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NEWSLETTER

October
2021

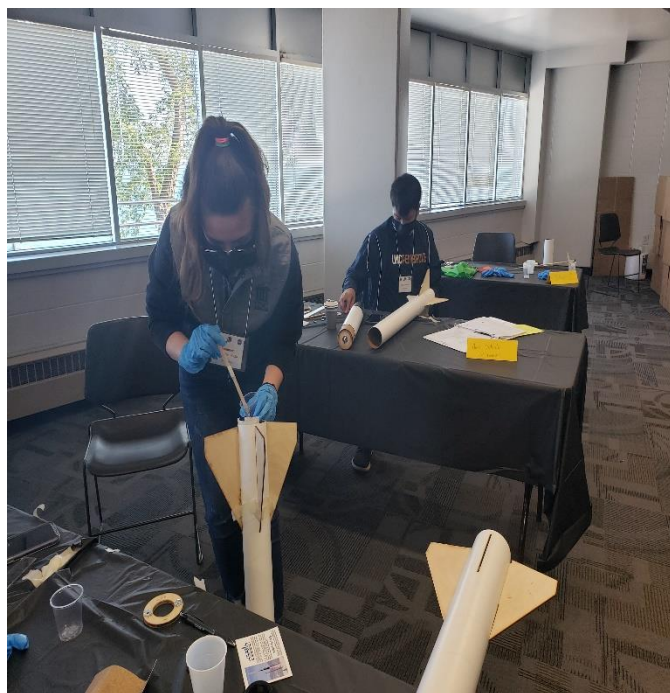
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UNCP Rocket Team



Dr. Steven Singletary
Team Advisor

On Friday, 8 October 2021, Team captain, Summer Agudelo, and team member, Alexis Velarde, along with team advisor, Dr. Steven Singletary, will travel to Kenosha, Wisconsin to attend a NASA sponsored, level 1 certification course at Carthage University in preparation for the First Nations Launch Competition in April 2022. Funds were provided by NASA.



The UNCP Rocket team conducted its monthly launch operations on Friday, October 29, at the ROTC athletic field. Due to the windy weather forecast, the team was able to get only four rockets up.

Walk-Thru Open House Saturday, October 23



Dr. Meredith Storms – Chemistry



Dr. Tikaram Neupane – Physics

The Office of Undergraduate Admissions will host an on-campus Walk-Thru Open House on Saturday, October 23, 2021 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Students and their guests will be able to sign up for one of two registration times, where they'll walk campus, visit tables, speak with departmental representatives, and receive material. This event will closely mimic the walk-thru event that was hosted this past spring with continued precautionary measures to ensure a successful and safe event. Special "thanks" to Dr. Tikaram Neupane and Dr. Meredith Storms in representing the Chemistry and Physics department during the open house and meeting our prospective students and helping recruit future Braves. Dr. Storms mentioned that there were about eight Chemistry students. This is a good number to start with for the first open house and expecting to go up in the future. Thank you very much, Drs. Neupane and Storms, for all you do for both the University and the department. We greatly appreciate your service.





Departmental Scholarship Awards

On behalf of both the Faculty and Staff members, Dr. Siva Mandjiny proudly announces the winners for 2021 scholarships in the department.

Thank you to the Scholarships Committee members: Drs. Meredith Storms, Paul Flowers, and Siva Mandjiny.

This year's recipients are:

1. Anne Marie Teague Memorial Endowed Scholarship - Christopher Collins
2. Cecil and Naomi Lee Conley Chemistry Scholarship - Jameson Trey McDonald
3. UNCP Biotechnology Scholarship - Haleigh Wooters



2021 Walk to Defeat ALS



Timothy M. Ritter, Ph.D.

“It is hard to believe that this will be my 6th walk, but with friends like you, it is hard not to continue to fight the fight”.

Dr. Tim Ritter's Recruits will be hosting an in person walk on Saturday, 23 October 2021 to commence at 11:30 AM. (South Carolina's virtual walk will be on 30 October). The walk will be hosted at his home and

in the neighborhood. And of course... they will have the GREAT after walk party, which includes a catered lunch from Mission BBQ, music, a special guest singing the national anthem, the ever popular bouncy house for the kids, April's amazing cake pops and local weatherman Ed Piotrowski!

As many of you may know, in March 2015 Dr. Ritter was diagnosed with ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's Disease. ALS (amyotrophic lateral sclerosis) is a progressive neurodegenerative disease that affects nerve cells in the brain and the spinal cord. Eventually, people with ALS lose the ability to initiate and control muscle movement, which often leads to total paralysis and death within 2 - 5 years of diagnosis. For unknown reasons, veterans are twice as likely to develop ALS as the general population. There is no cure and currently only one drug approved by the FDA (actually 2, but one is controversial) that modestly extends survival by a few months. So far, the disease has been progressing slowly in his case but still....it progresses each and every day and he finds he can no longer make it through the day without the use of a ventilator.

To help find a cure for this fatal disease, Dr. Ritter and his wife, Marie, have formed a team, Ritter's Recruits, to participate in the Myrtle Beach Walk to Defeat ALS. We would be grateful if you could help us with this effort.

There are several ways to participate.

1. **Become a team walker.** Join them on Saturday, 23 October 2021 at their home in North Myrtle Beach to participate in the walk as a member of Ritter's Recruits. Follow our [team page link](#) to get started and join our team!

2. **If you can't make the walk but would still like to help Tim with a donation,** go to [Ritter's Recruits team page](#). Find Tim's name under "Team Roster" and click on it to make a one-time, tax-deductible donation (which can be anonymous if you wish). Any donation, no matter how small, is greatly appreciated.

Whether you choose to be a walker and join us on 23 October or if you go online and make a donation, every bit of support we receive makes a difference. With your help, we can make a positive impact on the lives of those living with ALS.

Thank you for your time and attention and have a GREAT day!

<https://www.wmbfnews.com/2021/10/21/walk-support-als-patients-happening-this-weekend-north-myrtle-beach/>



Walk to support ALS patients happening this weekend in North Myrtle Beach

NORTH MYRTLE BEACH, S.C. (WMBF) - A walk to support those living with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, more commonly known as ALS, is happening this weekend. One of those participating this year is ...

www.wmbfnews.com



“Thank you so very much for making this year's walk to defeat ALS such a huge success. Everything fell in our favor... The weather, T-shirts that almost did not make it, the food, the music, the cake pops, the excellent food service, and most of all **YOU!**

As I said on Saturday, we were so touched to have all of you with us for this event. It was a special day because of your attendance. With all of your help, we raised \$23,000! That is \$9000 more than we ever made in one year!”





Student News



Bill Brandon, Ph.D., Professor of Physics



Luis Guadalupe · 1st
Quality Assurance Technician at Clover Telecom.

The following letter was sent by Mr. Luis Guadalupe to Dr. Bill Brandon. In that letter, he admired Dr. Brandon's contribution to help Luis to obtain this position. Here is the letter sent by Luis Guadalupe to Dr. Brandon.

Luis Guadalupe: graduated 2013 in Applied Physics.

"I just wanted to reach out and say hello and thank you for the path you set me in.

I am currently following my career dreams and I would not be here without your help and teachings.

After working in the Telecom industry for years, I found the medical industry.

I started working on a R&D contract here to help automate CMMs for inspection. Immediately after the launch of our cranial drill as an inspector, I was hired. I have received several promotions since then; and I am currently working on our latest project for our European launch of HUGO (our AI driven robotic spinal surgical arm).

Not a day goes by that I do not remember that you were the person that awoke my curiosity and taught me the skills necessary to thrive at the largest and most advanced medical device manufacturer.

Once again, thank you and I hope you continue to inspire other students to be successful and bring new technologies to the world".

Luis Guadalupe

Quality Technician III | Automation

Medtronic

Cranial & Spinal Technologies

Medtronic Powered Surgical Solutions

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