“Today, graduation day, is a good day for North Carolina. This wonderful College of Education has prepared you for new heights of achievement. You’re going to help us resume our historical North Carolina path of progress and national leadership in education.”

Gov. Jim Hunt ’59, ’62, addressing graduates at the May 8, 2015, College of Education graduate degree commencement
Message from the Interim Dean

We are at the intersection of great challenges and opportunities. Too many students in North Carolina lack access to high-quality education and come from families that are traditionally underserved. It is becoming increasingly difficult for middle-income families to financially support their children’s continuation in postsecondary education. At the same time we in the College of Education are developing new knowledge and learning technologies, which can improve teaching, learning and leadership.

In order to increase our impact to improve education, we in the College of Education have taken salient measures to be strategic. We seek to build on our successes in what we do well in research, teaching and engagement to implement more boldly our mission and our moral imperative to impact positively the lives of those individuals who need us the most. We are committed to transformational change with our new vision:

The College of Education will lead the way in North Carolina in increasing opportunities for success in education and reducing achievement gaps. We will do this by:

- Leveraging digital education
- Promoting STEM and literacy education
- Forging strong, interdepartmental collaborations and cohesion
- Building vibrant, supportive external partnerships

This annual report highlights some of the important foundational work for our vision. Credit for this progress goes to our faculty, staff, students, alumni and donors. You are our NC State College of Education community, and we could not be prouder of the work that you do.

In July I had the honor of becoming interim dean to continue to lead the college on our upward trajectory of excellence and positive impact with the goal of improving education in the state and nation. I hope you will believe, as I do, in our research, knowledge and strength. We will continue to tackle the most pressing challenges in education with a philosophy as simple as it is powerful: “Think and Do.”

Dr. Mary Ann Danowitz
Interim Dean
Who We Are

High-Tech, High-Touch Learning

The College of Education offers graduate and undergraduate students a personalized experience that equips them for the ever-changing 21st-century classroom. To align with our vision, we’ve created a curriculum that advocates for literacy and STEM education, combined with a tight focus on applying cutting-edge, solution-driven research. Through small classroom settings, cohesive student cohorts, effective partnerships with schools and education innovators, world-class faculty and unique experiential opportunities, we have become a national leader in student success.

The college is currently positioned at the nexus of two high tech hubs: NC State, a preeminent research university with elite science, technology and math programs; and Raleigh, a cradle of the next wave of tech entrepreneurship. This primes the College of Education to produce fruitful opportunities for its students on campus and allows us to lead the movement to improve education across the state.

#1 in production of STEM teachers in North Carolina

2014-2015

1,944 total enrollment
694 undergraduate
805 master’s
400 doctoral
45 alternative licensure
67 tenure-track faculty
14,182 alumni
459 degrees conferred
Impact in North Carolina

Research Funding
The College has had an outstanding year generating external support to undertake high-impact research and development to improve education in North Carolina. In 2014-15, granting agencies awarded $10.6 million in new funding for 45 proposals submitted by College of Education faculty. Approximately $8.3 million in additional requested funding is still pending. Among tenure-track faculty, 75 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. Integration of research and outreach is one of our key differentiators.

Friday Institute for Educational Innovation
In FY 2015, the Friday Institute was awarded $2.6 million in new funds for a total of $18.6 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 100 North Carolina school districts, all 50 states and more than 80 other countries. It has 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.

Belk Endowment Grant: Helping Develop the Next Generation of Community College Leaders
As a record number of top community college leaders across North Carolina prepare to retire, the John M. Belk Endowment has awarded NC State a $525,000 grant for a professional development program to help prepare the next generation of community college leaders.

Envisioning Excellence for Community College Leadership is a two-year project designed to strengthen community colleges by developing exceptional leaders. NC State is partnering with The Aspen Institute, a nationally renowned educational and policy studies organization, and North Carolina community college leaders to integrate evidence-based best practices into both its graduate education and leadership development programs for aspiring community college presidents and other executive-level college leaders.

Research shows community colleges with the highest levels of student success have exceptionally talented leaders whose expertise enables them to inspire student, academic and organizational excellence. The impending retirements of dozens of North Carolina’s top community college leaders present a challenge as well as an opportunity to align our programs in educational leadership, policy, and human development with ambitious goals for student success.

“These stories show a university tackling the challenges of our time with intellectual rigor and boundless energy.”
Chancellor Randy Woodson
Principal of the Year Works to Complete Doctorate at NC State

Steve Lassiter, principal of Pitt County’s Pactolus Elementary School, received North Carolina’s Principal of the Year award. Lassiter is currently completing his doctorate in educational leadership.

As the state’s Principal of the Year, Lassiter makes many trips from Greenville to Raleigh, where he serves as an advisor to the State Board of Education and to State Superintendent June Atkinson. He is also on the board of the Public School Forum of North Carolina.

Lassiter always had NC State on his mind for advanced education. “NC State has always been in my educational trajectory. I wanted a different experience in becoming a school leader,” he said. “I wanted to choose a doctoral program that was innovative and that catered to the needs of the student. I found that in the NC State educational leadership program.”

Lassiter’s research project will focus on the experiences of teachers who work with struggling readers. He wants to investigate how teachers of early readers in kindergarten through second grade work to help struggling readers learn.

Impact in North Carolina

Once he earns his doctorate, Lassiter would like to advocate for better educational policy and school governance. “Educators in North Carolina need to feel valued for the work and energy they put into educating our children every day. We can do this by increasing pay, including their voice in legislative decision making and changing how we present North Carolina public schools to the general public,” he said. “I would work on changing that perception of teachers in North Carolina.”

College of Education Supports Beginning Teachers in North Carolina

The College of Education is committed to supporting beginning teachers throughout the state of North Carolina. One of the college’s signature programs is the Beginning Teacher Institute (BTI). BTI is focused on providing support to new teachers in an effort to both improve performance and assist in retention.

BTI includes a three-day summer institute and follow-up sessions during the school year to support new teachers in organizing, planning, implementing and analyzing instruction. Topics for BTI are practical and based on participant input. Facilitators and speakers are successful, practicing teachers including the North Carolina Teacher of the Year as well as faculty and staff from the College of Education.
Impact Beyond North Carolina

Experiential Education
Melissa Goto ’17 always knew she wanted to be a teacher. Last spring she had the opportunity to attend the Collaborative Conference for Student Achievement, hosted by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, as a college intern. At this conference, she had the chance to network with leaders in the profession, attend workshops, meet the National Teacher of the Year and even read a personal essay to over 2,000 conference attendees. “This experience opened my mind to education at the state level and has affected my outlook on teaching in general. I am grateful that NC State looks for ways that students can grow through experiences like this one,” said Goto.

Majoring in elementary education, she is active at NC State in the following programs: Chancellor’s Aide, University Honors, Education Council, College of Education Student Ambassador, Passport to Success, Student Advisory Board, Club Swim Team and the Multicultural Young Educators Network.

Professor Marshall: NC State’s Fulbright Scholar
One NC State professor was recently awarded Fulbright scholar awards and grants for the 2015-2016 academic year.

Education professor Patricia L. Marshall was selected for a Fulbright Scholar award and is teaching in Ecuador for the 2015-16 academic year. She is part of the Department of Teacher Education and Learning Sciences. She will teach a two-semester seminar course on multicultural/comparative education to fourth-year education students at Universidad San Francisco de Quito.

“As part of my study I will be exploring how changing the dominant language of instruction in the second semester of the course affects students’ receptivity to and personal investment in critical study of race and economic class prejudice as significant factors in educational disparities in both the U.S. and Ecuador,” Marshall said. “I will also engage in study of my own cultural competency and my enactment of culturally relevant pedagogy in this South American context.”

She will also work on projects with Ecuador’s Ministry of Education. You can follow this journey on her blog: patsspan.blogspot.com

Personalization of Learning Paths in Mathematics
Jere Confrey and her team are currently working on the Diagnostic Assessment Project, funded by the National Science Foundation. Innovative and powerful ways of teaching and learning lose traction because they are difficult to assess. This project seeks to solve this problem by developing dynamic digital assessments that accurately measure student thinking about mathematics. Teachers receive immediate feedback on their students’ learning to permit them to adjust their instruction and provide targeted interventions.

This past year, as the assessments were developed, local area students and teachers were invited to review the prototypes and provide feedback through clinical interviews and play testing conducted via online and in-person focus groups. Confrey also received funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for her project titled Learning Maps Based On Possible Paths Through Relational Learning Clusters (RLCs): Grades 6-9 Math, which aims to create primary learning resources to help students and teachers capitalize on the personalization of learning paths in mathematics.
Hiller Spires was awarded a grant for a two-year, $1.5 million project, Suzhou North America High School: Connecting to the Future. Spires and her team are helping design the school, including a rigorous and global curriculum, dynamic pedagogies, emerging technologies and collaborative learning spaces.

“Jayne was a positive, engaging and thoughtful dean. Her commitment to student success and passion for improving education were inspiring to all.”

Dan Taylor, chair of the College of Education Advisory Board

Giving Back

Celebrating Impact: Service to the College

After completing a five-year term, M. Jayne Fleener stepped down as dean of the College of Education June 30 and returned to her passion, a commitment to teacher education research and innovation for the college at the Friday Institute.

Since joining NC State in 2010, Fleener has worked to coordinate, consolidate and reorganize a number of programs in the College of Education. Under her leadership, the college has excelled in turning around declining enrollments, reorganizing the Ph.D. program and enhancing the student experience in the face of numerous challenges.

Last year, the college’s graduate program placed 51st in the nation in the highly competitive U.S. News & World Report rankings, with a remarkable gain of 28 spots from the previous year. Financial support for the college also increased dramatically during Fleener’s tenure. Unrestricted giving and overall giving more than doubled between 2010 and 2015. The endowment also grew from $1,879,920 to $3,571,267 in the same time period.

Education Legacy Honors Friendship

When John Jenkins and John Crow were introduced, both men were on their way to successful professional careers. Jenkins was involved in the electrical contracting business and Crow was teaching and serving as a local Methodist pastor. As their friendship grew, Jenkins credited his friend for helping him find a path to a healthier and more prosperous life.

While their careers took them in different directions, over the years the men kept in touch and would see each other occasionally in Tarboro, North Carolina. Before Jenkins passed away in February of 2014 after a long life and successful career, it was his wish to honor his friend Crow by allocating a portion of his estate to establish a fund at the College of Education. The John L. Crow and John R. Jenkins Scholarship Endowment, funded in September 2014 with an initial gift of $40,000, will benefit students in the Department of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics Education.

Crow received a B.S. in industrial arts, an M.S. in industrial and technical education, and an Ed.D. in adult and community college education from NC State. He is a member of the Academy of Outstanding Teachers at NC State and was selected as an NC State Alumni Distinguished Professor in 1984. Crow retired from full-time service at NC State in 1992 after teaching for 30 years. He currently teaches part-time as an assistant professor emeritus.
$204,400 awarded in College of Education student scholarships

Distribution of Scholarships

- Graduate students: 34%
- Undergrads: 66%

$1,811,131 total giving to the college (July 1, 2014, to June 30, 2015)

Where Gifts Came From

- Alumni: 12.9%
- Parents: 1.49%
- Faculty/staff: 0.2%
- Other individuals: 5.09%
- Corporations: 5.14%
- Other organizations: 34.9%
- Foundations: 40.28%

How Gifts Were Used (unrestricted annual giving)

- Current operations: 88.31%
- Endowment: 11.65%
- Facilities: 0.04%

Annual CED Endowment Totals (From FY 2010 to FY 2015)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>$1.879M</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
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<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>$2.868M</td>
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<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>$3.236M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>$3.571M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$114,772 annual giving total for FY 2015

$93,295 gifts to the College of Education Excellence Fund

$3,571,267 endowment total (as of June 30, 2015)

Cherished Professor, Lasting Support

In February of 2015, the College of Education community lost a very special friend, supporter and retired administrator, Edgar John Boone. A proud “farm boy” from Varnado, Louisiana, Ed began his journey in higher education at the LSU and continued it at the University of Wisconsin to earn his Ph.D.

The Boones came to Raleigh and NC State in 1963. He founded and became the head of the Department of Adult and Community College Education, where he held the W. Dallas Herring Professorship. The students affectionately referred to his course as “Booneology.” His tenure included the publication of multiple books and other materials on adult education. Upon retirement, he continued to work on community college leadership programs and directly supported many students in order to help them complete doctoral and master’s programs in adult education. His students remember him as a professor who went to all lengths to assist them in being successful in their endeavors.

Ed and his wife, Ethel, have been giving back to NC State and the College of Education for decades. In 2014 they established the Edgar J. & Ethel B. Boone Adult and Community College Leadership Award Endowment with a leadership gift. This endowment, which many friends and former students of his have contributed to, will support graduate students who are specializing in adult and community college education or higher education.

67 students received direct scholarship support from the college

44 Chancellor’s Circle donors, alumni and friends contributed $1,000+ to the college

Giving Update
Thank you for including the College of Education in your philanthropic priorities.

This listing reflects gifts made between July 1, 2014, and June 30, 2015.
Thank you for including the College of Education in your philanthropic priorities.

College of Education Advisory Board 2015

Sarah Capel
Raleigh, N.C.

Cindi Crabtree '74
Cary, N.C.

Martha Emrich '89
Raleigh, N.C.

Dr. Carl Harris '98
Cary, N.C.

Anne Schout
New Bern, N.C.

Dr. Bill McNeal '05
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Amber Moshakos '03
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Kristin Replique
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Dana Taylor Jr.

Dr. David Ward '77, '81, '93
Cary, N.C.

Dr. Christina Ward '94
Cary, N.C.

Dr. Laura Wyatt '89, '98
Cary, N.C.

Dawn Shephard '02
Chair

Marc Zorate '81
Chairperson

Chair

Chair

Chair

Chair