

**Report to the
2017 North Carolina General Assembly
Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee**



**Strategic Initiatives Reserve
2015-16**

First appropriated in 1999, the Strategic Initiatives Reserve is used by the President of the University of North Carolina to encourage multi-campus initiatives, capitalize on promising opportunities, and address system-wide issues and concerns. Beginning in the 2005-07 biennia, the previous annual appropriation of \$4 million was reduced to \$3.3 million. Projects and collaborative efforts funded from this Reserve during the 2015-16 fiscal year are identified below.

2015-16 Strategic Initiatives for Compliance and Shared Services – \$1,452,383

- Continued effort to identify best practices and common standards, and integrates those practices into the University operations of each campus.
- Specific programmatic objectives achieved during FY 2016:
 - Continued leveraging an E-Procurement investment with SciQuest to provide and expand strategic sourcing, catalog enablement, and consolidated acquisition coordination efforts.
 - Continued partnership with the NC Community Colleges and College Foundation, Inc. for an automated Free Financial Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) verification process. Eight campuses were using the service at the end of FY 2016.
 - Continued work with online time and attendance application for the shared services center (SSC) payroll operations to six UNC payroll shared services campuses.
 - Continued partnership with the NC Department of Justice to enable campuses to upload past due account referrals into the Attorney General's portal through an automated process.
 - Launched CAPSTAT replacement – Interscope – for the UNC System, NCCCS, and the State of North Carolina to manage capital projects. Interscope is used by OSBM, DOA, UNC, and the NCCCS. Project development continued to improve detailed reporting capabilities.
 - Continued to provide uniform automated online transcript exchange service to deliver transcripts to students and between UNC constituent institutions and/or NC Community Colleges.
 - Continued a residency verification process project in coordination with the State Education Assistance Authority, NC Community Colleges and the NC Independent Colleges and Universities to identify a common process and standard for verifying residency for in-state tuition and student aid purposes.

Economic Impact Initiatives – \$416,353 (ASU, NCAT, NCCU, UNC-CH, UNC-GA)

- Supported participation from Appalachian State University to guide the University Innovation Council (UIC) working group collaboration with the Office of Science, Technology, and Innovation in the NC Department of Commerce to streamline and standardize technology commercialization across the UNC system.
- Supported project by North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University to enhance student education, training and participation in entrepreneurial and innovation activities that will catalyze economic development and commercialization in the Triad and State.
- Supported proposal from North Carolina Central University to develop experiential learning center in downtown Durham. The center will expand clinical and experiential learning for law students, increase access to legal services for low income North Carolinians through student-attorney legal clinics, and provide a visible presence for the NCCU in the vital Durham city center.
- Supported workshop at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill for system-wide faculty to develop the entrepreneurial mindset – identify opportunity, develop goal and strategy, sell idea, calculate cost, raise money, and assess progress. Participants collaborated with entrepreneurship educators from Kenan-Flagler Business School, UNC School of Education, and UNC School of Journalism and Mass Communication.
- Supported internship opportunities for UNC system graduates at the University of North Carolina General Administration, providing a wide range of professional perspective projects.
- Supported public-private partnership at the University of North Carolina School of the Arts to study renovation of the Stevens Center and development of the surrounding block to ensure a viable learning and performance space and anchor component for the school and downtown Winston-Salem going forward.

Student Success Strategies – \$313,279 (ASU, ECSU, UNCA, UNCC, UNCG, UNC-GA)

- Supported proposals from Appalachian State University, Elizabeth City State University, University of North Carolina at Asheville, University of North Carolina at Charlotte, and University of North Carolina at Greensboro to optimize advising services for students.
- Utilized Predictive Analytic Reporting and enhanced technology for the Academic Affairs Division to deliver tools and reports aimed at improving academic success for students through flexible predictive models, cross-institutional benchmarks, and methodology that links predictions with interventions and support.

Faculty Outreach – \$218,998 (UNC-CH, UNC-GA)

- Supported efforts by the UNC Press to highlight and enhance scholarly publishing initiatives.
- Provided funding at University of North Carolina General Administration for the Faculty Fellowship Program, the UNC Faculty Assembly, and the opportunity for faculty to participate in system-wide academic projects.

Improve Graduation and Retention Rates – \$150,000 (NCCU, UNCC)

- Supported project at North Carolina Central University to improve technology for students and advisors that enables real time, streamlined, and consistent information that facilitates degree completion. This is second year of a three-year commitment.
- Supported project at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte to develop a Predictive Transfer Portal that enhances ability to provide “seamless” transfer experience and optimize best fit between transfer credits and intended degree during the transfer process.

Improve Accessibility – \$130,450 (UNC-CH, UNCG, UNC-GA)

- Supported First Look program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill that provides middle school students with an awareness of the college experience through introduction to academics, the arts, athletics, student life, campus living, and global education along with access to higher educational options and potential career pathways.
- Supported the UNC Exchange Program at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro to convert traditional face-to-face courses to online format in order to increase international student recruitment.
- Funded pilot program by the University of North Carolina General Administration to recruit, retain, and graduate “part-way” home and other nontraditional students that have completed some college but have not earned a degree.

Enrollment Growth – \$125,000 (FSU, UNCW)

- Supported project at Fayetteville State University to implement Perceptive Software that automates assignment of transfer equivalencies for students more effectively and efficiently.
- Funded project at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington to improve communication strategies directed at prospective students.

Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) – \$125,000 (WCU, NCSSM)

- Supported program at Western Carolina University to embed tutors within the gateway STEM courses to provide additional academic support for student success.
- Supported program at the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics to expand Summer Ventures in Science and Mathematics (SVSM) to include a teacher-training component.

Military Outreach – \$78,937 (ECU, UNCW)

- Funded project at East Carolina University for training both military and rural-based care teams to leverage and create training technology, understand acquisition of skills to achieve competency and proficiency, pioneer automated adaptive learning for healthcare providers, and establish leadership for sustainable medical education lifecycle.
- Supported project at the University of North Carolina at Wilmington to expand military outreach to personnel stationed at Fort Bragg.

Improve Digital Footprint – \$75,000 (WCU)

- Funded project at Western Carolina University to redesign the website to more effectively convey key messages to prospective students, donors, and the community.

Strengthen Advancement – \$75,000 (ECSU)

- Supported project at Elizabeth City State University to enhance strategic, analytical, and technical expertise in all facets of philanthropic management, as well as, improve external relations with alumni, friends, and the community.

Capital Campaign – \$50,000 (UNCP)

- Supported study at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke to establish strategy for a capital campaign.

Maximize Efficiencies – \$25,000 (UNCP)

- Supported project at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke to improve financial system functionality within the accounts payable module.

Science Festival – \$25,000 (UNC-CH)

- Supported efforts at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to increase participation in the annual NC Science Festival hosted by the Morehead Planetarium.

Graduate Fellow – \$18,000 (NCSU)

- Supported North Carolina State University graduate research assistant to participate in development of university-wide strategy and policy.

Expand Reach and Relevance – \$15,000 (UNC-CPTV)

- Supported project by the University of North Carolina Center for Public Television to install a light board to work more closely with university partners to enable expansion and support for the instructional design emphasis in university course planning and creation.

Board of Trustees Professional Development – \$6,600 (ECSU)

- Supported workshop by Elizabeth City State University for the Board of Trustees to focus on strategic issues confronting HBCU campuses, the roles and responsibilities of the board, and what it takes to be a consequential board.