THINK AND DO.

From the Dean

NC State University is home to high-performing students, solution-driven research and exceptional faculty and staff who lead extraordinary programs in learning and discovery. It’s no wonder the university is known for its forward-looking philosophy: Think and Do.

The Think and Do approach lies at the very core of a career in education — not only in our own lives but also in the work we do to inspire others. Our goal in the College of Education is to tackle the big issues facing education through innovative teaching, learning, leadership and research.

Despite the current climate in education at the state and national levels, the students and faculty of the College of Education continue to thrive, helping the communities they serve and achieving success in the field. As we forge ahead, we’re making strategic plans to ensure that we continue to provide a career path for professionals who want to educate, innovate and inspire. As you learn about some of the highlights of the past year, remember that this is just a sampling of the college’s recent achievements.

Thank you to our donors, volunteers and friends, as well as to our students, faculty, staff and alumni. All of you give to the college in so many ways, and we are grateful for your contributions. Each of us serves as an ambassador for the college and as an advocate for the field at large. Together we strive to make a difference — to lead and serve and inspire generations to come. We are NC State strong and Wolfpack proud.

Dr. M. Jayne Fleener
Dean
More Than a Century of Educational Innovation

Since the day of its creation — March 7, 1887 — NC State has been moving forward. It moved forward in 1889, propelling the land-grant mission to transform education, when the first class of 72 students enrolled. In 1903, the university offered its first teacher preparation courses and a summer school for teachers, the first efforts to establish a way for teachers, administrators and researchers to receive high-quality schooling for a career in education.

The Department of Education became part of the university in 1924. In 1948, the education department became a school, with Dr. J. Bryant Kirkland serving as dean until 1969. In 1960 the education program became accredited through the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education and has remained in good standing ever since. The department established doctoral programs in 1967, including adult and continuing education. In 1971 Poe Hall was dedicated, and the education faculty, students and programs moved in.

The School of Education grew and was established as the College of Education in 1987. A new building was added on Centennial Campus — the William and Ida Friday Institute for Educational Innovation — in 2005. Our programs and offerings continued to grow with the addition of a program in elementary education in May 2007.

Today NC State keeps driving forward, carrying its legacy of education preparation into the future. In 2013 the College of Education received a $4.7 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to expand its efforts to train principals and assistant principals for hard-to-staff school districts in the northeastern region of the state through the Northeast Leadership Academy.

The college is divided into four academic departments: curriculum, instruction and counselor education; elementary education; leadership, policy and adult and higher education; and science, technology, engineering and mathematics education. We prepare professionals who educate and lead. Our inquiry and practice reflect integrity, a commitment to social justice and the value of diversity in a global community.

What does this accelerated movement prepare our graduates to do? Educate. Innovate. Inspire.

By the Numbers: 2013-2014

650 Undergraduate enrollment
1,140 Graduate enrollment
225 Faculty/Staff
14,150 Alumni

More Than a Century of Educational Innovation

The College of Education was ranked 51st in the nation by U.S. News & World Report for 2015, up 28 spots from last year.

51st

The College of Education has the second-highest four-year graduation rate (64.4%) and the third-highest six-year graduation rate (78.1%) among the nation’s colleges of education.

598 Degrees Awarded

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UNITY, SERVICE, TRADITION

That was the platform that senior Molly Basdeo promoted during her candidacy for senior class president — and it’s the platform that carried her to victory. She will bring her background in middle grades language arts and social studies education to campus this fall in her new leadership position. Experiences like this fill her resume: In the last three years she has been an active member of and leader in Student Government; the Center for Student Leadership, Ethics and Public Service; Kappa Alpha Theta; and the North Carolina Teaching Fellows. In fact, Basdeo is part of the last class of Teaching Fellows — funding for the program was cut in 2011 — but students already in the program were grandfathered in until 2015. The North Carolina Teaching Fellows program provided scholarships and leadership training to students who agreed to teach four years in one of North Carolina’s public schools following graduation.

EMBRACING LANGUAGE DIVERSITY

The term “diversity” encompasses much more than race or ethnicity. An unfamiliar turn of phrase or an accent that sounds foreign can lead to stereotyping that diminishes us all. Dr. Stephany Dunstan ’13, who received her Ph.D. in educational research and policy analysis, has made in-depth studies of the effects certain dialects can have on those who use them. She won national honors for her dissertation, “The Influence of Speaking a Dialect of Appalachian English on the College Experience.” In true NC State Think and Do fashion, she is now taking action on what she has learned, working alongside professors Audrey Jaeger, professor of higher education, and Walt Wolfram, distinguished professor of English, on a project called Educating the Educated: A University-wide Linguistic Diversity Initiative. The project is aimed at raising awareness of language diversity issues and celebrating language diversity on campus.

FROM STUDENT TO TEACHER

When new alumnus Trey Ferguson ’14 enters his mathematics classroom in Leesville Road High School this fall, he’ll feel confident in the preparation he received to be a teacher. He was among the first class of scholars to successfully complete the Passport to Success program, which was founded in 2012 to engage students through unique, high-impact activities in cultural, community and professional development. The experience enhances classroom learning and provides opportunities for personal and professional growth. Ferguson says the program gave him an opportunity to integrate all the different kinds of work he was doing and to reflect on what makes up a well-rounded educator.

“My involvement at NC State on the whole has helped me to be innovative in my teaching practices. Having to walk into Poe Hall and see the ‘Educate Innovate Inspire’ banners and then see the motto in action in your friends and colleagues makes you want to rise to the challenge.”

— Trey Ferguson
In FY 2013-14, granting agencies awarded $10.4 million in new funding for 30 proposals submitted by College of Education faculty. Approximately $12 million in additional requested funding is still pending. Among tenure-track faculty, 67 percent are principal investigators (PIs), co-PIs, and/or senior personnel on one or more sponsored projects. The college currently ranks fifth in total research expenditures among all colleges and units at NC State and fifth in comparison with our 16 national college of education peers. Integration of research and outreach is one of our key differentiators.

In FY 2013-14, the Friday Institute was awarded $7.6 million in new funds for a total of $20 million in active grants from federal and state agencies, private foundations and private-sector corporations. Through cutting-edge research and cross-sector collaboration, the Friday Institute has engaged educators and leaders in more than 60 North Carolina school districts, all 50 states and more than 80 other countries; influenced federal and state education policy; convened national and international education leaders; and developed innovative models and programs to help schools become innovative, future-oriented organizations prepared for the digital transformation of education.

The state of North Carolina awarded $2 million to the Friday Institute to develop a Digital Learning Transition Plan to convert North Carolina K-12 education systems from textbook-based learning approaches to digital learning approaches by 2017.

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The International + Distance Education Alliance (I+DEA)

I+DEA spearheads the college’s distance education and global initiatives. The staff transformed student travel abroad in order to make these international experiences more significant and better aligned with the enhancement of cultural competence. These redesigned international experiences address the needs of culturally responsive teaching. The I+DEA office, in collaboration with college faculty, sponsored visiting scholars from China, Ghana, Turkey and Jordan; facilitated K-12 student exchanges between Wake County Schools and Beijing Royal School in China; signed partnerships with Russian, Brazilian and Chinese schools; and sponsored a faculty travel program. I+DEA continues to develop international initiatives that help student teachers increase cultural competence in multicultural and diverse classrooms.

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The Friday Institute, in collaboration with partners throughout the state, has been asked to develop the North Carolina Digital Learning Plan. The plan’s purpose is to continue and accelerate the state’s progress in ensuring that all students throughout the state have equitable access to high-quality digital learning. Informed by K-12 digital learning transitions already under way in schools and districts across North Carolina and beyond, the plan will create a coherent long-term strategy that supports local innovation, provides resources and removes barriers, so that educators and students throughout North Carolina can benefit fully from digital content and tools.

Imagine entering a classroom where third-grade students are learning about sinking and floating by feeling the buoyant and gravitational forces exerted on virtual objects as they float in water. Thanks to College of Education research, this classroom is a reality. Last fall, the National Science Foundation awarded $449,643 to Dr. James Minogue, associate professor in elementary education, for ASPECT: Advancing Science Performance with Emerging Computer Technologies. Anticipating a radically different approach to K-6 science teaching and learning, this project combines Unity (a game engine and development environment) with cutting-edge haptic (simulated touch) technology. The project is using Novint Technologies’ Falcon force-feedback device to provide students with unparalleled perception of invisible forces. The interdisciplinary core team, which includes Dr. Marc Russo, assistant professor in the College of Design, and Dr. David Borland, senior visualization researcher at the Renaissance Computing Institute at UNC-Chapel Hill, worked with teachers and students at Brentwood Elementary School in Raleigh to design, build and pilot-test a haptically enhanced simulation about sinking and floating. In the second and third years of this exploratory project, the team will develop simulations for learning about molecular forces and magnetism.

“Teachers and students loved being involved in the process of building and testing a piece of innovative educational technology. Early findings suggest that the addition of haptics helped third-grade students reason more completely about sinking and floating.”

— Dr. James Minogue
Charles "Tommy" Tomkins '64 is proud to give back to an institution that marked an important milestone in his life. Tomkins was born and raised in Gallatin, Tennessee, where his father owned a furniture manufacturing company. Tomkins entered the business after graduating; he served as CEO of Crescent Fine Furniture until his retirement, and now he is chairman of the board. While at NC State, Tomkins took a variety of courses in the College of Education that helped him in the early years of his professional life. As a member of Pi Kappa Alpha, Tomkins created lifelong connections to Raleigh, and after college he stayed active in the Wolfpack Club and made frequent trips to North Carolina while working in the furniture business. All these factors led Tomkins to decide to do something special for the College of Education: He has established a $100,000 endowment that will support a scholarship to the college, through a provision in his estate specifying that proceeds from an IRA will fund the scholarship.

"NC State is one of those places I always felt was important to support. I know there is a need for scholarships with cost of education going up. If I have the ability to leave something and if I can help the college, then I’m happy to do it."

— Charles “Tommy” Tomkins
**INSPIRE**

**"WHO AM I? SEE MY VOICE?"**

Dr. Susan Faircloth’s research, teaching and service are guided by a personal and professional goal to work in the best interests of children, particularly those who have historically been deemed educationally at risk. As an associate professor in educational leadership, her work aims to understand and respond to the factors that place these children at risk of being labeled as students with disabilities. Faircloth’s study, “Ko wai ahu? Who am I? See my voice?”, explores the identities, goals and aspirations of six deaf Māori (indigenous) secondary students in New Zealand using a modified version of the photovoice methodology. This process includes digital camera training in which students learn to take photos in response to a series of research questions and develop accompanying narratives to explain why their images are important to them. The result is for the community to better understand the educational experiences of deaf Māori youth by seeing their stories communicated both in writing and in graphic format. This research was recently presented to the New Zealand Ministry of Education, which translated the initial findings into Māori and New Zealand sign language. Dr. Faircloth’s work in New Zealand was originally supported through a Fulbright Senior Scholar Award, which she completed in 2012.

**PRODUCING THE BEST**

Lou Moshakos and his wife, Joy — an NC State alumna — have always had a twofold philanthropic focus: giving back to the local community that supports their businesses, and keeping education at the heart of where they invest time and donations. Mr. and Mrs. Moshakos were named 2014 Restaurateurs of the Year by the North Carolina Restaurant and Lodging Association in January. Together they own LM Restaurants, which manages local favorites such as Carolina Ale House and Taverna Agora, as well as the popular coastal restaurants Oceanic, Bluewater and HopsCo. They are deeply connected to NC State, with two alumni daughters who credit the NC State experience as instrumental in preparing them to be problem solvers and critical thinkers — vital skills for success in the business world. With a passion for education and gratitude to NC State, the Moshakos family created a scholarship to make it a little easier for deserving, motivated students to attend NC State at the undergraduate and graduate levels in the College of Education.

**SENIOR GIVING SHINES**

Graduating seniors from the College of Education who participated in the annual NC State Senior Class Gift initiative achieved one of the highest participation totals of any college across campus. Their support continues an honored tradition of giving back that began with the NC State class of 1912. The Senior Class Gift is an annual effort developed by students as a way for the senior class to acknowledge their positive experiences at NC State, leave their legacy and mark their transition into becoming alumni. Seniors Scott McDonald, elementary education, and Alexis Teasdall, middle grades language arts and social studies, presented the current total as of May 10 — a check for $1,012 — to Dean Jayne Fleener during the college’s graduation ceremony. This represented the support of almost 30 percent of College of Education seniors.

“We both feel very strongly that giving our children a solid education is one of the greatest gifts parents can give to their children. Supporting the College of Education is our way of helping NC State produce some of the best teachers in the country.”

— Lou and Joy Moshakos
The purpose of the Advisory Board is to promote the welfare and future development of NC State University’s College of Education in its educational purposes through advocacy, fundraising and service.
“NC State’s College of Education has produced creative, inspiring and talented educators who are now leading classrooms, schools and even school districts all across North Carolina. Every day, these graduates are strengthening our state’s system of public education and helping more students reach their full potential and achieve their dreams.”

— June Atkinson, Ph.D. ’96
State Superintendent
Public Schools of North Carolina