

2022-2023 Annual Report to the Chancellor

Overview

The College of Education had another remarkable year in 2022-2023 as we expanded our reach, grew our impact and enhanced our reputation. Our total enrollment remains up from five years ago. We welcomed our inaugural cohort of Transformational Scholars and awarded more student scholarships than ever before. We received a record \$25 million investment from the John M. Belk Endowment to move forward the Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research's mission. Across the college, we had our largest amount of grants ever awarded, and our faculty, students and alumni received numerous prestigious honors. Additionally, we welcomed our inaugural Goodnight Distinguished Professor in Educational Equity, Maria Coady, and received additional support to establish the Goodnight Distinguished Professorship in Early Literacy. Collectively, we served all 115 public school districts and 58 community colleges in North Carolina, and we were recognized globally as both North Carolina's best preparers of educators and most productive educational researchers. With new investments and top talent, we're well-positioned to extend our land-grant mission, change lives and ensure all learners have the opportunity to achieve their highest potential.

Goal 1: Empower students for a lifetime of success and impact.

We have distinguished ourselves as North Carolina's best preparer of educational professionals. Our reputation enabled us to open fall 2022 with total student enrollment up 4.2% from five years ago despite the challenges facing our field. We had a record number of doctoral students (537) enrolled, and we began the fall with 614 undergraduate students, a 27% increase from 2017. This included 16 new undergraduate students from eastern North Carolina who are part of our inaugural cohort of the Transformational Scholarships Program, our preeminent scholarship program supported by the Anonymous Trust. We also welcomed 44 new North Carolina Teaching Fellows, bringing the total number of Teaching Fellows we are preparing to 144. That represents 58% of all Teaching Fellows in the state. At the same time, our four-year graduation rate for undergraduate students has continued to improve. Over 80% of students who entered in 2018 as undergraduates graduated within four years (vs. 67.6% for NC State). The number of years to complete one of our five doctoral programs has also dropped to 4.6 years (vs. 5.3 years for NC State).

Today, we have over 17,100 living alumni who serve in positions across all fields of education and at all levels. Out of all public colleges of education in North Carolina, our graduate alumni have the strongest reputation among employers based on the 2023 QS World University Rankings Subject in Education and Training. In North Carolina, there are over 5,664 NC State alumni working in all 115 public school districts in the state. Based on the N.C. Department of Public Instruction's evaluations, alumni of our teacher preparation programs have the highest employer satisfaction out of all public colleges of education in the state. This past year, our alumni were recognized with over a dozen district, regional, state and national honors. Two of our alumni were recognized as North Carolina regional teachers of the year, and our alumni swept nearly all of the Wake County Public School System's annual honors, winning Teacher, First-Year Teacher, Assistant Principal and School Counselor of the Year awards.

Removing financial barriers for students to enter and advance in the field of education has been critical to our ability to attract and prepare extraordinary educators. We awarded \$654,458 in scholarships, fellowships and financial awards—the highest total amount awarded in at least seven years. In all, we provided 141 awards to 105 undergraduate students and 141 awards to 137 graduate students. We also had three doctoral students part of the inaugural cohort of the Goodnight Doctoral Fellowship Program. We will be able to expand the financial support we provide to students in the years ahead. We secured this past year, for example, a new, three-year commitment from the Ragland Foundation to provide scholarships for teachers to pursue advanced degrees and become highly effective reading teachers. Our total endowment has more than doubled in five years and now exceeds \$15.1 million.

Preparing Extraordinary Teachers for Eastern North Carolina

After graduating from NC State, Jazhar Fields, a middle grades language arts and social studies education major from New Hanover County, plans to return to eastern North Carolina to teach and help his future students get the most out of their education. The Transformational Scholarships Program is making that possible. "I am a low-income student, and college did not look to be in my future and most likely would not be without scholarships and opportunities like this one," said Fields, one of 16 students from eastern North Carolina who joined the College of Education in fall 2022 as part of the inaugural cohort of the Transformational Scholarships Program. Supported by the Anonymous Trust, Transformational Scholars receive scholarships totalling \$40,000 over four years and are prepared to teach in eastern North Carolina after graduation. They will also work with veteran mentors from eastern North Carolina, complete field experiences in the region and participate in enhanced professional growth opportunities that will strengthen

their teaching and leadership skills. All the experiences, Fields said, will allow him and other Transformational Scholars to make a greater impact as teachers and leaders in eastern North Carolina. “Being a Transformational Scholar is helping me sharpen my craft and gain the knowledge and expertise to go back to my community and help prepare the next leaders of tomorrow,” he said.

Goal 2: Ensure preeminence in research, scholarship, innovation and collaboration.

We had a record-setting year in research. As of June 30, 2023, our faculty and researchers received 66 grants totalling \$42,138,265—the highest dollar amount in the college’s history. That includes a 10-year, \$25 million investment from the John M. Belk Endowment to advance the Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research’s mission to support North Carolina’s 58 community colleges and improve student outcomes. That is the single largest investment of its kind that we have ever received. Other grants awarded will help our faculty continue to address urgent educational challenges. Examples include \$908,808 from the Wallace Foundation for “Knowledge, Beliefs, and Mindsets (KBM) about Equity in Educators and Educational Leadership Survey” to Associate Professor Lisa Bass; \$2,118,769 from the NSF for “Collaborative Research: Enhancing Data Science and Statistics Teacher Education-Transforming (ESTEEM) and Building Community” to Distinguished Professor Hollylynne Lee and Friday Institute Research Scholar Gemma Mojica; and \$3.3 million from the NSF for “Project AIM-Next” to Dean Paolza Sztajn. Our college now has a total of 175 active research projects worth more than \$119 million in external funding—the most among colleges of education in North Carolina. In fiscal year 2023, our research expenditures exceeded \$16.9 million, an increase of 6% from last fiscal year and 81% since 2013.

Our faculty also generate knowledge through scholarship. For example, Alumni Distinguished Graduate Professor Gail Jones edited the *Handbook of Research on Science Teacher Education* and served as editor-in-chief of the *International Journal of Science Education*. Professor Carla Johnson edited four new books part of the STEM Road Map Curriculum Series with the National Science Teaching Association. Professor Florence Martin authored several publications on digital learning and safety for K-12 students, including one in the *Journal of Research on Technology in Education*. Goodnight Distinguished Professor in Educational Equity Maria Coady edited the book *Educating Multilingual Students in Rural Schools*. And, Assistant Professor Jenn Ayscue and Distinguished Professor Lance Fusarelli published an article about how states are implementing the federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) in *Educational Policy*.

Our faculty’s scholarship is recognized nationally. Lecturer Erik Schettig and Professor and Department Head of STEM Education Aaron Clark received the Paul T. Hiser Exemplary Publication Award

for an article published in the *Journal of Technology Studies*; Professor Sylvia Nassar won the American Counseling Association's Thomas Hohenshil National Publication Award; and Associate Professor Anna Egalite and Assistant Professor Lam Pham were both selected as 2022 American Educational Research Association Outstanding Reviewers. In all, faculty held editorships of nine peer-reviewed journals; published over 160 journal articles, 45 book chapters and 10 books; presented over 150 research presentations; and were quoted over 50 times in national media outlets, including *The New York Times*, *USA Today*, *New York Magazine* and *Education Week*.

Our researchers forge partnerships to advance educational research and apply it to practice. Globally, 13 faculty and staff traveled to Chile to identify potential areas of research collaboration with scholars from the Centro de Investigación Avanzada en Educación (CIAE) at the Universidad de Chile in the Instituto de Estudios Avanzada en Educación. We also hosted scholars from Nagoya University in Japan to discuss research collaborations. Nationally, the Belk Center launched the National Community College Research Alliance to increase capacity, communication and collaboration among prominent centers of community college research. Locally, our NC State Educational Leadership Academy (NELA) continues to serve over a quarter of the state's public school districts by preparing highly effective K-12 school leaders.

Transforming Principal Preparation in North Carolina and Beyond

As the director of the NC State Educational Leadership Academy (NELA), Professor Bonnie Fusarelli has leveraged research to create an innovative principal preparation program that has transformed the way school leaders are prepared. Under Fusarelli's leadership, the College of Education graduated its first NELA cohort 10 years ago and has prepared nearly 300 public school leaders for 26 school districts in North Carolina. These leaders have a history of increasing student achievement, decreasing negative student incidents and improving working conditions. For her visionary service and leadership, Fusarelli received the UNC Board of Governor's 2022 Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. Award for Excellence in Public Service. "Dr. Fusarelli has shown profound dedication to developing leaders who will serve North Carolina students and make a positive impact on their lives," said UNC Board of Governors Chair Randy Ramsey. NELA has become a national model for preparing dynamic leaders who positively impact schools. *U.S. News* has ranked the program No. 1 in North Carolina for five years in a row and, most recently, No. 19 in the nation. The program is also one of only six in the nation to be recognized as exemplary by the University Council for Educational Administration. NELA's innovative approach to principal preparation combines coursework with

hands-on experience through a year-long residency/internship. “Because NELA has that full-time internship, you know that when you hire a NELA graduate, they have experience,” said Juliana Thompson ’16MSA, Roanoke Rapids Graded School District’s superintendent.

Goal 3: Expand and advance our engagement with and service to North Carolina and beyond, defining the standard for a 21st-century land-grant university.

We engage communities in every corner of North Carolina through the extraordinary educators and leaders we prepare and the outreach, extension and services we provide. Ongoing initiatives include STEM Career Clubs, which are after-school STEM clubs in four northeastern North Carolina counties; the Literacy Space, an intensive, targeted after-school literacy intervention for K-6 students; the Community, Counseling, Education, and Research Center (CCERC), an accessible and affordable counseling service for individuals and families; and iScholar, an after-school program that helps middle and high school students collaborate on meaningful projects while developing a sense of belonging.

We also directly support K-12 educators, leaders and students in all 115 public school districts in North Carolina through professional development opportunities and resources. This past year, for example, in partnership with the Wake County Public School System, we hosted the first North Carolina Annual Hispanic/Latino Professional Educators Summit, which attracted nearly 200 educators. We also distributed a packet of print-on-demand resources that included evidence-based best practices and practical tips to over 100,000 K-12 educators, which led to thousands of teachers downloading the materials from our website for a high conversion rate of 40% (industry average is 2.23-5.31%); and we launched a semi-annual newsletter designed specifically for K-12 educators that includes tips, resources and professional development opportunities. Two editions of the Pack-12 newsletter have been released so far with an average open rate of 33% (industry rate is 23.4%) and click-through rate of 10% (industry average is 2.9%). Additionally, the Friday Institute continued to offer about a dozen free online professional learning courses to educators, including a new series of modules on learner agency and foundational practices for the digital age.

Largely through the Belk Center, we also engaged all 58 community colleges in North Carolina. Among numerous engagement activities, the Belk Center co-hosted, with LatinxEd and the Hunt Institute, the first convening of Avanza, where institutional leaders discussed best practices and barriers to Latino student success. With the Hunt Institute, they hosted a webinar series to help better align efforts to increase postsecondary attainment. And they engaged nearly 2,000 community college professionals for the 2022 Dallas Herring Lecture, which featured Alamo Colleges District Chancellor Mike Flores.

Accelerating Educational Attainment, Advancing Economic Mobility

Since its founding in 2018, the Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research has been helping North Carolina's 58 community colleges meet the state's goal to have 2 million adults attain a postsecondary degree or credential by 2030. Now, the Belk Center will leverage a record \$25 million, 10-year investment from the John M. Belk Endowment to advance the center's mission and accelerate statewide efforts to increase attainment. That is the single largest investment the John M. Belk Endowment has made in its history and the largest investment of its kind that the College of Education has received. "Our hope is that this support will advance the Belk Center's work in developing exceptional community college leaders and teams, equipping them with the information and resources they need to excel in their roles, and connecting them to one another and exemplary practitioners and practices from across the country," said MC Belk Pilon, president and board chair of the John M. Belk Endowment. Over the past five years, the Belk Center has emerged as a key provider of professional learning for community college leaders and their teams to help improve student success and institutional performance. In the past year, the Belk Center supported all 58 community colleges in North Carolina and the system office with leadership development, data and reports related to student success, and the convening of practitioners and experts to help envision and catalyze change. With Achieving the Dream and the N.C. Student Success Center, the Belk Center also established the N.C. Teaching and Learning Hubs, the first statewide professional development program for community college faculty that supported 300 instructors who served nearly 21,000 students in its first full year.

Goal 4: Champion a culture of equity, diversity, inclusion, belonging and well-being in all we do.

Advancing equity is the cornerstone of our college. That starts with internal efforts to build an inclusive environment where all students, faculty and staff feel a sense of belonging. Our Change Agent Task Force for Advancing DEI concluded its work and released a summary report with recommendations in five areas: training/leadership development, assessment/inventory, policy and practice, resources, and faculty, staff and student support. We also know wellness is key to belonging, so we have initiated steps to center wellness in our work. We formed a Wellness Working Group—led by Professor Marc Grimmett and composed of students, faculty and staff representatives—to define what wellness means for our college and recommend practices that support it. We also added an embedded counselor to our college, with support from the Provost's Office and in partnership with the College of Natural Resources.

We made progress in diversifying the overall population of graduate student enrollment and our faculty. Black or African American students now represent 19% of all graduate students in the college (compared to 7% for NC State), while Black or African American faculty represent nearly 19% of all faculty in the college (compared to 4% for NC State). New initiatives we hope will help further diversify our student population include joining the Holmes Scholars Program. Administered through the American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE), the Holmes Scholars support students pursuing a doctoral degree in education who self-identify as racially and ethnically diverse. Twelve of our doctoral students comprise the inaugural cohort of the NC State Holmes Scholars Program chapter. At the undergraduate level, we hosted in summer 2022 our third Leadership Institute for Future Teachers (LIFT), which brings rising high school seniors interested in education to campus for a five-day residential program. Many of our LIFT participants are students of color or bilingual students. From the 18 students who participated in the second LIFT in summer 2021, five enrolled in the college in fall 2022.

To create inclusive learning communities across North Carolina and beyond, we engage with partners to amplify impact. The Friday Institute, for example, is working with the N.C. Department of Information Technology to develop a five-year digital equity plan for the state. Donor support is also helping us expand our capacity to equip educators with practices and resources that enable them to support all learners. Maria Coady joined us in fall 2022 as the inaugural Goodnight Distinguished Professor in Educational Equity, an endowed professorship established by Dr. Jim and Mrs. Ann Goodnight to attract a field-leading faculty member to NC State and advance our commitment to equity. This past year, the Goodnights made another gift to establish the Goodnight Distinguished Professorship in Early Literacy and support the activities of a professor who focuses on teaching the science of reading in early literacy.

Supporting Multilingual Learners in North Carolina

Multilingual learners make up 9% of the population in North Carolina's K-12 public schools, but only about 3.5% of teachers and school leaders statewide are licensed in English as a second language (ESL). Goodnight Distinguished Professor in Educational Equity Maria Coady is working to bridge the gap and support educators and school leaders in meeting multilingual learners' needs. Coady joined the College of Education in August 2022 thanks to the endowed professorship that Dr. Jim and Mrs. Ann Goodnight established. In her first year at NC State, Coady met with leaders in six rural school districts in North Carolina to discuss their needs, initiated research studies in two counties, provided professional services to another

and was invited to conduct future professional learning activities in three more. Coady also launched the Linguistic Diversity Speaker Series, which drew about 100 educators to hear Professor Emerita Kathy Escamilla, a widely regarded scholar on biliteracy development for multilingual learners. For Coady, the past year has been “a rich and exciting year of learning, listening and working with educators in rural North Carolina communities.” In the year ahead, she’ll continue to partner with others within the college, across NC State and with school districts to extend research and professional development opportunities that equip educators and school leaders to work effectively with an increasing number of multilingual students. “I’m proud to be a faculty member at NC State and truly grateful for the relationships and reputation that the university has built,” she said.

Goal 5: Improve university effectiveness through transformative technologies, cutting-edge processes and actionable data.

Our faculty and staff leverage their expertise to support units across NC State and the UNC System. Professor and Department of Teacher Education and Learning Sciences (TELS) Head Kevin Oliver completed his yearlong UNC Faculty Fellowship with the UNC System's Division of Academic Affairs. He and two colleagues conducted a system-wide study on how technology had enhanced campus spaces in supporting innovation, and they shared their findings at the UNC System's 2023 Learning and Technology Symposium. In addition, Associate Dean Karen Hollebrands was appointed to the 2023 cohort of the ACC Academic Leaders Network; Associate Professor Lisa Bass was named a Campus Community Centers Faculty Fellow with NC State's African American Cultural Center; Associate Professor Angela Wiseman was appointed as a Provost's Faculty Fellow in Global Leadership; and Associate Professor Jill Grifenhagen was selected to participate in the NC State Office of Global Engagement's 2023 Global Engagement Institute. Additionally, Grifenhagen, along with Academic Advisor Samantha Sillaman Worrell and Dean Paola Sztajn, attended the University Global Partnership Network (UGPN) Conference in São Paulo, Brazil.

Our research and extension activities also directly benefit the university, and our faculty hold key leadership positions at NC State academies and NSF-supported centers. The Belk Center, for example, collaborated with The Aspen Institute to bring together a dozen leaders of two- and four-year institutions in North Carolina, including NC State Chancellor Randy Woodson, to discuss ways to accelerate existing efforts to increase transfers. In addition, Alumni Distinguished Graduate Professor and Friday Institute Senior Faculty Fellow Gail Jones leads the educational research component of NC State's NSF Science and Technology Center—Science and Technologies to Phosphorus Sustainability (STEPS); newly hired Associate

Dean for Translational Research and Friday Institute Executive Director Krista D. Glazewski is part of the senior personnel of the NSF AI Institute for Engaged Learning; Assistant Professor Shiyang Jiang is an Interdisciplinary Future Fellow with the Office of University Interdisciplinary Programs; and Assistant Professor Sungwhan Byun is the director of educational research of NC State's Data Science Academy.

Making Data Science More Accessible at NC State

NC State's Data Science Academy aims to broaden participation in data science education and make it accessible for students in every college at the university. College of Education Assistant Professor Sungwhan Byun is helping bring that vision to reality as the Data Science Academy's director of educational research. In that role, Byun studies whether the academy is serving all students at NC State and if they are participating in the academy in equitable ways. "Education research is the very heart and driving force of the academy," said Byun, an assistant professor of mathematics education who studies social interactions in statistics and data science classrooms. "By examining things, we can also inform instructors on how they can better serve our students in different ways."

Goal 6: Lead in developing innovative partnerships, entrepreneurial thinking and applied problem-solving.

We foster innovative partnerships to solve educational problems and inspire entrepreneurial thinking. Our roster of external partners includes corporations such as Cisco, IBM, Microsoft, Honeywell and Duke Energy; statewide agencies such as the N.C. Department of Public Instruction (DPI), PBS North Carolina and the N.C. Department of Information Technology; and school districts across the state. Through these partnerships, we address numerous educational problems, including but not limited to workforce development, teacher recruitment and retention, learning recovery and multilingual education. The Artificial Intelligence (AI) Academy—which is preparing 5,000 new AI professionals—has about two dozen industry partners and another dozen education and government partners, for example. With funding from the Belk Foundation, Assistant Professor Lam Pham is working with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools to recruit, develop and retain teachers in an effort to improve the district's 10 lowest-performing schools. He is also doing a comprehensive evaluation of North Carolina's supplemental salary fund with support from the N.C. Collaboratory and collaborating with the Friday Institute to evaluate North Carolina's advanced teaching roles and teacher compensation models with support from DPI and the Office of State Budget Management. Additionally, the Friday Institute is working with the Social Science Research Institute at Duke University to conduct a qualitative research study of summer programs designed to mitigate the impacts of COVID on

at-risk K-12 students in North Carolina. Among other partnerships, the Friday Institute facilitated free professional learning opportunities related to computer science for K-12 educators in partnership with DPI, and partnered with RTI International to build a learning platform for K-12 educators to advance their skills in teaching statistics and data science.

Additionally, partnerships allow us to inspire entrepreneurial thinking and expand STEM-related opportunities to K-12 students. Assistant Professors Erin Krupa and Robin Anderson, for example, continue to prepare high schoolers to be entrepreneurs through the NSF-funded project “Design and Pitch Challenges in STEM: Merging Entrepreneurship and Mathematics Learning.” In addition, the Friday Institute’s North Carolina Mathematics and Science Education Network (NC-MSEN) Pre-College Program, with NSF funding, is working with NC State’s Department of Plant Biology to provide 20 rural high school students the opportunity to participate in a year-long program that fosters STEM interest. With support from the Burroughs Wellcome Foundation, NC-MSEN is also working with the College of Textiles on a collaborative project called TEXplore to support underserved middle school students interested in STEM and/or textiles.

Bringing Research to Practice, Fostering Partnerships to Solve Educational Problems

A former middle school teacher, Krista D. Glazewski has devoted her career to understanding how and under what conditions educators of all ages might adopt and adapt new practices that improve student outcomes. With over \$10 million in external funding from the National Science Foundation, U.S. Department of Education and U.S. Department of Defense, she has applied what she has discovered to help complex organizations—from K-12 schools to the U.S. military—develop instructional practices that advance learning. She brings that experience to her role as the executive director of the Friday Institute for Educational Innovation and associate dean for translational research with the College of Education. “I’m thrilled to be part of a team dedicated to bridging research-to-practice approaches,” said Glazewski, who was previously a professor and department chair of Instructional Systems Technology at Indiana University’s School of Education. “The appointment enables continued opportunities to realize critical research-to-practice approaches and ensure that the advancement we make at NC State reaches classrooms from the mountains to the coast.” Over the past two years, the Friday Institute has engaged over 80,000 educators from all 115 public school districts in North Carolina, all 50 states in the U.S. and over 180 countries.

Goal 7: Elevate the national and global reputation and visibility of NC State.

Our college continues to be recognized as one of the nation’s best public colleges of education. In the *U.S. News & World Report’s* first-ever Best Global Universities Subjects Rankings in Education and

Educational Research, NC State ranked No. 68 in the world, making it the top globally ranked university for this field of study in North Carolina. Our college also ranked No. 31 in *U.S. News' 2024 Best Graduate Schools'* rankings—tied for our second highest ranking ever. Since 2013, our college has jumped 45 spots in *U.S. News' Best Graduate Schools'* ranking. The International Technology and Engineering Educators Association STEM Center for Teaching and Learning also recognized us as a STEM School of Excellence.

Along with their collective impact, our faculty are recognized as leaders in their fields. In addition to Professor Bonnie Fusarelli receiving the Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. Award for Excellence in Public Service, our faculty's honors this past year include the following: Associate Professor James Bartlett, N.C. Association of Career and Technical Education's Lifetime Achievement Award; Teaching Professor Valerie Faulkner, N.C. Department of Public Instruction's Exceptional Children Division's Impact Award; Distinguished Professor Hollylynne Lee, the 2023 Mu Sigma Rho William D. Warde Statistics Education Award; Professor Sylvia Nassar, Association for Multicultural Counseling's Exemplary Diversity Leadership Award; Assistant Professor Jamie Pearson, Council for Exceptional Children Division for Research's Inaugural Research Improving the Educational Access, Experiences and Outcomes of BIPOC Students with Disabilities Award; and Assistant Teaching Professor Matt Reynolds, the International Technology Engineering Education Association's Emerging Leader Award. Faculty were also honored by their alma maters: Professor and Dean Emerita Mary Ann Danowitz, the Penn State University's Department of Political Science's Outstanding Political Science Alumni Award for Outstanding Public Service; Assistant Professor Jackie Relyea, UNC-Chapel Hill School of Education's Outstanding Young Alumnus Award; and Dean Paola Sztajn, Indiana University's School of Education's Outstanding Alumni Award.

Additionally, faculty were elected to leadership positions: Associate Professor Lisa Bass, president-elect of the University Council for Educational Administration (UCEA); Goodnight Distinguished Professor in Educational Equity Maria Coady, Eastern Region Representative to the National Association for Bilingual Education's executive board; and Associate Professor Tim Drake, president-elect of the N.C. Professors of Educational Leadership.

Being Recognized as a Global Leader in Education

NC State University was ranked No. 68 in the world in the Education and Educational Research category in the *U.S. News & World Report's* Best Global Universities Subject Rankings, making it the top globally ranked university for this field of study in North Carolina. The subject-specific ranking is based on academic research performance, including publications, citations and indicators for global and regional

reputation. Between 2016-2020, NC State faculty published 428 articles related to education in peer-reviewed journals, including in the most highly regarded publications. This was the first year that the education and educational research category was included in *U.S. News*' global rankings. "NC State being globally recognized among the best universities for education and educational research is a testament to the strength and impact of the College of Education, particularly of the faculty's research, the translation of that research into practice and the extraordinary educators we prepare," said NC State College of Education Dean Paola Sztajn. "Amid many challenges currently facing the field of education, our faculty, staff and students continue to show our strength and embody the university's land-grant mission to have a transformative impact on society."

Looking Ahead

The 2023-2024 academic year will be transformative for the College of Education. We will finalize and begin implementing a new strategic plan aligned with the university's Wolfpack 2030: Powering the Extraordinary. Our new strategic plan will be built around four areas—innovation, interdisciplinarity, inclusiveness and impact—that will guide our college for the next decade. At the same time, we will expand our engagement in strategic regions of North Carolina where our strengths can have the greatest impact. We will also welcome up to eight new faculty members in fall 2023 who are some of the most promising emerging scholars of their fields. They will join a strong group of faculty and staff while bringing with them additional innovation, creativity and drive that will enhance our capacity and ability to live out our land-grant mission and address current and future educational challenges. With a united and refreshed shared purpose, we are poised to make an even greater transformative impact and advance the greater good in North Carolina and beyond for years to come.