

*Soar high, soar far and  
soar **together**, Seahawks!*

Chancellor's Report  
Board of Trustees – October 25, 2024



UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON

# UNCW at a Glance



18,800+ Students



170 Buildings, 650 Acres



106,000 Alumni



North Carolina's  
Coastal University



2,300+ Permanent  
Faculty and Staff



Based in an historic city  
with global connections



88% Retention Rate

*Numbers presented are approximate.*



UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA WILMINGTON

# Campus and Community Highlights





# UNCW Move-In 2024

- About 5,000: new undergraduate and graduate students
- About 5,500: students living in campus housing





# More Move-In





# Convocation – Class of 2028





# Rock the Rec



# Economic Impact



The graphic features a background image of a classical building with columns, likely a UNCW building. Overlaid on this is a teal semi-transparent box containing the UNCW logo and text. To the right of the box, large white text displays the economic impact statistics.

**UNCW**  
UNIVERSITY of  
NORTH CAROLINA  
WILMINGTON

**\$3.2 BILLION**  
**ECONOMIC BOOST ACROSS NC**

**[UNCW.EDU/ECONOMIC-IMPACT](http://UNCW.EDU/ECONOMIC-IMPACT)**

\$3.2B statewide and \$1.6B regionally





# Now Open: UNCW Library Expansion

- Addition of 80,000 square feet in new building
- Renovation of original building; last expanded in 1986
- 21st century features include:
  - Data visualization lab
  - Multimedia studio
  - Digital makerspace
  - More exhibit, event and programming space
  - “The Link” connecting the two buildings



# UNCW Library Expansion





# Discovery Hall Ribbon Cutting





# Soaring Seahawk Statue Relocation





# Soaring Seahawk Statue on New Perch



# Caison Crossing

Many thanks to Hugh '85 and Nan '83 Caison for their generous support of programs and services for students at UNCW. The university was honored to dedicate Caison Crossing yesterday in recognition of their long-time support of UNCW.





# UNCW's Dare to Learn Lecture Series





# Waccamaw Siouan Pow Wow





# UNCW CIE Ocean Innovation Conference

- Keynote speakers:
  - **Mark Huang** presented on North Carolina's potential as a bluetech hub
  - **Susan Casey** her insights on deep-sea innovations
- The event featured four dynamic panels:
  1. Building a NC Bluehub
  2. Empowering Communities: Engagement and Blue Infrastructure
  3. Startup Innovations in Sustainability
  4. Funding for Ocean Innovations



# CMS Annual Open House

- More than 1,028 Attendees
- Showcased UNCW as the state's coastal university (direct quote from numerous attendees!)
- Featured a self-guided tour of all science departments and numerous labs affiliated with CMS, along with Shellfish Research Hatchery tours





# UNCW is a Purple Heart Designated University



Army veteran and alum **David Buzzard '18** presented his Purple Heart to UNCW during the annual Cape Fear Purple Heart dinner held Aug. 2 on the UNCW campus





# Purple Heart Dinner





# Students



# Soaring Seahawk – SGA President

## Skyler Stein

2024-25 SGA President

- Junior
- Political Science Major
- Apex, NC





# October Quarterly Meeting

## **SGA Updates**



# Completed Initiatives





# College Networking Nights

## Fall Semester Networking Nights:

- College of Health and Human Services - November 13

## Spring Semester Networking Nights:

- College of Humanities, Social Sciences, and the Arts
- College of Science and Engineering
- Cameron School of Business
- Watson College of Education



# Second Vintage Market

- Sunday, October 27 from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.
- 3 Student Bands
- 4 Food Trucks
- 35 Vendors
- The last event - over 1,000 students attended





# Questions?



# Our Faculty and Staff





# Soaring Seahawk – Staff Senate Chair

**Susan Smith**

Chair 2023-24 | Staff Senate

- Vice Chair | UNC System Staff Assembly
- Assistant Director of Member Services | Department of Campus Recreation





# Soaring Seahawk – Staff Senate





# ACE Fellow



NC State Professor of Natural Sciences **Chris DePerno** is an ACE (American Council on Education) Fellow for 2024-25. He will learn executive leadership skills and be mentored by campus leaders during the fall semester.

# System Office Updates





# UNC System Updates

- Hurricane Helene response
- Equality policy report accepted
- Represented UNCW at Installation of UNC Chapel Hill Chancellor Lee Roberts



# University Updates





# UNCW Future Focused

- **Strategic Plan** – Progress on first-three-year priorities continues; workgroups being formed to enhance momentum
- **Master Plan** – Provides roadmap for future growth of campus physical structure to support mission and vision of the university
  - Early projects: Cameron Hall expansion, hotel and welcome center additions
- **Marketing** assessment with firm Echo Delta, based in Winter Haven, FL, to begin in November
  - Selected based on experience in integrated marketing and enrollment management for higher education
- **UNCW Mission** – Revised based on input from UNC System



# Mission



The University of North Carolina Wilmington, the state's coastal university, integrates teaching and mentoring with research and service. UNCW's commitment to student engagement, creative inquiry, critical thinking, thoughtful expression, and civic responsibility defines the student experience. ***UNCW offers undergraduate, master's, and doctoral programs in areas of expertise that serve the needs of the state, as well as the needs of our local and global communities.***





# NC Community College Partnerships

- Fall 2024 Enrollment was 56% NCCC Students – an increase over 2023.
- Relaunched our PathWAYS guaranteed admissions program in January 2024.
- Increased two-way communication with NCCC Partners through an investment in staffing
- Enhanced relationship with Cape Fear Community College



# International Partnerships





# GITAM Visit





# University of Algarve Visit





# Bird's Eye View



Let's keep soaring together,  
Seahawks!

