply great for their dedication and enthusiasm. Thank you for the great work and dedication at the special event.





View more photos at <http://dannylevenson.com/FIRST/POWERUP/Pembroke/index.html>.

Scotland County Schools in Partnership with NCWorks



On Thursday, March 22, Dr. Meredith Storms participated at the Career Day with the Scotland County Schools Career and Technical Education Department in partnership in NCWorks Career Center. This exciting event took place in Laurinburg, NC. The event brought together a diverse group of students with interest in various career pathways. She met with students and inspired them in Science. Thank you, Dr. Storms. We appreciate you for all you do for the department and to the University.

2018 Homer L. Dodge Citation for Distinguished Service to AAPT



At College Park, MD on March 21, 2018—AAPT has announced that Jose D'Arruda, Pembroke Professor of Physics at the University of North Carolina Pembroke, will receive the association's Homer L. Dodge Citation for Distinguished Service to AAPT, during the 2018 Summer Meeting in Washington, DC.

The press release is online at <http://www.aapt.org/aboutaapt/Jose-D-Arruda-2018-Dodge-Citation.cfm>

We appreciate for all you do and have done both to your profession and for the University. Congratulations, Dr. D'Arruda.

STEMVILLE Science Symposium

The symposium took place on March 23rd in the Oxendine Science Building. STEMVILLE Science Symposium is a wonderful opportunity for children to explore different types of STEM careers. Approximately one hundred 7th graders attended a keynote address and participate in concurrent hands-on sessions on STEM topics. Dr. Siva Mandjiny had a great time meeting and conducting experiments with 40 of the students. Thank you, Dr. Mandjiny.





NCAS 115th Annual Meeting

Devang Upadhyay, from the Biotech Center, had taken five students for the NC Academy of Science conference on Friday, March 23rd, and Saturday, March 24th at the Wake Tech Community College in Raleigh, NC. The students: **Elijah Mebens, Gabby Downs, Joshua Cade, Alexis Gray, and Jalen Chappelle** gave both oral and poster presentations under the leadership of Dr. Len Holmes. Let us give a big hand to both Dr. Leonard Holmes and Devang Upadhyay. This activity is really a great inspiration to our students as part of "Student Success".



Congratulations to the following RISE Fellows on winning awards for their presentations.

Poster presentations:

Cheyenne Lee: 1st place in the Botany, Ecology, Environmental Sciences section for her poster entitled “Antimicrobial Effect of St. Joh the Worker Plant Based Native American Tea”; mentor: Conner Sanderfur

Cora Bright: 3rd place in the Cell & Development; Molecular Biology section for her poster entitled “Dissecting the synthetic lethality between htz1 and RPB2-2SL: an analysis of the second site suppressor”; mentor: Maria Santisteban

Oral Presentation:

Kaitlan Smith: 2nd place in Genomics & Physiology division for her presentation entitled “Reducing Alzheimer-type protein accumulation pathology and associated synaptopathogenesis to treat early dementia in a mouse model”; mentor: Ben Bahr

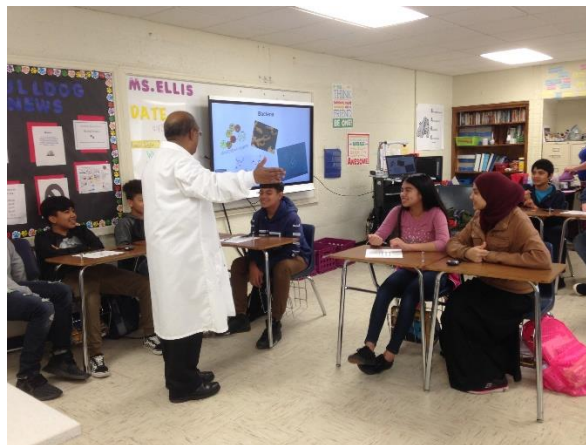
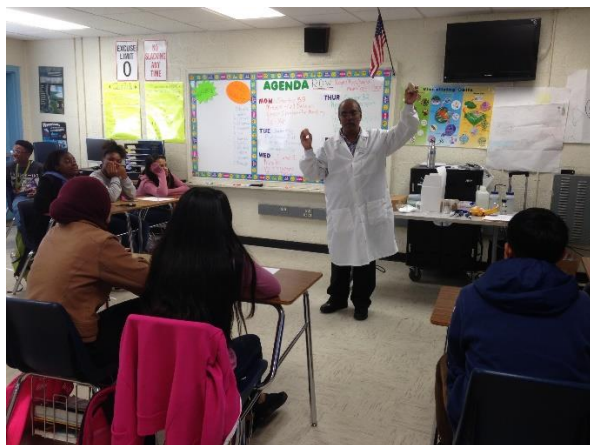
Congratulations to each of the students and their mentors. Job well done Rachel and Sally!

To view more pictures, here is the link: <https://1drv.ms/f/s!Av9xwzQovbjwgbwO51dl3oquUtp2Cw>

STEMVILLE Science Symposium

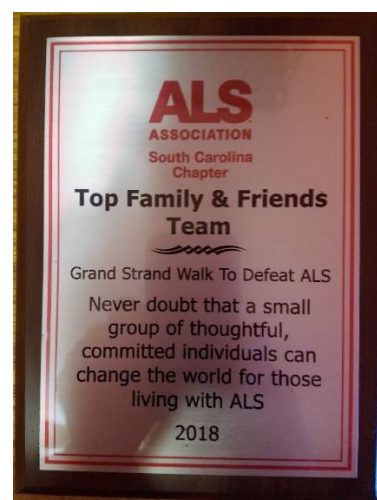


On March 26th, Dr. Siva Mandjiny spent time with the middle school students at St. Pauls High School. He had a great time meeting and conducting experiments with 60 students. Thank you, Dr. Mandjiny.



Myrtle Beach ALS Walk March 24, 2018

The 2018 walk to defeat ALS was held this past Saturday at The Market Common in Myrtle Beach, SC. The event has raised over \$41,000 thus far. This year was a record-setting year for "Ritter's Recruits" as far as fundraising and walker attendance. Thanks to your great generosity, our team raised over \$7800 thus far and we had 29 walkers in attendance. Dr. Ritter states, "I was very impressed with the number of walkers, especially given the cold and cloudy weather on the day of the walk. Both of these are new records for our team! I was so very impressed with the support we receive this year. I sit here with tears in my eyes thinking of how much we are supported and loved by our family and friends. It is because of people like you that we will hopefully find a cure for this dreaded disease. More importantly, your support, your love, your prayers, inspire me each and every day. And for that I am eternally grateful." This is wonderful news, Dr. Ritter. Congratulations! We all miss you at UNCP!



"**Ritter's Recruits**" team and the plaque awarded to the team for securing the greatest amount of donations this year.