



Fayetteville State University (FSU) is a public comprehensive regional university that promotes the educational, social, cultural, and economic transformation of southeastern North Carolina and beyond. The primary mission of FSU is to provide students with the highest quality learning experiences that will produce global citizens and leaders as change agents for shaping the future of the State.

### **ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT**

FSU strives to be a leader in economic transformation efforts by conducting needs assessments, researching trends, establishing community partnerships, serving as an information resource, and evaluating the needs for new academic programs. Through existing programs and services, such as the Small Business and Technology Development Center, the Fayetteville Business Center, and the Bronco Square Retail Plaza, FSU provides start-up assistance, incubators, management expertise, and office and retail space to small businesses. Community development efforts include hosting the annual Youth Entrepreneurship Conference, evaluating the City of Fayetteville's HOPE VI project, collaborating in the compilation of the Regional Data Book to assist economic developers across the region, and conducting economic impact studies.

**Veteran Business Outreach Center**, funded by a Small Business Administration grant, serves as a district-wide business and technology entrepreneurial start-up and extension service for veterans and active duty members transitioning into civilian life, Army National Guard, reserve components, spouses, and survivors in an eight state region. The Center offers a variety of training workshops and programs including an Entrepreneur Boot Camp for Veterans, a week-long immersion class that covers the fundamentals of business start-up and augmentation.

**EDA University Center**, funded by a U.S. Economic Development Administration grant, promotes innovation and competitiveness in the global economy. The primary focus is the acceleration of business expansion by proactively linking existing firms with the knowledge, resources, and technical assistance that will enable them to effectively introduce new products, win new contracts, improve efficiency, and create high-paying jobs in the defense, energy, and agriculture industries.

**Fayetteville Business Center (FBC)** promotes economic development in the City of Fayetteville and the Murchison Road corridor by providing business assistance in the growth and development of small business concerns. As a business incubator, the FBC provides a wide array of supportive services including seminars/workshops for individuals seeking information on starting or growing a business.

**Center for Economic Education** supports a broad-based community education program to promote economic literacy in the southeastern region of North Carolina. The Center marshals resources of the University and local community to (a) identify economics education needs in public schools; (b) conduct productive and meaningful programs to fill those needs; and (c) provide leadership, guidance, consultation and economic education resource materials.

**Office of Civic Engagement and Service Learning** supports academically based engagement in civic life and service learning to promote ethical and social responsibility. In 2011-2012, students completed 5,049.81 hours of service with 49 community partners.

**Research** awards during the 2011-2012 academic year totaled \$9.5 million. The external funding was used to support research, instruction, and community development initiatives. Funding sources included governmental and private entities.