



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS
Committee on Historically Minority-Serving Institutions

January 29, 2025 at 2:30 p.m.
Via Videoconference and PBS North Carolina Livestream
UNC System Office
223 S. West Street, Room 1809
Raleigh, North Carolina

AGENDA

OPEN SESSION

- A-1. Approval of the Minutes of September 11, 2024.....Reginald Holley

- A-2 Leveraging Public Investment in HMSIs through Innovative
External Partnerships Roundtable DiscussionIvy R. Taylor
Catherine Edmonds, Elizabeth City State University
Darrell Allison, Fayetteville State University
Karrie Dixon, North Carolina Central University
James R. Martin II, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
Robin Cummings, University of North Carolina at Pembroke
Bonita Brown, Winston-Salem State University

- A-3 Adjourn

DRAFT MINUTES

September 11, 2024 at 3:30 p.m.
Via Videoconference and PBS North Carolina Livestream
UNC System Office
223 S. West Street, 1723
Raleigh, North Carolina

This meeting of the Committee on Historically Minority-Serving Institutions was presided over by Chair Reginald Holley. The following committee members, constituting a quorum, were also present in person or by phone: Sonja Nichols, Kellie Hunt Blue, R. Gene Davis Jr., and O. Temple Sloan

Chancellors participating were Interim Chancellor Catherine Edmonds, Chancellor Darrell Allison, Chancellor Bonita Brown, Chancellor Robin Cummings, Chancellor Karrie Dixon, and Chancellor James R. Martin II.

Staff members present included Ivy Taylor, Kaity McNeill, and others from the UNC System Office.

1. Call to Order and Approval of May 22, 2024, Session Minutes (Item A-1)

The chair called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 11, 2024. The open session minutes from the May 22, 2024 were approved by unanimous consent

2. National Trends in Advancement for Minority-Serving Institutions (Item A-2)

The HMSI Committee hosted Dr. Harold Williams, of the Thurgood Marshall College Fund, to discuss the current landscape of advancement for historically minority-serving institutions on a national level. Dr. Williams discussed the trends relating to philanthropy for HBCU and minority-serving institutions with an emphasis on any trends related to supporting student success.

3. Institutional Advancement Roundtable (Item A-3)

Each of the UNC System's historically minority-serving institutions had a representative of their advancement team attend this meeting to share their unique successes and highlights from their institution's advancement activities, again with a focus on efforts to support student success.

4. Adjourn

There being no further business and without objection, the meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

R. Gene Davis Jr., Secretary

AGENDA ITEM

- A-2. Leveraging Public Investment in HMSIs through Innovative
External Partnerships Roundtable Discussion Ivy R. Taylor
Catherine Edmonds, Elizabeth City State University
Darrell Allison, Fayetteville State University
Karrie Dixon, North Carolina Central University
James R. Martin II, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
Robin Cummings, University of North Carolina at Pembroke
Bonita Brown, Winston-Salem State University

Situation: Dr. Ivy R. Taylor will lead a discussion with chancellors from each of the minority-serving institutions.

Background: Innovative partnerships are critical for HMSIs, which have a history of being uniquely responsive to their communities. Chancellors from each institution will briefly highlight a partnership. Experiences of students who benefit from the partnerships will also be noted.

Assessment: Each institution will highlight their unique partnership activities with a focus on how their partners and the activities leverage public investment and benefit students.

Action: This item is for information only.



Leveraging Public Investment in HMSIs Through Innovative External Partnerships

ECSU's Aviation Science program stands as a national leader, being one of only three aviation programs at a public HBCU on the East Coast. With an enrollment of 371 students (as of January 2025), it is both the largest academic program on campus and the largest collegiate aviation program among HBCUs nationwide, experiencing an impressive 48% growth in Fall 2024. The program holds the prestigious accreditation from the Aviation Accreditation Board International (AABI), a recognition granted to only 44 institutions worldwide. This accreditation affirms ECSU's commitment to excellence, integrity, and industry-aligned education, making its graduates highly sought after by aviation employers.

ECSU's aviation program is further distinguished by its FAA-approved Restricted Airline Transport Pilot (R-ATP) authorization, enabling students to accelerate their pathway to airline careers. The university is proud to offer the nation's most affordable collegiate aviation flight training program, making high-quality aviation education accessible to a diverse student body. Strategic partnerships with major airlines, including United Airlines, Delta Airlines, JetBlue, Republic Airways, Endeavor Air, and PSA Airlines, provide students with direct pathways to pilot careers. Additionally, collaborations with the U.S. Coast Guard, the FAA, First Flight Society, NC Department of Transportation, NC Association of Unmanned Vehicle Systems International, and AeroX offer valuable experiential learning and workforce transition opportunities. Strengthening its commitment to accessibility, ECSU has also established articulation agreements with North Carolina Community Colleges to ensure a seamless transfer into ECSU's Aviation Science degree program.

Further solidifying its reputation, ECSU became part of the recently awarded University Transportation Center of Excellence for Advanced Air Mobility and UAS. In partnership with NC A&T State University and NC State University, this NCDOT-funded initiative positions ECSU at the forefront of cutting-edge research and workforce development in emerging aviation technologies, including urban air mobility and unmanned aerial systems.

With the aviation program's unprecedented growth comes the challenge of sustaining the program. Additional aircraft, equipment, and instructional resources are critical to meeting the ever-increasing demand. Continued investment and strategic partnerships will collectively reinforce ECSU's role in shaping the future of a diverse and dynamic aviation workforce and solidify its position as a premier institution for aviation education and research.

ECSU and the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) maintain an ongoing partnership, which highlights the execution of the USCG's College Student Pre-commissioning Initiative (CSPI). CSPI provides scholarships, Reserve status, and guaranteed Officer Candidate School admission for successful graduates. The MOA also specified ECSU's inclusion into the USCG Auxiliary University Program (AUP), which became the first AUP program at an HBCU. AUP provides opportunities for students to join the Coast Guard Auxiliary, participate in missions, and with program completion can fast track into the USCG. The MOU also emphasizes educational and community partnerships. Lastly, Elizabeth City Regional Airport is a tenant of Coast Guard Base Elizabeth City, and ECSU partners with both the Airport Authority Board, the USCG, and participates in additional activities, most notably with the airfield safety committee and a local chapter of Women in Aviation.

The major component establishing ECSU's aviation program as the nation's most affordable is NC Promise. NC Promise has supercharged ECSU's growth since its inception and makes ECSU extremely attractive—but especially the aviation and flight programs. Since the implementation of NC Promise in the Fall of 2018, ECSU's enrollment has increased by 850 students (a 60.2% increase). The rebounding of ECSU's enrollment has impacted the regional economy, as noted in the Economic Impact Study released in July 2024. The NCGrowth study concluded that ECSU annually contributes \$223.8M to our 21-county service region. Any loss or reduction in the NC Promise program could cripple the aviation program's (and ECSU's) enrollment and sustainability, as well as the annual economic contribution that ECSU provides to northeastern North Carolina.

LEVERAGING PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN HMSIS THROUGH INNOVATIVE EXTERNAL PARTNERSHIPS

A Highlight of FSU's Commitment to Service Through Partnership

FSU's commitment to serving those who serve our country is reflected in our tailored programs and partnerships that align with the unique needs of military students and their families. Our dedication to meeting the needs of this special population of students is a shared vision that is supported by faculty, staff, and our community.

New! FSU Education Partnership Agreement with XVIII Airborne Corps

The FSU-Fort Liberty Education Partnership Agreement is the first of its kind between the base and a university within the UNC System. It lays the foundation for collaborative research and training applied to meet military challenges around a broad range of topics, leveraging areas of FSU faculty expertise across multiple disciplines, including artificial intelligence, autonomous drone navigation, cybersecurity, geospatial intelligence, data analytics, supply chain/ERP logistics technology, nanomaterials, emergency preparedness, healthcare informatics and sexual assault nurse examination training. The XVIII Airborne Corps to provide cutting-edge research and training opportunities, and a collaboration with Ft. Liberty to help transitioning service members pursue new careers through certification programs. These efforts are a testament to our deep gratitude and commitment to those who have dedicated themselves to our nation.

FSU Memorandum of Understanding with Fort Liberty Career Skills Program

This MOU authorizes military personnel transitioning from active-duty service at Ft. Liberty to prepare for civilian employment by enrolling in SAP Certification Courses offered by the FSU Center for Enterprise Resource Planning and Advanced Analytics (CERPAA). Through SAP Certification, participants gain facilitated access to well-compensated high demand career paths in supply chain management.

First HBCU to Partner with Air University's Associate to Baccalaureate Cooperative

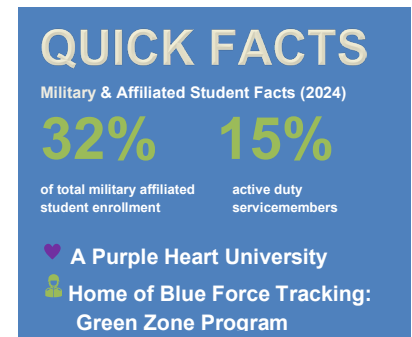
AU-ABC is a partnership between the United States Air Force and Fayetteville State University that provides enlisted Airmen the opportunity to advance their education by completing their baccalaureate degree. This program is available to all active-duty Air Force, Air Force Reserve, and Air National Guard members.

WE ARE PROUD TO:

- Offer Free Military Tuition for Military Students and affiliates
- Be the leading HBCU in the UNC System Military Equivalencies - Service for Credits Program
- Home of the Center for Defense and Homeland Security
- Serve military and veterans at the Fayetteville-Cumberland Regional Entrepreneur and Business HUB
- Host of the Annual Military Appreciation Luncheon and Military Appreciation Week
- Home of Three Dedicated Military Support Offices
 - Office for Adult Learners, Transfer, and Military Students
 - FSU at Fort Liberty Learning Centers
 - Military Affiliated and Veteran Student Resource Center

Challenges & Opportunities Ahead

As FSU continues to expand its support for the military community, identifying and addressing evolving needs and potential obstacles will be crucial for sustained growth and enhanced impact. Ongoing challenges such as adapting to changes in military education benefits, integrating technology in training programs, and funding to maintain or enhance support services require constant and student needs. Strengthening partnerships with military organizations and investing in research that addresses the specific needs of the armed forces are crucial for staying ahead of emerging challenges.





I. Overview

The Cheatham-White Scholarship was established as a merit scholarship program to provide an outstanding educational experience for students who are exceptional scholars, versatile and well-rounded individuals. The Cheatham-White Scholarship is a fully funded four-year award that covers the cost of the following: full tuition, student fees, housing, meals, textbooks, a laptop, supplies, travel, and personal expenses. Each scholarship also provides four summers of fully funded enrichment and networking opportunities that may include international travel and study. The first cohort class enrolled in the Fall 2018 semester. Table 1 below provides the summary results from the recruitment and selection process for the last academic year along with the previous six academic years (2018-2024).

North Carolina A&T State University is committed to expanding the Cheatham-White Scholarship to provide transformative educational opportunities for high-achieving students. The program currently supports 80 scholars with \$2 million in funding, of which only \$850,000 is provided by state appropriations. Increasing state funding to \$2 million would allow N.C. A&T to double the number of scholarships to 160, attracting top-tier talent and fostering academic excellence. This investment and additional strategic investments will enhance the university’s ability to develop future leaders who will contribute to the state’s workforce and economy.

Table 1. Recruitment and Selection Results for the 2018 - 2023 Cheatham-White Cohorts

APPLICATION PROCESS	2018	2019	2020	2021	2023	2023	2024
<i>Nominations Received</i>	226	302	277	1120	688	915	971
<i>CW Applications Eligible</i>	64	127	146	508	534	698	401
<i>Finalists Interviewed</i>		71	92	128	166	142	165

II. Information about Current Cheatham-White Scholars

New freshmen students eligible for the Cheatham-White Scholarship must have a minimum 4.0 or higher GPA on a 4.0 scale and a minimum 1280 SAT or 28 ACT score. The Fall 2024 class of 20 academically talented incoming freshmen boasts an average cumulative GPA of 4.4, while SAT and ACT scores were test optional during this cycle. On average, these scholars rank in the top 5 to 10 percent of their graduating high school classes. Fifteen scholars hail from North Carolina, with the others coming from Florida, Michigan, and South Carolina. Seventy-five percent of the scholars selected must be North Carolina residents.

III. Outcomes

Currently, 75 Cheatham-White Scholars are receiving the full-ride scholarship.

1. Scholars by gender: Male (44%) and Female (56%) as of July 1, 2024.
2. Percentage of scholars graduating within four years: 88%.
3. Average GPA: 3.73.
4. Retention rate: 89.2% (of the 65 scholarships awarded in the first three years, 58 scholars graduated).

IV. Prestigious Scholarships and Fellowship Awards

Between 2020 - 2024, Cheatham-White Scholars have earned prestigious recognition through awards such as the Goldwater Scholarship, Astronaut Scholarship, the Thomas I. Pickering Foreign Affairs Graduate Fellowship and the Barry Goldwater Scholarship.

V. Summer Internship Placement Results by Year

Scholars have gained valuable experience through prestigious summer internships and research programs at institutions such as Brown University, Stanford University, Johns Hopkins University, Cornell University, and top North Carolina schools, including Duke University, UNC-Chapel Hill, NC A&T, NC State University, and the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering. The number of scholars participating in internships each year reflects their commitment to hands-on learning and professional growth. In 2020, despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, 17 out of 45 scholars (37.8%) completed internships. Participation increased significantly in subsequent

years, with 61 out of 65 scholars (93.8%) in 2021, 59 out of 65 scholars (90.8%) in 2022, 51 out of 66 scholars (77.3%) in 2023, and an impressive 54 out of 56 scholars (96.4%) in 2024 successfully engaging in internship opportunities.

VI. Careers Post Graduation

The career placements of the NC A&T Cheatham-White Scholars showcase their diverse and impactful contributions across various fields across the country. Of the 58 scholars who graduated within four years or less, 28 pursued corporate roles, demonstrating strong professional readiness. Other notable career paths include healthcare (1), medical school enrollment (1), and applications to medical school (1). Additionally, scholars have advanced their academic pursuits through PREP programs (3), Ph.D. programs (10), and Master's programs (8). Some have also dedicated themselves to teaching (2) and service, including one scholar joining the Peace Corps. These outcomes highlight the breadth and success of the Scholars upon graduation from N.C. A&T.



Leveraging Public Investment in HMSIs Through Innovative External Partnerships

PNC Foundation Helps NCCU Establish the Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (CEED)

In 2022, the **PNC Foundation** awarded NCCU \$718,000 to establish the North Carolina Central University Center for Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (CEED), a university-based program to provide Student Fellows and faculty with entrepreneurial and community economic development education to help small businesses grow and develop. Student Fellows with an interest in entrepreneurship have gained exposure to entrepreneurial thinking through training and service to the community, while supporting the operation of CEED. To date the Center has **engaged 120 students and awarded over \$160,000 in scholarship stipends**.

CEED Fellows have **secured internships with prestigious organizations**, including JP Morgan, Accenture, Wells Fargo, Lenovo, Beats by Dre, Fidelity, Zuri Fertility, PWC, Boston Trust Walden, KPMG, Gucci, and more, translating their entrepreneurial skills into professional opportunities. CEED also collaborates with local organizations, including Resilient Ventures and CED, to provide students with internship and employment opportunities.

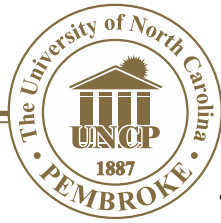
CEED also taught faculty members how to teach entrepreneurship via the Faculty Entrepreneurship Certification Program (FEC) for which the School of Business **received the AACSB, International Innovations that Inspire Award**. **More than 750 students and 30 faculty members** have participated in CEED workshops and programs, **reaching nearly 10% of NCCU's student body** and engaging every college and multiple departments across campus.

CEED's Small Business Assistance Clinic program in collaboration with E3 Durham has delivered **over 615 hours of technical assistance** to local small businesses, with **120 businesses served**. Notably, **70% of these businesses are women-owned**, and **over 90% are minority-owned**. This support has strengthened the local economy and offered students practical consulting experience.

CEED has delivered **over 100 events** to students and faculty, including fireside chats with industry leaders, pitch competitions, student-led workshops, and specialized bootcamps like the WBENC Women of Color Incubator and the FutureReady Product Management Bootcamp. CEED has hosted over **105 students in pitch competitions**, with more than **35 business ideas presented**. These competitions, such as the Eagle IDEA Pitch and PNC Pitch Competition, have equipped students with skills in ideation and opportunity discovery, design thinking and user experience design, business planning, and financial forecasting. CEED-supported ventures have generated **over \$350,000 in revenue**, demonstrating the outcomes achievable when students are resourced and supported. CEED has **awarded over \$200,000** in fellowships, grants, and prizes, providing financial support to budding entrepreneurs.

CEED's Mentorship Alliance Program has connected students with **28 mentors**, facilitating guidance and networking opportunities that support their personal and professional growth. CEED has facilitated **over 300 volunteer hours** for students with organizations like Junior Achievement and Built2Last. The Center has engaged **over 50 high school students** through the Entrepreneurship Summer Camp program, creating a pipeline for future Eagles and innovative thinkers. CEED also hosted its first Early Childcare Provider Business Accelerator Weekend in collaboration with Built2Last to help this small business segment grow and develop.

The initial funding from PNC, has enabled CEED to obtain additional support from organizations such as Blackstone LaunchPad, NC IDEA, Truist Foundation, State Farm and Clorox. These partnerships bring critical resources and funding to CEED's programs, expanding its capacity to deliver impactful programming to students, faculty, and local businesses. However, a major challenge that CEED faces is a need to continue raising funds to sustain its operations. To meet this challenge, CEED and the School of Business are working closely with the Office of Institutional Advancement to raise additional funds.



Leveraging Public Investment in HMSIs

Through Innovative External Partnerships

UNC Pembroke College of Optometric Medicine Healthcare Collaborations

Overview: Under the guidance of a recently appointed Dean and Associate Dean, UNCP's College of Optometric Medicine is actively pursuing national accreditation, aiming to welcome its inaugural class in fall 2027. The program will be the only public university in North Carolina to offer a Doctor of Optometry degree, filling a critical gap in the southeastern U.S., as there are currently no optometry schools in South Carolina, Virginia, or Georgia.

The program aims to meet the growing demand for eye care services, particularly in rural areas, with 13 counties in North Carolina lacking optometrists. Along with the doctoral program, UNCP plans to establish a community clinic for uninsured and low-income patients.

The College has forged partnerships with organizations such as the Cherokee Indian Hospital Authority; the Veterans Integrated Services Networks of NC; Carolina Eye Associates, a large multidisciplinary group of ophthalmologists and optometrists with numerous statewide locations; the Robeson Health Care Corporation, which operates a system of federally qualified community health centers; and numerous regional optometric clinics serving as externship training sites. These partnerships will provide students with a comprehensive educational experience in both academic and clinical settings.

Student Impact: The program and experiences that will be offered through UNCP's College of Optometric Medicine and external partnerships will enhance learning, contribute to workforce development, and impact the university's surrounding communities. The college will provide real-world experience through externships at partner sites, where students will be exposed to diverse patient care settings. This practical training will ensure students are well-prepared for the demands of their profession. Furthermore, the program will address the critical need for optometric professionals in rural and underserved areas, contributing to workforce development by ensuring a steady pipeline of skilled graduates ready to serve these communities. Additionally, the planned community clinic will provide essential eye care services to uninsured and low-income patients. This initiative will not only benefit the community but also offer students hands-on experience under the supervision of experienced clinical faculty, reinforcing their learning while meeting the region's healthcare needs.

Legislative Support: UNCP's commitment to health sciences expansion began in 2018 with the establishment of the College of Health Sciences, guided by studies from the Sheps Center. These studies highlighted the need for healthcare professionals in rural communities and led to state legislators allocating \$20 million for new healthcare programs, of which \$12 million will be dedicated to the optometry program. Additionally, \$91 million has been earmarked for a new health profession building on campus, where optometry will be the anchor program, equipped with the latest diagnostic and therapeutic technology.



WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY

Leveraging Public Investment in HMSIs through Innovative External Partnerships

NASCAR CAMPUS LAB PROGRAM PARTNERSHIP

In October 2024, NASCAR and Winston Salem State University announced an investment of \$100,000 as part of the rollout of the Campus Lab Program, which provides hands-on experience to students interested in pursuing careers in the sports industry, beginning with the spring 2025 semester. The inaugural cohort of 14 sophomores and juniors features a diverse group of students from several academic departments. This partnership with NASCAR makes WSSU the first institution in North Carolina and the first public university in the country to join the NASCAR Campus Lab initiative. WSSU is also the only HBCU in the country that offers a degree in motorsports management.

Students receive individually tailored interview advice, resume review, and a dedicated mentor to help prepare for future career opportunities while getting first-hand exposure to all aspects of NASCAR's operations that generate total annual revenue of nearly \$1.8 billion. Upon completion of the Campus Lab Program, NASCAR will give students a \$3,500 scholarship prize, and one student will earn a spot in the NASCAR Diversity Internship Program for the upcoming summer

The Campus Lab program is part of a larger, ongoing working relationship between WSSU and NASCAR, who are co-tenants of historic Bowman-Gray Stadium in Winston-Salem. The upcoming Cook Out Clash at Bowman Gray Stadium on Sunday, Feb. 2, is one of NASCAR's highest profile race events each year. Winston Salem State and NASCAR are working closely together to address issues related to parking, security, pre-race festivities, race-day entertainment and other logistical issues to help deliver a first-class experience to all patrons throughout the weekend.

INTERGENERATIONAL CENTER FOR HEALTH & WELLNESS

The Winston-Salem State University (WSSU) School of Health Sciences (SOHS) is a dedicated space partner in the Intergenerational Center for Arts and Wellness created by Senior Services, a nonprofit organization that helps older adults living in Forsyth County remain at home, live with dignity and age with purpose through a variety of programs and services. With more than 4 million people in North Carolina over the age of 60 and that number expected to reach nearly 6.5 million by the year 2040, programming and facilities for this target population are needed more than ever.

WSSU SOHS uses its footprint at the Center to offer health and preventive care services and programming for underserved populations and to meet the needs of the community while providing experiential learning for WSSU SOHS students. Students enrolled in physical therapy, occupational therapy and recreational therapy programs work with older adults and experience health care scenarios through virtual simulations in this supervised practicum setting.

More than 20 local organizations participate in this one-of-a-kind community space of 62,500 square feet located in East Winston. The SOHS received nearly \$1.5 million from former U.S. Rep. Kathy Manning to purchase capital clinical equipment and other supplies.