

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS

FALL 2016 Volume 18, No. 1

# uncg

MAGAZINE

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# Research for the real world

**W**hen you think about excellence in research, you think about research that makes a tangible impact. It's research that leads to cures, impacts the bottom line or changes our understanding of the world. At the heart of UNCG research lies just that – a passion for solving real-world problems and making a difference in the lives of others.

## DETECTING CONCUSSIONS IN COMBAT

Over the past 15 years, nearly 350,000 military service members have suffered from traumatic brain injury (TBI). The inability to detect TBI in the field, specifically concussions, is a growing concern for the military. Thankfully, UNCG's Dr. Chris Rhea has a solution, and it takes just 70 seconds.

Last spring, the Dept. of Defense awarded Rhea a nearly \$1 million grant to develop a smartphone app to detect concussions in the field. The app's 70-second test may also be applied to sport-related concussions in the future.

"It's vitally important that everything we do has a clinical application that contributes to the greater good," Rhea said. "This project is a perfect example of that."



## FINDING A CURE IN FUNGI

Since 2010, UNCG's Natural Products and Drug Discovery Center has received 20 collaborative grants – totaling \$5.7 million – to advance its mission of developing treatments for cancer and infectious disease. The center's most recent success? Identifying a fungal compound that has shown effectiveness against drug-resistant bacterial infections and is the subject of a recent patent.

## INVESTIGATING ADHD

Thanks to a \$3.2 million grant funded by the U.S. Dept. of Education, Dr. Arthur D. Anastopoulos is conducting the first large, multi-site, randomized controlled trial of any non-medication intervention for college students with attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD).

"College is a fork in the road, especially for students with ADHD," said Anastopoulos, a professor and director of UNCG's ADHD Clinic. "Through our research, we want to flip the switch on the tracks and increase the chance that these students follow an upward trajectory to successful adulthood."

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