

AGENDA ITEM

This is not an agenda item.

Situation:

Overview on recent highlights and activities within the Division of Academic Affairs.

Background:

N/A

Assessment:

N/A

Action:

This item is for information only.

Supporting Documentation:

AA Divisional Highlights document



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TO: UNCW Board of Trustees
FROM: Dr. James J. Winebrake, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
DATE: January 29, 2025
RE: Division of Academic Affairs Highlights

Trustees: Below is an overview of notable highlights and activities within the Division of Academic Affairs, primarily since the October quarterly meeting of the Board of Trustees. For the February 2025 meeting, we are proud to also highlight key community engagement and partnership activities occurring throughout the division. *We use an asterisk (*) to identify these community-related activities below.*

Cameron School of Business (CSB)

- **Technology and Analytics Career Day:** A record-breaking 478 students registered for the 18th annual Technology and Analytics Career Day on September 24. In addition, 24 firms brought in 80 employees to meet CSB students. The event was co-sponsored by the Congdon School and the Department of Computer Science.
- **Cameron Executive Network (CEN) ***
Partners: UNCW CSB, various partners
The CEN partners with current and retired business executives who are dedicated to enhancing the education and career development of undergraduate Cameron School of Business students through individual mentoring. [Learn more.](#)

College of Health and Human Services (CHHS)

- **Students Recognized at NC Society for Public Health Education:** At the November meeting, two CHHS students received distinguished recognition. Katie Gilliland received the Outstanding Health Education Project Award for her work on the Malaria Mastery Health Education Program, and Jakub Kreuter received the Student Recognition Award to recognize exemplary student achievements in the field of health education and public health.
- **Supporting Western North Carolina ***
Partners: UNCW CHHS, Catholic Charities, Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC, New Hanover County Resiliency Task Force
In the devastating aftermath caused by Hurricane Helene in late September, CHHS has been actively supporting Western North Carolina through various initiatives, mobilizing its students and faculty to make a tangible impact as significant effects continue for the region. Over 30 social work students volunteered with Catholic Charities to provide virtual

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crisis classes for Crisis Clean Up. Nursing students collected high-need food donations, which were coordinated and delivered to Western NC by the local Food Bank. And, in collaboration with the New Hanover County Resiliency Task Force, CHHS organized efforts to write letters and collect hand and food warmers for first responders. These initiatives underscore the college's commitment to community engagement, providing valuable experiences for students while addressing critical needs across the state.

- **New Hanover Healthcare Career Partnership ***

Partners: UNCW, Cape Fear Community College, New Hanover County Schools, Wilmington Chamber of Commerce

CHHS in partnership with CFCC with funding from the New Hanover Healthcare Careers Partnership powered by the New Hanover Community Endowment successfully launched the Coastal Community Healthcare Fellowship (CCHF). CCHF will address the looming healthcare workforce shortage in New Hanover County by increasing the number of registered nurses and other healthcare practitioners in the Southeastern North Carolina community by recruiting, training, and retaining nursing students committed to working and living in New Hanover County and the region. CCHF manages three chapters (with 15-20 students in each chapter): one focused on RN-BSN students located in NH County (UNCW), one for Prelicensure Nursing students (UNCW), and one for ADN/LPN students (CFCC). [Learn more.](#)

- **Eshelman School of Pharmacy Early Assurance Program ***

Partners: UNCW CHHS, UNC Chapel Hill Eshelman School of Pharmacy

CHHS partners with the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy in a shared commitment to train the future healthcare workforce. The two universities created an Early Assurance Program, offering an automatic interview with the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy's Doctor of Pharmacy program admissions committee for qualifying UNCW students. UNCW verifies that interested students meet the participation qualifications identified by the two schools and provide processes and resources to support interested students. [Learn more.](#)

- **Rural Interprofessional Longitudinal Scholars Program (RIPLS) ***

Partners: UNC Chapel Hill, UNCW CHHS Community Engagement Team

The RIPLS Program was brought to UNCW to support students pursuing careers as health and human services practitioners. Established by UNC Chapel Hill in 2019, RIPLS offers students a unique opportunity to learn, collaborate, and promote health in rural settings, while providing tuition assistance to support their engagement in community-based service activities. RIPLS takes a multi-faceted approach to meet the growing workforce needs in North Carolina's rural areas. By fostering interprofessional collaboration, the program



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equips students with the skills and experiences necessary to implement population-based interventions and improve healthcare delivery in underserved communities. [Learn more.](#)

- **Southeastern NC Regional Health Collaborative ***

Partners: UNCW CHHS, South East Area Health Education Center (SEAHEC), directors and staff of the county health departments (Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Duplin, New Hanover, Onslow, Pender, Robeson and Sampson counties)

This partnership was established with regional public health leadership and staff, to improve individual and population/community health in Southeastern North Carolina through regional programs and interventions. [Learn more.](#)

- **CLDA: Career Leadership Development Academy ***

Partners: Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, local middle schools, UNCW CHHS

In November, CHHS welcomed students from Myrtle Grove Middle School through the Chamber's CLDA Program. The students learned about CHHS degree programs through hands-on activities with several faculty.

College of Humanities, Social Sciences, and the Arts (CHSSA)

- **First UNCW RTI University Scholar:** Dr. Jill Waity, chair of the Department of Sociology and Criminology, is the first UNCW faculty member to be selected as a RTI University Scholar. As part of the program, Waity will collaborate with RTI researchers for her work on disaster food insecurity. The new partnership will also open up new connections and opportunities between the prestigious research nonprofit and UNCW. [Read more.](#)

- **First UNCW Musical in 15 Years:** The Department of Music and Department of Theatre worked together in November to put on "Head Over Heels," the first musical UNCW has put on in 15 years. Showcasing the work of new minors in dance and musical theatre, and with two faculty directing a UNCW production for the first time, the production was [hailed as a "must-see" in Cultural Voice of North Carolina.](#) [Read more.](#)

- **Cameron Art Museum ***

Partners: UNCW Arts, Cameron Art Museum

UNCW Arts and Wilmington's Cameron Art Museum have enjoyed a close symbiotic relationship for a number of years. A major nexus of creative works and culture in Wilmington, the museum offers free admission to UNCW students, showcases the creativity of the university community at the [annual FlowILM event](#) and its [current executive director is a UNCW alum](#). FlowILM is a prime example of UNCW's unique partnership value not only as a foremost local hub for academic creativity, but as a key source of interdisciplinary perspectives that foster rich and innovative dialogue in the community.



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- **Municipal Fellowship Agreements ***

Partners: UNCW MPA Program, New Hanover County, Cape Fear Public Utility Authority, Town of Carolina Beach, City of Wilmington, Pender County

The MPA program nominates a slate of students every year to be interviewed for fellowship positions in different municipal sectors across the region. These are 1-2 year, paid, 20 hour per week positions that add a fresh academic perspective to the workforce while providing MPA students with invaluable real-world experience and networking opportunities. This is a foremost example of community collaboration at UNCW from a department adept at growing and maintaining connections with local, state and regional public administration entities.

- **Film Matters magazine ***

Partners: UNCW Dept. of Film Studies, Intellect Books, multiple universities

Circa 2010, Film Matters is a peer-reviewed journal for the work of undergraduate students of film. Launched by UNCW's own Tim and Liza Palmer, the publication is guided by an advisory board of scholars around the world and draws diverse submissions that analyze cinema from new and unique perspectives. The Department of Film Studies furnishes undergraduate and graduate film students who contribute regularly as editors and members of the editorial board.

- **Opera Wilmington ***

Opera Wilmington has brought major cultural touchstone productions onto campus every summer for 10 years and has been UNCW's resident opera company since 2017. The group was founded by Nancy King, chair of the Department of Music, who also serves as artistic director. A slate of UNCW faculty members are integral to different aspects of Opera Wilmington's productions. The expertise and passion of our faculty and opportunities for student involvement provide an ideal environment for creative growth and fostering operatic excellence in the region.

- **CLDA: Career Leadership Development Academy ***

Partners: Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, local middle schools, UNCW CHSSA

As part of a community partnership with the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce and its Career and Leadership Development Academy, the Department of Theatre hosted area middle school students for an immersive introduction to the region's film, theatre, and entertainment industries.

College of Science and Engineering (CSE)

- **NSF-Funded Initiative Launched to Promote Women in STEM:** A prestigious grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) has been awarded to launch the "UNC-by-the-S.E.A. (STEM Equity Access)" project, an initiative designed to enhance the success and advancement of women faculty in STEM fields at UNCW. The project is led by Kate Nooner,



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lead principal investigator, psychology professor, and senior associate dean in CSE. The project will conduct a comprehensive self-assessment to uncover barriers and benefits to the success of women faculty, particularly focusing on women who are military-affiliated or first generation to college. It will also assess the current environment, identify best practices from peer institutions, and develop a culture that amplifies women's attainment as STEM faculty. The goal is to create a data-driven, five-year action plan to accelerate the progress of women faculty in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) disciplines at UNCW and beyond. [Read more.](#)

- **Industry-University R&D Partnerships ***

Partners: UNCW CSE, various businesses

CSE collaborates with various businesses such as Quality Chemical, Alcam, Nuream, and Sportgait to foster innovation and maximize resources and expertise. These partnerships not only provide valuable applied learning opportunities for students but also contribute to the community's economic development and well-being.

- **Town of St. James Partnership ***

Partners: UNCW CSE, UNCW CMS, Town of St. James,

This 20-year collaboration with the town of St. James involves research on living shorelines and the Living Shoreline Project at Waterway Park. The partnership is unique because it pairs the town and the university in addressing coastal resiliency. It is a natural collaboration that benefits St. James and provides applied learning opportunities for UNCW students.

Watson College of Education (WCE or Watson College)

- **Kenan Trust Award will Support TAs to Teachers:** WCE has been awarded \$300,000 from the William R. Kenan, Jr. Charitable Trust to support teaching assistants (TA) transitioning to fully licensed teachers. The funding will provide tuition support for 15-17 TAs who enroll in a Bachelor of Arts or Master of Arts in Teaching program in Elementary Education at the Watson College over the next two years. [Read more.](#)
- **AT&T Continues Support for Virtual Ed Lab Program:** In 2023, a generous gift from AT&T enabled the UNCW Betty Holden Stike Education Laboratory to offer afterschool virtual tutoring services to students in underserved communities in partnership with NC Project LEAD and the Boys & Girls Clubs of Southeastern North Carolina. Additional funding of \$19,300 provided through AT&T Connected Learning will allow the program to continue this academic year. [Read more.](#)
- **Tamara Walser Trains Evaluators at UN World Food Programme:** Tamara Walser has co-developed a micro-credential course on evaluability assessment for the United Nations



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(UN) World Food Programme, the world's largest humanitarian organization. The team, contracted by the UN System Staff College to develop the program in fall 2023, subsequently taught the course and served as mentors to the participating learners through July 2024. Walser is a professor in the Department of Educational Leadership and coordinator of WCE's interdisciplinary graduate certificate program in evaluation. [Read more.](#)

- **New Executive Director Appointed for D.C. Virgo:** Rachel Greer, a former principal and instructional coach, has been appointed executive director at D.C. Virgo, where she will work closely with leadership, staff, and personnel to offer essential support and strategic direction for the school. Greer has served as interim director at Virgo since January 2024, and assumed the director's position in September. [Read more.](#)

- **Professional Development System (PDS) ***

Partners: UNCW WCE and 11 school districts, 2 charter schools, 1 lab school and more than 2,000 teachers. (Brunswick County Schools, Carteret County Schools, Clinton City Schools, Columbus County Schools, Duplin County Schools, Jones County Schools, New Hanover County Schools, Onslow County Schools, Pender County Schools, Sampson County Schools, Whiteville City Schools, Cape Fear Center for Inquiry, Island Montessori Charter School and D.C. Virgo Preparatory Academy)

This school-university partnership gives students classroom experience and supports the needs of teachers, schools and districts in our region. Initiated in 1993, PDS is WCE's most longstanding and comprehensive partnership initiative with deep and broad impact across Southeastern North Carolina. [Learn more.](#)

- **Community College Collaborative (UNCW/3C) ***

Partners: UNCW WCE, NC's 58 Community Colleges

UNCW/3C is a community college-university partnership created in 2019 to develop strong future leaders for North Carolina's 58 community colleges and strengthen higher education offerings in the state. Key areas of focus include: graduate-level programs for aspiring community college leaders, professional development opportunities for current and aspiring leaders, and initiatives to strengthen college and career pathways for students. UNCW/3C also facilitates key partnerships between rural school districts, CCs, and Watson to fill an important workforce gap - teachers! [Learn more.](#)

- **STEM SENC ***

Partners: UNCW WCE, over 120 partners comprised of Individuals, organizations, schools and businesses in Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Cumberland, Duplin, Harnett, Hoke, New Hanover, Onslow, Pender, Robeson, Sampson and Scotland Counties



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This cross-sector network in 13 counties convenes, collaborates, and builds connections to provide aspirational learning opportunities in science, technology, engineering and math for students, families and educators and prepare students for college and/or careers. [Learn more.](#)

- **Educators of Color Network ***

Partners: UNCW WCE, more than 150 educators from across the state

This school-university partnership initiative created in 2022 supports the recruitment and retention of a more diverse teacher workforce in North Carolina. The group is comprised of current and retired K-12 teachers and school leaders, UNCW faculty, staff, and students.

[Learn more.](#)

- **Isaac Bear Early College High School (IBEC) ***

Partner: UNCW WCE, New Hanover County Schools

In a joint commitment to student success, this early college high school opened in 2006. The school, located on the UNCW campus, offers challenging academics, research and community service projects and the opportunity to earn up to 60 college credits before graduating from high school. Isaac Bear has a 100% graduation rate. NHCS and UNCW align both talent and resources in offering programs and support for IBEC students. [Learn more.](#)

- **Future Teachers Career Academy (FTCA) ***

Partner: UNCW WCE, New Hanover County Schools

The FTCA was created as a small learning community for Isaac Bear Early College High School students interested in a teaching career. The program provides opportunities to volunteer, visit innovative schools, take classes at the Watson College, receive early advisor support, earn access to scholarships, and teach in New Hanover County Schools following graduation. [Learn more.](#)

Global Partnership and International Education (GPIE)

- **English as a Second Language Program for Refugees in Wilmington ***

Partners: UNCW English Language Center, Church World Service

The refugee population in Wilmington has grown substantially over the past several years. Church World Service (CWS), a nonprofit organization that assists refugees, is currently serving refugees from Afghanistan, Syria, Burma, Ukraine, Democratic Republic of Congo, Honduras, Venezuela, Colombia, and Guatemala. These refugees bring unique skills and educational credentials, making them well-suited for highly qualified job positions within their respective fields. However, a significant barrier is the lack of advanced English skills required to effectively communicate and contribute within the professional context.



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Outside of Cape Fear Community College's offering of free English classes, a need became apparent for an advanced English course that offers targeted support for refugees seeking specialized job opportunities in alignment with their educational backgrounds. This course is now provided by GPIE's [English Language Center](#), and also focuses on career readiness to ensure students' successful integration and self-sufficiency. For program entry, CWS identifies 20 refugees who require advanced English language training and are highly motivated to take classes. With funding from the Office of the Provost, this program was successfully implemented and delivered in 2023 and 2024.

- **Friendship Families Program ***

Partners: UNCW Office of International Students and Scholars, local Wilmington residents

The Friendship Families Program pairs Wilmington residents and families with incoming UNCW international students to foster cross-cultural friendship. The program helps ease students' transition to campus while also providing them an opportunity to engage with American culture in a way they might otherwise not have access to on a traditional college campus. Similarly, students enrich the lives of these community hosts through meaningful connections, oftentimes leading to life-long relationships. Friendship families are invited to become a part of the international student community at events each semester. [Learn more.](#)

Graduate, Continuing, and Lifelong Education (GCLE)

- **Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) ***

OLLI at UNCW is a university-led and member-supported organization that provides non-credit, enrichment programs and lifelong learning opportunities for adults 50 years and older. This year, OLLI set a new membership record of over 1,800 members, which puts OLLI at UNCW in the top 10 nationally. Programming is fully subscribed with waitlists on many programs. For spring 2025, there are 3,581 program registrations.

- **Continuing and Professional Education (CPE) ***

CPE offers non-credit programming in both online and face-to-face formats, particular for people seeking to further their careers. CPE regularly maintains critical points of contact with the U.S. military, Cape Fear Workforce Development Board, and several municipalities (e.g. Cumberland County, City of Wilmington).

Student Engagement, Enrollment, and Retention (SEER)

- **Key Transfer Pathways (sample list) ***

- **PathWays** is UNCW's guaranteed admission program, relaunched in January 2024. This program is designed to create a clear path for students across the state who wish to transfer to UNCW. There is an opportunity for tailored transfer coaching



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from one of UNCW's Transfer Success Coaches, a guaranteed scholarship, access to on-campus opportunities such as early registration, access to career and major exploration tools, and more! This program has 52 out of 58 community colleges participating, with 781 students enrolled statewide.

- **HS2SW (Social Work):** The HS2SW program is designed for students who have completed a relevant Associate of Applied Science degree at a North Carolina community college to complete their bachelor's degree in social work at UNCW. This program now has 24 articulation agreements and has doubled in size from year one to year two. Also growing in size is the full-time 2-year Master's in Social Work program, which has increased by 50%. Given the demand, the School of Social Work is continuing to work with other social work programs across the state on a work force project that will lead to recruiting and retaining individuals in the public sector, to more directly meet the needs in the state of North Carolina.
- **CFCC Marine Technology, Associates in Applied Science to UNCW Oceanography, B.S.:** This program launched in 2023 and has created a four-year degree pathway for this unique program at Cape Fear Community College. The program awards credit for many of the marine technology courses. Additionally, this creates a unique opportunity for graduates to pursue a four-year degree and enhance their career opportunities.
- **Associates in Engineering (AE) to Coastal Engineering, B.S.:** The faculty in Coastal Engineering have worked to develop a clear path from the widely offered Associates in Engineering (AE) degree through the North Carolina Community Colleges System to UNCW's Coastal Engineering program. Students transferring through this pathway will be well prepared to move into this unique academic program that has already shown to be highly sought after by prospective transfer students.
- **Respiratory Therapy (AAS) to UNCW B.S. Respiratory Therapy (OAP):** This program creates a career pathway through an online accelerated program for existing registered respiratory therapists who would like to advance their careers and academic credentials. This program supports students who graduate from the various respiratory therapy programs across the state and is supported by articulation agreements with five community colleges.



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Teaching, Learning, and Library Services (TLLS)

- **Collection Agreements and Partnerships ***
Partners: UNCW Library with Lower Cape Fear Historical Society, WHQR, New Hanover County Public Library, Wrightsville Beach Museum, Coastal Federation, and many more smaller organizations
- **CLDA: Career Leadership Development Academy ***
Partners: Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, local middle schools, UNCW TLLS
As part of a community partnership with the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce and its Career and Leadership Development Academy, the UNCW Library hosted students from three local middle schools.
- **Periodic Joint Programming ***
Partners: New Hanover County Public Library, UNCW Library
- **Host for Local Events ***
The UNCW Library is frequently requested to host local events. For example, in March they will host New Hanover County Schools annual elementary “Battle of the Books” reading competition, which will have an anticipated audience of 300 4th and 5th graders onsite.
- **Host (and Member) for Leadership Meetings ***
Partners: Library Directors’ quarterly meeting, Museum Directors’ periodic meetings, UNCW Community Library Board, UNCW Library

Undergraduate Education and Faculty Affairs (UEFA)

- **Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement ***
In 2015, UNCW received the Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement. This is a prestigious honor as it exemplifies university commitment towards and prioritization of community engagement. This spring, a joint team between Academic Affairs and Student Affairs is working towards applying for re-classification.
- **Wings Up for Wilmington ***
Partners: UNCW, various community organizations
UNCW faculty, staff and students commemorate the annual anniversary of Hurricane Florence through “Wings Up for Wilmington,” a day of service, typically held each year in September. In the past, over 200 volunteers worked at sites on various projects, from safety-related home repairs to landscaping, painting and planting in community gardens.
- **UNCW Give Pulse ***
Partners: UNCW, various community organizations
A community engagement platform that manages service hours and also connects students, staff, and faculty with our community partners in Wilmington and beyond. [Learn more.](#)



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- **SECU Fellowship / Internship Program ***

Partners: UNCW, SECU Foundation

The SECU Public Fellows Internship Program (PFIP) is funded by the SECU Foundation and it provides support for both the professional development of 20 undergraduate students and the organizational capacity building of community non-profits over the summer months. UNCW has been a funded partner of PFIP for several years, but this is the first time that the program will collaborate directly with the School of Social Work to provide paid internships to students enrolled in Social Work. [Learn more.](#)

Center for Marine Science (CMS)

- **The NC PFAS Testing Network ***

Partners: Cape Fear Public Utility Authority, UNCW CMS, UNCW CSE

The NC PFAS Testing Network leverages the expertise of university researchers within North Carolina. These researchers collaborate with state regulatory agencies to provide data used to identify and implement solutions to address PFAS contamination. Through these efforts and partnerships, North Carolina is setting the gold standard for states' responses to PFAS. UNCW Professor Ralph Mead and Rachylle Hart, a PFAST Network program specialist, lead the multidisciplinary, multi-institutional team of experts. [Read more.](#)

- **CLDA: Career Leadership Development Academy ***

Partners: Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, local middle schools, UNCW CMS

As part of a community partnership with the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce and its Career and Leadership Development Academy, CMS hosted a CLDA function with Thermo Fisher for local 7th graders. Session topics were in the Life Sciences and Pharmaceuticals category.

- **Coast Guard Auxiliary ***

Engagement with the Coast Guard Auxiliary includes community events (e.g. Safe Boating Week, Boat Show and Flotillas) to promote safe boating and our long-standing commitment through the [Coastal Ocean Reporting and Monitoring Program \(CORMP\)](#).

Research and Innovation (R&I)

- **NCInnovation Selects UNCW as Hub:** NCInnovation selected UNCW as a Research Hub, sending extensive resources and translational research-related support to campus. This includes NCI hiring a full-time Hub Director, which will be announced soon. Recently, six UNCW researchers submitted applications for the Winter FY25 NCInnovation Grant Cycle. These will undergo an initial review with finalists being selected for full submission in January. [Read more about NCI at UNCW.](#)



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- **Collaboration with Nuream:** The College of Science and Engineering, in collaboration with R&I and the Office of Innovation and Commercialization, entered into a Collaboration Agreement with Nuream. A Wilmington-based neuroscience research and technology startup, Nuream has partnered with several researchers in CSE to study, develop, and improve bio-metric technology related to brain-related sleep performance and health outcomes.
- **Wilmington Inventor's Day ***
Partners: U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, UNCW OIC, UNCW Career Center, UNCW CIE
This inaugural event elevated inventorship through four key programs: 1 Million Cups Wilmington; Career Edge: Career Paths with USPTO; National Academy of Inventors (NAI) Meeting for faculty inventors; and, Demystifying the Patent Process workshop. The programs covered topics relevant to faculty, staff, and students, as well as community innovators. Participants were joined by Elizabeth Dougherty (USPTO Eastern US Outreach Director) and Ana Muresan (USPTO Patent Officer).
- **Cape Fear Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week ***
Partners: Organizers of MED Week (New Hanover County, YWCA, Genesis Block, and more), UNCW CSB, UNCW Alumni Association, UNCW Advancement, UNCW CIE
CSB, CIE, Alumni Association, and Advancement coordinated a Seahawk Mixer during MED Week for UNCW students to meet regional business leaders. The event was held at Discovery Hall. Additionally, CIE was a featured speaker during Conversations to Contracts, a program of MED Week. The CIE Director Heather McWhorter and CIE Program Manager Lydia Thomas facilitated a session on "Perfecting your elevator pitch". The region's MED Week ties into the national MED Week initiative, which is coordinated by the U.S. Department of Commerce.
- **CIE's Entrepreneur Day ***
Partners: U.S. organizers of [Global Entrepreneurship Week \(GEW\) Network](#), UNCW CIE, various New Hanover County Schools middle and high schools
Entrepreneur Day is a program created by CIE to connect classroom learning, youth curiosity about entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship, and the region's entrepreneurs. Entrepreneurs visit UNCW and New Hanover County classrooms to discuss what they are working on and what it's like to be an entrepreneur, and to answer their questions. This is one partnership related event during GEW Wilmington. Other participants this year included Cape Fear Community College and Brunswick Community College.
- **CLDA: Career Leadership Development Academy ***
Partners: Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, local middle schools, various entrepreneurs, UNCW CIE



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As part of a community partnership with the Wilmington Chamber of Commerce and its Career and Leadership Development Academy, CIE hosted local 7th graders in engaging youth sessions to highlight entrepreneurship as a career path and inspire the next digital tech innovators. The participants were the 7th graders, the “judges” were regional tech entrepreneurs, the coordinator was the Wilmington Chamber, and the facilitator and host was UNCW CIE.

- **Recent Research Stories:**

- [UNCW Awarded \\$1.5M for Coastal Research](#)
- [Research Team Headed to Antarctica to Study Sea Urchins](#)
- [Research Hubs Dive Deep](#)
- [NCInnovation Selects UNCW as Research Hub](#)
- [UNCW Launches NSF-Funded Initiative to Promote Women in STEM](#)
- [Where You Belong: UEDA Awards UNCW for Community Impact](#)
- [McLean Lab Receives NSF EMBRACE Grant for North Sea Research](#)
- [UNCW Honors Excellence in Research and Innovation](#)

Recent External Recognitions

- **Dr. Robert Burrus (CSB)**, 2024 Wilmington Biz 100 List for The Connectors. ([Learn more.](#))
- **Dr. Jamy Chulak (CHHS)**, named an American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC) Fellow ([Learn more.](#))
- **Camden Ege (SEER)**, elected Vice President of the Board of Directors and delegate at large of the National Association of Veterans Program Administrators ([Learn more.](#))
- **Dr. Lucy Holman (TLLS)**, 2024 Wilmington Biz 100 List for The Innovators. ([Learn more.](#))
- **Dr. Jared Kerr (CHHS)**, appointed Commissioner for the CAAHEP Committee on Accreditation of Academic Programs in Clinical Research (CAAPCR). ([Learn more.](#))
- **Sheri Leavens (CHHS)**, 2024 Wilmington Biz 100 List for The Connectors. ([Learn more.](#))
- **Heather McWhorter (CIE)**, 2024 Wilmington Biz 100 List for The Connectors. ([Learn more.](#))
- **Dr. Yolanda Pollard (Swain Center)**, 2024 Wilmington Biz 100 List for The Connectors. ([Learn more.](#))
- **Lydia Bjorklund Thomas (CIE)**, 2024 Wilmington Biz 100 List for The Connectors. ([Learn more.](#))
- **Dr. Jill Waity (CHSSA)**, named 2024-2025 RTI University Scholar. ([Learn more.](#))
- **Dr. Jack Watson (CHHS)**, 2024 Wilmington Biz 100 List for The Influencers. ([Learn more.](#))

[END]