

IMPACT REPORT



NC STATE



100%
Pass Rate
on the North Carolina
teacher licensing exam
(statewide pass rate of 67%)



From the Dean

The College of Education embodies NC State's "Think and Do" philosophy in an extraordinary manner. We provide the best training for teachers and educational leaders in North Carolina, and we lead innovative research on policy and practice. Our faculty, staff, students and alumni address and solve today's most pressing challenges facing education and our communities. Our vision remains clear and strong: to increase student success and close achievement gaps.

In the college, we develop new knowledge and learning technologies to improve teaching, learning and leadership. We create new collaborations and solidify existing ones to increase students' opportunities for success across the K-20 education spectrum.

Our 2016 Impact Report highlights the ways we serve practicing educators, make advances through research, support students and enhance our communities. One feature we take great pride in – the amount of active grants awarded to our faculty for research and development – stands at more than \$53 million. Faculty members address literacy and mental health in our communities, utilize gaming to boost computer science skills, integrate technology into teaching math and strengthen community college leadership. They also play a vital role in supporting and preparing our students for high-performing scholarship and leadership that will shape the educational and economic future of North Carolina and beyond.

Partners in philanthropy remain a large part of our strength and success. We are grateful for donors, including Tom and Jean Brady, Ann and Jim Goodnight and Anne Schout, who lighten the burden of a limited budget and allow us to conduct life-changing research, develop innovative programs, hire field-leading faculty members and provide critical support for students. By establishing distinguished professorships and scholarship endowments, our donor partners are the vanguard of our \$21 million campaign for excellence.

I was honored to be named dean of the College of Education, especially knowing the strength of our college and students. Our students are among the nation's brightest, with a passion to transform education and society, and we expect nothing but the best from all of them.

Our faculty, staff, students and alumni improve the lives of others and strengthen the workforce of our state every day. Fulfilling our land-grant mission is a top priority for the college and for me. When reading this report, I hope you will consider ways you can expand your engagement with the College of Education and support our efforts to help everyone involved in the college realize their full potential and achieve their goals.

Mary Ann Danowitz
Dean

Where Math and Technology Meet

Many students struggle with learning and applying mathematical concepts. Research from the College of Education, however, equips teachers with the right classroom technology to help students excel in math. For more than a decade, Preparing to Teach Mathematics with Technology (PTMT) has helped teachers integrate the latest technology in their lessons to better engage students.

Since 2005, PTMT has received three National Science Foundation grants for more than \$1.2 million in funding for research and materials development. The research is being led by College of Education faculty members Karen Hollebrands, Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor and University Faculty Scholar; Hollylynne Lee, professor, mathematics and statistics education, University Faculty Scholar and Faculty Fellow; and Allison McCulloch, associate professor, with support of our Friday Institute. They have developed materials integrating mathematical tasks, technological tools and pedagogical

strategies for middle and high school teachers. These materials help those teaching algebraic, geometric and statistical topics use technology to connect with students in a format in which they are comfortable.

To further expand the program's reach, researchers developed a Web portal that gives free access to materials and technology demonstrations for each of the three modules. Their research has helped mathematics educators better understand how pre-service teachers learn critical skills needed to use technology effectively to promote students' learning of mathematics.

Targeting Achievement Gaps

Professor Lee Stiff has taught courses in mathematics and mathematics education, including uses of technology in teaching mathematics. Stiff's research and other professional activities have focused on teaching strategies, problem solving, the mathematics education of African-American children and uses of instructional technologies in mathematics teaching. His research methodologies include experimental design, surveys and interviews, and classroom-based investigations.

Minority Students

make up 19% of our undergraduate population and 26% of our graduate population.

Literacy and Learning

Literacy affects the success of every student and defines the quality of life for our citizens. The College of Education addresses the challenges of literacy through a variety of innovative methods, including game-based learning and using children's literature and media, as well as innovative vocabulary instruction for preschool-aged children. Three of our faculty members have devoted their research to addressing literacy, with exceptional results.

In support of children who find literacy most challenging, Dennis Davis, associate professor of literacy and English language arts, is developing a literacy space to help struggling readers. His research has helped teachers design effective instructional practices for reading comprehension and reading assessment. "As our ways of communicating and interacting with texts and other media change over time, so too do the challenges associated with literacy learning," said Davis.

Ann Harrington, teaching associate professor of literacy education, has a passion for children who need extra reading support. She instills the importance of high-quality reading instruction in her students, who use their knowledge to impart a lifelong love of reading to children. Her research and professional development activities have helped teachers in high-poverty elementary schools integrate more equitable

instruction methods in their classrooms to improve literacy and learning outcomes for struggling students.

The New Literacies Teacher Leader Institute, founded in 2009 by Alumni Distinguished Graduate Professor Hiller Spires, now has more than 1,000 members. Institute participants — educators who are passionate about transforming teaching and learning for the 21st century — spend a rewarding week collaborating to develop creative, innovative instructional solutions for their classrooms. Additionally, Spires uses her position to advocate for increased training for literacy specialists in North Carolina schools.

Through their research and initiatives within the College of Education, each of these professors is making great progress in advancing literacy and literacy education.



Learning Math Through Language – Project AIM

Paola Sztajn, associate dean for research and innovation, leads Project AIM (All Included in Mathematics). Project AIM showcases the impact of interdisciplinary research by College of Education faculty on students across North Carolina. The project, launched in 2010 with funding from a five-year, \$2.9 million grant from the National Science Foundation, helps elementary school children grasp math concepts through classroom discourse.

Strengthening Rural Schools

There is a documented gap in academic success between students in North Carolina's high-poverty school districts and others throughout the state. The Northeast Leadership Academy (NELA) equips principals to close the achievement gap through service that inspires students to succeed.

Closing the student achievement gap in North Carolina starts with training outstanding school leaders. That's the goal of NELA. Directed by Bonnie Fusarelli, professor of educational leadership and a University Faculty Scholar, this NC State degree program equips principals to serve in one of 14 high-poverty, hard-to-staff and historically low-performing school districts.

Tonya Little (standing, at right), a 2013 NELA graduate and Martin County Schools' science, technology, engineering and math coordinator, knows the importance of placing high-quality leaders in these schools. "There is a sense of urgency here; we have kids who are two or three grade levels behind," she said. "NELA is developing leaders who can step into schools to help solve these problems now. Our kids don't have time to wait."

NELA graduates such as Little make a difference by receiving their education in the communities they serve. The results are significant. Within the first two years, schools with NELA-trained principals show dramatic improvements in students' grade-level proficiency and attendance, as well as decreases in suspensions and behavioral incidents.

More than 95 percent of schools led by NELA principals saw student academic growth in 2015-16. One elementary school led by a NELA-trained principal saw its student proficiency rate on state tests rise from 30 percent to 55 percent in just two years.

With a new \$5.6 million grant from The Wallace Foundation, the program will expand to Durham, Greene County, Lenoir County and Wilson County public schools.

**The
Northeast
Leadership
Academy**
is the nation's top
principal preparation
program.



NORTHEAST LEADERSHIP ACADEMY 2.0



nela.ced.ncsu.edu/about-nela-2-0

SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITIES



Expanding Student Success

Successful communities are built based on a shared vision of leaders who demonstrate passion and dedication to the citizens they serve. In

Duplin County, Lawrence Rouse '98, president of James Sprunt Community College, has dedicated his presidency to engaging community partners in innovative programs to ensure student success and to address the educational and workforce challenges of Duplin County. The resulting pre-K to college collaborative partnership was transformative for the area's educational system and led to Rouse being named the 2016 President of the Year by the North Carolina Community College System. Rouse also received the College of Education's I.E. Ready Award in 2015.



Changing Students' Lives

Students' experiences during their time at the College of Education leave a profound impact that leads them to change lives and communities for the

better. Phail Wynn, vice president for Durham and Regional Affairs at Duke University,

received his doctorate from the College of Education in 1977. Now, nearly 40 years after receiving his doctorate from NC State, Wynn is the College of Education's 2016 Distinguished Alumnus. His dedication and service to the college, the community and adult higher education serve as an inspiration to educators and education professionals throughout the state. Wynn gave the charge to graduates at the college's 2016 fall commencement.

Taking Collective Action

Nationally renowned scholar Jonathan Kozol provided the keynote speech at the inaugural Education Action Summit in April. "Disrupting Poverty: Initiating Collective Impact on Education" engaged community partners across North Carolina in the discourse. Collective impact – collaboration among institutions and community leaders to combat poverty through support for education – provides a model of social action for deep and systemic change. Changing biases in education and tackling poverty will demand a commitment to collective impact. The summit, attended by more than 230 individuals representing more than 50 organizations, provided a strong starting point for the college's role in collective impact action in the region.

U.S. News & World Report ranks
the College of Education
14th in the Nation
for our higher
education program.



Graduate Students Working to Provide Mental Health Care

Clinical counseling graduate students work through the Community Counseling, Education and Research Clinic — founded by College of Education faculty — to provide world-class mental health care services to people without health insurance. Marc Grimmitt (above), associate professor of counselor education, and Helen Lupton-Smith (above left), teaching assistant professor and clinical coordinator, lead the initiative.



NC State students study abroad in Shanghai, China.

New Literacies Teacher Leader Institute

In 2016, Hiller Spires, professor of literacy education and Alumni Outstanding Graduate Professor, helped launch Suzhou North America (SNA) High School in Suzhou, China. Spires and her colleagues worked on the school for more than two years, designing the curriculum and the physical learning spaces. These efforts support a philosophy of contemporary teaching and learning, providing ongoing professional development for the teachers, along with new technologies.

The school opened on Sept. 5 with 300 students and a diverse faculty, many of whom have taught around the world. Spires' vision for SNA is that it will be a state-of-the-art high school that embraces the best of Chinese and American education. The Chinese students who attend the school are interested in applying to institutions of higher education in the U.S. The curriculum will help acclimate students to academic and social life in college.

Cultural Immersion for Stronger Classrooms

When teachers connect with students on a personal level, students' chances for success are elevated. For future teachers in the College of Education's Master of Arts in Teaching program, a recent cultural immersion trip to Mexico empowered them to empathize while they educate.

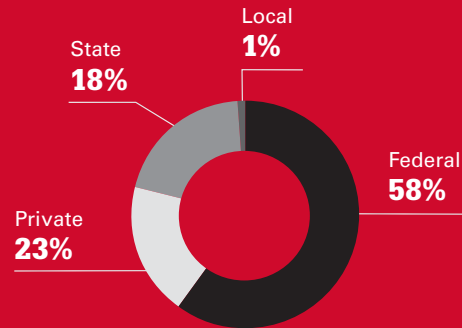
In summer 2016, two teaching assistant professors of social studies education and diversity education, Micha Jeffries and Joanna Koch, took a group of graduate students to Mexico for firsthand experience working with students in a different cultural context. The professors' goal was to help future teachers meaningfully engage with students in diverse learning environments and to focus on social justice in the classroom.

The program's emphasis on cultural awareness helps students use their lived experience to think about cultivating a classroom that is more responsive to diversity. Students who study abroad in Mexico are encouraged to work through personal biases, critically examine ways in which they may better interact with ESL and immigrant students, and increase efforts to provide equitable instruction to make students feel comfortable in new learning environments.

Research Grants

The College of Education's outstanding faculty bring in funding through local, state, federal and private research grants that help them improve teaching, learning and leading across the K-20 spectrum. With the support of grants, more than two-thirds of tenure-track faculty spearhead research projects that are transforming schools and communities, from K-12 classroom advances to literacy training and education policy to teacher evaluation.

\$53+ Million
in active research grants



\$53,933,974

Current Active Awards by Funding Type
(College of Education and Friday Institute)

The College at a Glance 2015-16 Academic Year



1,500
total enrollment

539
undergraduate

529
master's

432
doctoral



14,260
alumni



532
degrees conferred

146
faculty/staff

66
tenure-track faculty

Giving Update

We are grateful for donors, including Tom and Jean Brady, Ann and Jim Goodnight and Anne Cooper Schout. By establishing distinguished professorships and scholarship endowments, they are the vanguard of our \$21 million campaign for excellence.

P.H. Cooper Professorship in STEM Education

Honoring the legacy of her father, a 1936 graduate of the College of Education, Anne Cooper Schout, an Advisory Board member and long-time College of Education supporter, made a \$1 million commitment to establish the P.H. Cooper Professorship in STEM Education. This, the first fully endowed professorship in the college, honors Cooper and his belief in the value of higher education. This commitment will be fulfilled through a provision in Cooper's estate. She and her husband, Jim, a mechanical engineering graduate of NC State, reside in New Bern.

Goodnight Distinguished Professorship

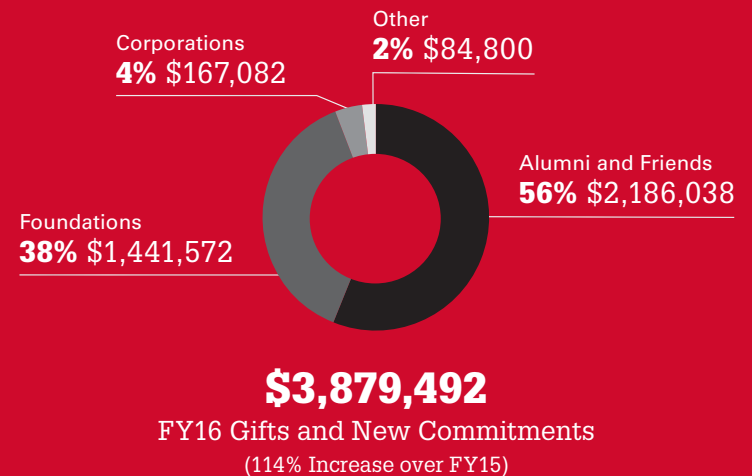


The Goodnight Distinguished Professorship in Education Innovation, a \$1.5 million endowed position, will allow the college to hire a field-leading faculty member to advance the college's educational impact through groundbreaking research, teaching and service. Matching funds will increase the gift's total to \$2.1 million.

William T. and Jean V. Brady Scholarship

The William T. and Jean V. Brady Scholarship is a need- and merit-based scholarship awarded to undergraduate students in the College of Education. William T. "Tom" Brady graduated from the College of Education in 1966 with a bachelor's degree in industrial arts education. He and his wife, Jean, had successful careers – Tom in industrial manufacturing and management in health care, and Jean in teaching, supervisory and board positions. They have two sons who attended NC State. The Bradys' donation shows the family's gratitude to the university and offers assistance to future deserving students who need financial assistance with various college-related expenses.

\$21 Million
 Campaign Goal for the College of Education
 Campaign Progress: \$14,724,061



**THINK AND DO
 THE EXTRAORDINARY**
 The Campaign for NC State

STUDENTS, FACULTY AND STAFF

Faculty Impact

The college welcomed new faculty who will shape the future of education: Brooks Bowden, assistant professor, methods and policy; Cristina Braga, teaching assistant professor, counselor education; Dennis Davis, associate professor of literacy and English language arts; Michelle Falter, assistant professor, English education; Jessica Hunt, associate professor, special education; Jonathon McKeown, teaching assistant professor, digital learning and technology; and Jonee Wilson, assistant professor, elementary mathematics education.

Elementary Ed Undergraduate Research Fellows

For an undergraduate student, conducting research with a faculty mentor is a unique experience that adds depth and breadth to their understanding of the field of education. Five students in each recruiting class who have excellent grades, demonstrate leadership qualities and have a record of extracurricular engagement are selected to receive prestigious research fellowships. In addition to working with a faculty mentor and receiving a \$2,000 per year stipend for four years, the fellows develop strong research skills and will complete their own research project, which they will present at a research symposium by the time they graduate.

115 Scholarships and Fellowships

were awarded in 2016,
totaling \$245,100.

Remembering Those Who Left Their Mark

The College of Education celebrated with six professors who retired: Paul Bitting, associate professor in the Department of Educational Leadership, Policy and Human Development; Douglas Cullinan, professor of special education; William DeLuca, associate professor of technology education; Susan Osborne, associate professor of special education; Carol Pope, professor of English language; and Ruie Pritchard, professor of English language arts education.

We lost two former colleagues this year: Eugenia Leggett-Frank and Don Locke.

Leggett-Frank served as the college's director of development from 2001 to 2006 and was one of the catalysts in helping launch the Friday Institute. She is remembered for her creativity and for having never met a stranger.

Locke, a professor emeritus of counselor education, served as department head of counselor education from 1987 to 1993 and was named an NC State Alumni Distinguished Professor in 2003. He is remembered for his energy and generosity and for being a champion of diversity and multiculturalism.

Three years after
completing their degrees,
**93% of our
Graduates**
are still in the education field.



Student Spotlight

The College of Education is full of dedicated, engaged students, but perhaps none more so than senior Margaret Leak. She is completing three majors — mathematics, secondary mathematics education and communications — as well as a minor in Spanish. On top of that, Leak is the president of NC State's Council of Teachers of Mathematics Kappa Chapter, tutors middle school students at Student U and is a College of Education Ambassador. She also has studied abroad and is a Noyce Mathematics Education Teaching Scholar, a program funded by the National Science Foundation's Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship program. To prospective students, she advises: "No matter what you're looking for — a large university with tons of amenities and opportunities; a small, family-like college; academic, service, research, travel or sports experiences; or amazing lifetime friendships — it's all here in the College of Education at NC State!"

At the College of Education, pioneering research and personalized education meet. A small college inside a large university has it all for graduate and undergraduate students.

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