

# ANNUAL REPORT

2018

NC COMMUNITY COLLEGES FOUNDATION, INC.



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# Mission

The purposes of the Foundation...are to support the mission of the [North Carolina] Community College System and to foster and promote the growth, progress, and general welfare of the community college system; to support programs, services and activities of the community college system which promote its mission; to support and promote excellence in administration and instruction throughout the community college system; to foster quality in programs and to encourage research to support long-range planning in the system; to provide an alternative vehicle for contributions of funds to support programs, services, and activities that are not being funded adequately through traditional resources; to broaden the base of the community college system's support; to lend support and prestige to fund raising efforts of the institutions within the system; and to communicate to the public the community college system's mission and responsiveness to local needs.

NC  
CC



\$8.68 million

investment portfolio



33

2017-18 impacted scholarship recipients



9 %

2017 investment rate of return

# Foundation History

The NC Community Colleges Foundation was incorporated as a nonprofit on September 11, 1986, by former Governor and System President Robert W. Scott. There were three founding directors, Lauch Faircloth, UNC President William Friday, and Mr. James W. York.

Former chairs of the Foundation include J. Harold Talton, Hunt Broyhill, Tony Almeida, Grant Godwin and Bill Naumann. The current chair is Crystal Morphis. Pursuant to the bylaws, the 24-member Foundation board, including six ex-officio voting members, consists of “[o]utstanding men and women who have demonstrated leadership in business, civic and philanthropic roles in their communities.” With the exception of the ex officio members, the board of directors selects and appoints its members for four-year terms, up to 16 consecutive years, by majority vote.

# System History

In May 1963, the General Assembly provided for the establishment of a Department of Community Colleges under the State Board of Education, and for the administration of institutions in the Community College System. There were then 20 industrial education centers, six community colleges (three of which became four-year schools in 1963), and five extension units.

By 1966, there were 43 institutions with 28,250 full-time equivalent (FTE) enrollments. In 1969, there were 54 institutions with 59,329 FTE. The system had grown very rapidly, exceeding 10 percent annually nearly every year until the late 1970s. Today, there are 58 community colleges with 200,000+ FTE, serving about 700,000 students across North Carolina.

## About the Chair

Crystal Morphis was a local economic developer before serving ten years as a managing partner in a consulting firm. She founded Creative EDC in 2012. Creative Economic Development Consulting is an entrepreneurial, innovative firm with a unique commitment to give back to the field of economic development. The firm provides strategic planning, product development, impact analysis, and organizational development services. In 2013, Creative EDC launched a web-based site assessment tool, CreativeSiteAssessment.com. It helps economic developers assess potential business development sites through an independent ranking and prioritization system. In 2015, the firm relaunched the nationally-recognized and award-winning Certified Entrepreneurial Community® program. In 2016, the firm created the first Certified Industrial Building Program. With a pay-it-forward philosophy, Creative EDC gives away one consulting project a year through their Creative Give Back program, they sponsor a Women's Economic Development Network, and created a mentor network.

Ms. Morphis has a Bachelor of Arts, major in economics, from Salem College and a Master of Science, major in economics, from the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. She is a Certified Economic Developer (CEcD), regular instructor at the IEDC-accredited Basic Economic Development Courses at UNC-Chapel Hill and Georgia Tech, a licensed real estate broker, and a LEED Green Associate. She has published articles in *Economic Development Journal* and *Community Development*.



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***“I believe in the work of this Foundation and have enjoyed serving as the chair for the past two years. I am confident we will keep pushing the needle for the good of education and workforce in the State of North Carolina.”***

---

*Crystal Morphis*

Crystal Morphis,  
Chair

## The 9th System President

Peter Hans became the ninth president of the North Carolina Community College System on May 1, 2018, bringing decades of leadership experience in higher education policy and governance to the position.

Mr. Hans has been a leader on North Carolina's two governing boards for higher education. The N.C. House of Representatives elected him to a six-year term on the State Board of Community Colleges in 1997. He served as vice chair of the board and chair of the Policy Committee.

The N.C. Senate elected Mr. Hans to the University of North Carolina Board of Governors in 2003, 2007 and 2011, and he led that board as chair from 2012-2014.

He was honored by UNC-Wilmington in 2014 for his role in improving collaboration between the community college and university systems.

From 2016-2018, Mr. Hans advised UNC System President Margaret Spellings on issues such as technology, health care, strategic planning and K-12 education. His career also includes serving as senior policy adviser to U.S. Sen. Lauch Faircloth (1995-1999) and then-U.S. Rep. Richard Burr (1999-2001). He also advised Elizabeth Dole during her successful run for U.S. Senate in 2001-2002.

Later, he and former Lt. Gov. Dennis Wicker built a government relations practice at a series of regional law firms, most recently Nelson Mullins Riley & Scarborough. The team counseled private-sector companies on public affairs, including clients in the health care, technology, retail and manufacturing sectors.

Mr. Hans grew up in Southport on the coast and Hendersonville in the mountains. He earned a Bachelor



of Arts degree in political science from UNC-Chapel Hill and a Master of Liberal Arts in Extension Studies from Harvard University. He is a trustee of Rex Hospital and a member of the International Advisory Board of public relations firm APCO Worldwide. He is a former board member for Urban Ministries of Wake County, where he co-chaired a \$5.5 million capital campaign.



## Director's Corner

*Chreatha Alston, MPA*  
*Director of Foundation & Engagement Services*

I am humbled and excited to work with this amazing group of business professionals across this great State of North Carolina. Since November, I have been busy familiarizing myself with the intricacies and history of the Foundation. Our accomplishments include:

- Planning the Foundation's first new member orientation in April;
- Publishing the bylaws and policy manual;
- Enlisting the Foundation as a charitable organization for inclusion in the 2018 State Employees Combined Campaign;
- Presenting to the NC CORD's (NC Community College Resource Development) Executive Team at Wake Technical Community College;
- Assisting with the production of the 2018-19 Scholarship Guide to distribute to colleges, and
- Publishing the first Annual Foundation Report.

**“Life’s most persistent and urgent question  
is, ‘What are you doing for others?’”**

*Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

## Officers



### **Crystal Morphis**

Chair

*serving since 2011*

*Founder and Chief Executive Officer*

*Creative Economic Development Consulting, LLC*



### **Jim Bryan**

Vice-Chair

*serving since 2011*

*Executive Vice President & Commercial Credit Executive*

*First Citizens Bank*



### **Susan Jackson**

Treasurer

*serving since 2010*

*Chief People Officer*

*Well Health Care*



### **Peter Hans**

Secretary

*President*

*North Carolina Community College System*



***“If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.”***

*John Quincy Adams*

## Members



### **Brenda Berg**

*newly elected 2018*

*President & Chief Executive Officer  
BEST NC*



### **Kirk Bradley**

*-serving since 2014*

*Chairman, President & Chief  
Executive Officer  
Lee-Moore Capital Company*



### **Korey Coon**

*-serving since 2012*

*General Manager, Mini excavators/small  
bulldozers  
Caterpillar, Inc.*



### **Herb Crenshaw**

*-serving since 2008*

*Executive Director of Government Affairs  
(retired)  
AT&T North Carolina*



### **Lew Ebert**

*-serving since 2010*

*President & Chief Executive Officer  
North Carolina Carolina Chamber*



### **Grant Godwin**

*-serving since 2008*

*Chair  
NC Rural Center Board of Directors  
Vice President & General Manager  
(retired)  
Martin Marietta*



### **Javier Gonzalez**

*newly elected 2018*

*Chief Operating Officer  
East Coast Migrant Head Start Project*



### **Donny Hicks**

*-serving since 2014*

*Executive Director  
Gaston County Economic  
Development Corporation*

## Members



**Richard Hurley**  
*serving since 2011*

*Human Resources Manager  
(retired)  
Schneider Electric*



**Henry McKoy**  
*serving since 2009*

*Director of Entrepreneurship  
North Carolina Central  
University*



**E. Stuart Powell, Jr.**  
*serving since 2014*

*Semi-retired Insurance and Risk  
Management Consultant  
IIANC*



**Alice Schenall**  
*newly elected 2018*

*Associate Director - Community  
Relations  
Area L AHEC*



**Barry Sink**  
*newly elected 2018*

*President  
Olde Lexington Products, Inc.*



**C. Michael Smith**  
*newly elected 2018*

*Chief Executive Officer  
Sanford Area Growth Alliance*



**Gwendolyn Vass**  
*serving since 2009*

*Partner , CPA & Certified Fraud Examiner  
Williams Overman Pierce LLP*

## Ex Officio



**Dr. Mark Kinlaw**  
NC Association of  
Community College  
Presidents Representative

*President*  
Rockingham Community College



**Stephanie Lake**  
NC Community College  
Resource Development  
Representative

*Senior Director, Foundation  
Relations and Administration* Wake  
Technical Community College



**Raul Peralta**  
NC Economic Development  
Association Representative

*Senior Vice President*  
ECS Southeast LLP



**Scott Shook**  
State Board of Community  
Colleges Representative

*Financial Advisor*  
BB&T Scott & Stringfellow  
*Chair*  
State Board of Community Colleges



**Randy Vinson**  
NC Association of  
Community College Trustees  
Representative

*Chair, North Carolina Association  
of Community College Trustees*

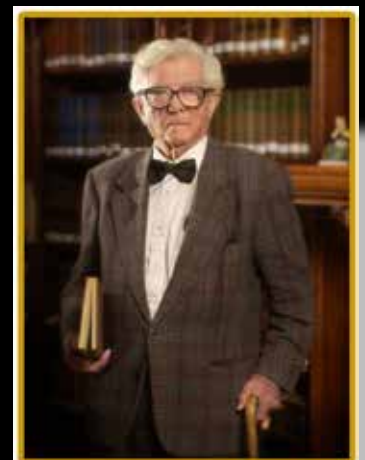
## **Dr. Dallas Herring**

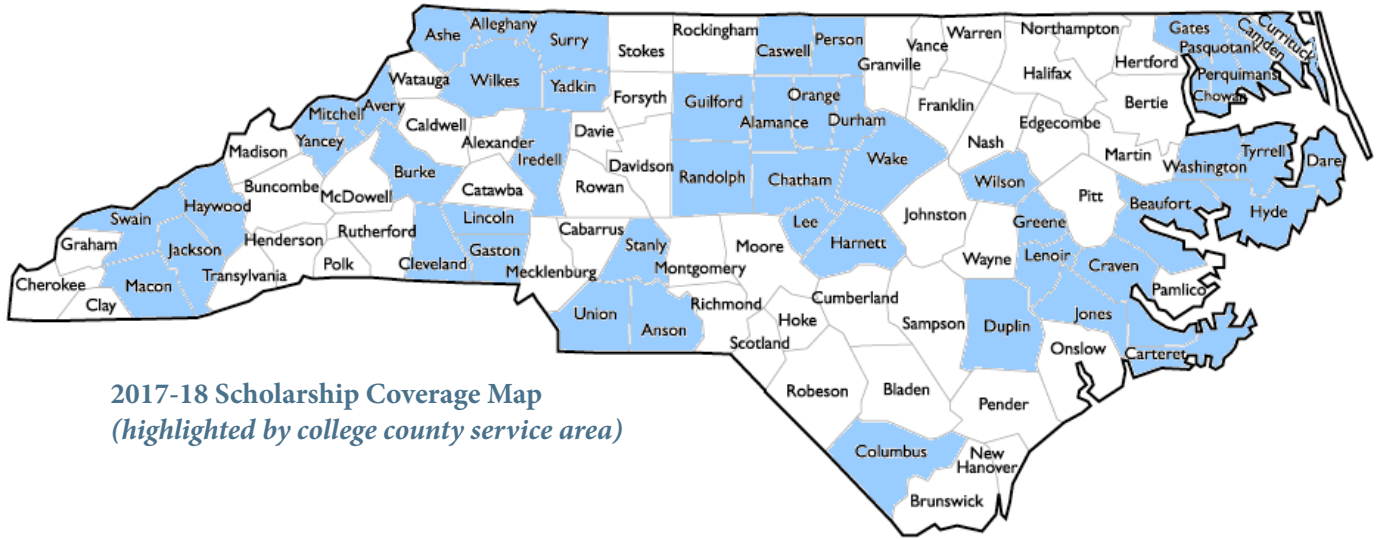
1916-2007

*The father of the Community College System*

*...That is why the doors to the institutions of North Carolina's system of community colleges must never be closed to anyone of suitable age who can learn what they teach. We must take people where they are and carry them as far as they can go within the assigned functions of the system."*

*- Dr. W. Dallas Herring*





2017-18 Scholarship Coverage Map  
(highlighted by college county service area)

# 2017-18 Scholarship Recipients

## *Health Careers Scholars, \$500/semester*

- CassieJo Williams, Carteret Community College
- Lacey Anne Kuenzler, Central Carolina Community College
- Shakeena Bass, Cleveland Community College
- Katlyn Rose Moody, James Sprunt Community College
- Emily Tipton, Mayland Community College
- Teresa Keever, Piedmont Community College
- Holly Victoria Williams, Southeastern Community College
- Chiquela Adams, South Piedmont Community College \*
- Tiffany McGee, South Piedmont Community College
- Austin Danielle Starnes, South Piedmont Community College
- Tori Nicole Wallace, South Piedmont Community College
- Preston Thomas Atwood, Wake Technical Community College

\*received scholarship for Fall semester only

# 2017-18 Scholarship Recipients

## *Teaching Preparation Scholars, \$2,500/semester*

Corbyn Seymone Harris, Central Carolina Community College  
Mia Chanel Simpson, Central Carolina Community College

## *IIANC Scholars, \$1,000*

Amanda M. Farr, Alamance Community College  
Dylan King, Beaufort County Community College  
Ronnie Stokes, Jr., Cleveland Community College  
Kyle H. Nixon, College of The Albemarle  
Elizabeth R. Garrity, Craven Community College  
TaQuan Williams, Durham Technical Community College  
Renee Y. Kocher, Haywood Community College  
Christina Barton, James Sprunt Community College  
Amelia Little, Lenoir Community College  
Ashley R. Burlison, Mayland Community College  
Sandra A. Thon, Piedmont Community College  
Tara J. Cory, South Piedmont Community College  
Judy D. Blanton, Southwestern Community College  
Sarah J. Schwab, Stanly Community College  
Erin P. Jones, Surry Community College  
Ricky S. Poe, Wilkes Community College  
Beverly M. Carter, Wilson Community College

Realizing the Foundation's scholarships should have as broad a reach as possible, we have distributed the 2018-19 Scholarship Guide to a much wider audience so more students can benefit. This guide, prepared for community college students, lists all state-level scholarships, requirements and application processes for the academic year.

2017-18 Excellence Award Recipients

GOVERNOR ROBERT W. SCOTT STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARD



“...I am well on my way to success in the world, and to being a small part of a greater whole that can change the world.”

John Kelly,  
Guilford Technical Community College, \$1,000

DR. DALLAS HERRING ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

“I’ve never wanted to use my circumstances as a crutch or a reason not to succeed. Instead, I use my experience as motivation to continue my education and to one day have a stable life. Southeastern Community College has offered me relationships with instructors who have become a personal part of my life. It’s not just a school; it’s a place where I truly belong. For the first time, I feel accepted, encouraged, and ready to build a solid future.”

Chase Towers,  
Southeastern Community College, \$1,000



**President of the Year, \$8,000/\$2,000**

Dr. Stelfanie Williams, Vance-Granville Community College

**Staff of the Year, \$8,000/\$2,000**

Dr. Kai Wang, Wake Technical Community College

**Excellence in Teaching, \$8,000/\$2,000**

Michael Dixon, Surry Community College

**Excellence in Teaching Finalists, \$500**

Bianka Rhodes Stumpf, Central Carolina Community College

Aaron Vassey, Cleveland Community College

Lucretia White, College of The Albemarle

Alison Consol, Wake Technical Community College

**Distinguished Partners in Excellence**

Wayne UNC Health Care & Wayne Community College



## *Isaac Epps Ready Award Recipient Mr. K. Ray Bailey*

*President Emeritus of  
Asheville-Buncombe Technical  
Community College*

*“I have enjoyed what is now almost 52 years of service to the community college system. ...I look forward to finding more ways to help students to achieve their goals at A-B Tech.”*

Named for Isaac Epps Ready, the first state director of the North Carolina Community College System, the award was created in 1983 to recognize individuals who have made significant, statewide contributions to the establishment, development or enhancement of the system.

Aside from a short stint teaching at Clyde A. Erwin High School, Bailey dedicated his professional career to A-B Tech from 1966-2007. He was the college’s president from 1990 until his retirement and was honored as President of the Year for the North Carolina Community College System in 2005. He received honorary doctorates from Mars Hill University and Western Carolina University, and the Chancellors Medallion from the University of North Carolina in Asheville. In 2006, he was awarded the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

“First of all, I am honored the college had submitted my name for the award and I was selected by the state board committee,” Bailey said. “I have enjoyed what is now almost 52 years of service to the community college system through A-B Tech, the State Board and now the A-B Tech Foundation Board. I look forward to finding more ways to help students to achieve their goals at A-B Tech.”

During Bailey’s presidency, A-B Tech grew to encompass three campuses that collectively enrolled more than 25,000 students. The college also added more than 30 degree and diploma programs and constructed a computer technology

center to house the state’s first digital media technology program. In 2000, Bailey created the college’s Enka campus through a donation from BASF Corp. The company’s gift of 37 acres and three buildings was the largest-ever donation of property to a community college in the United States.

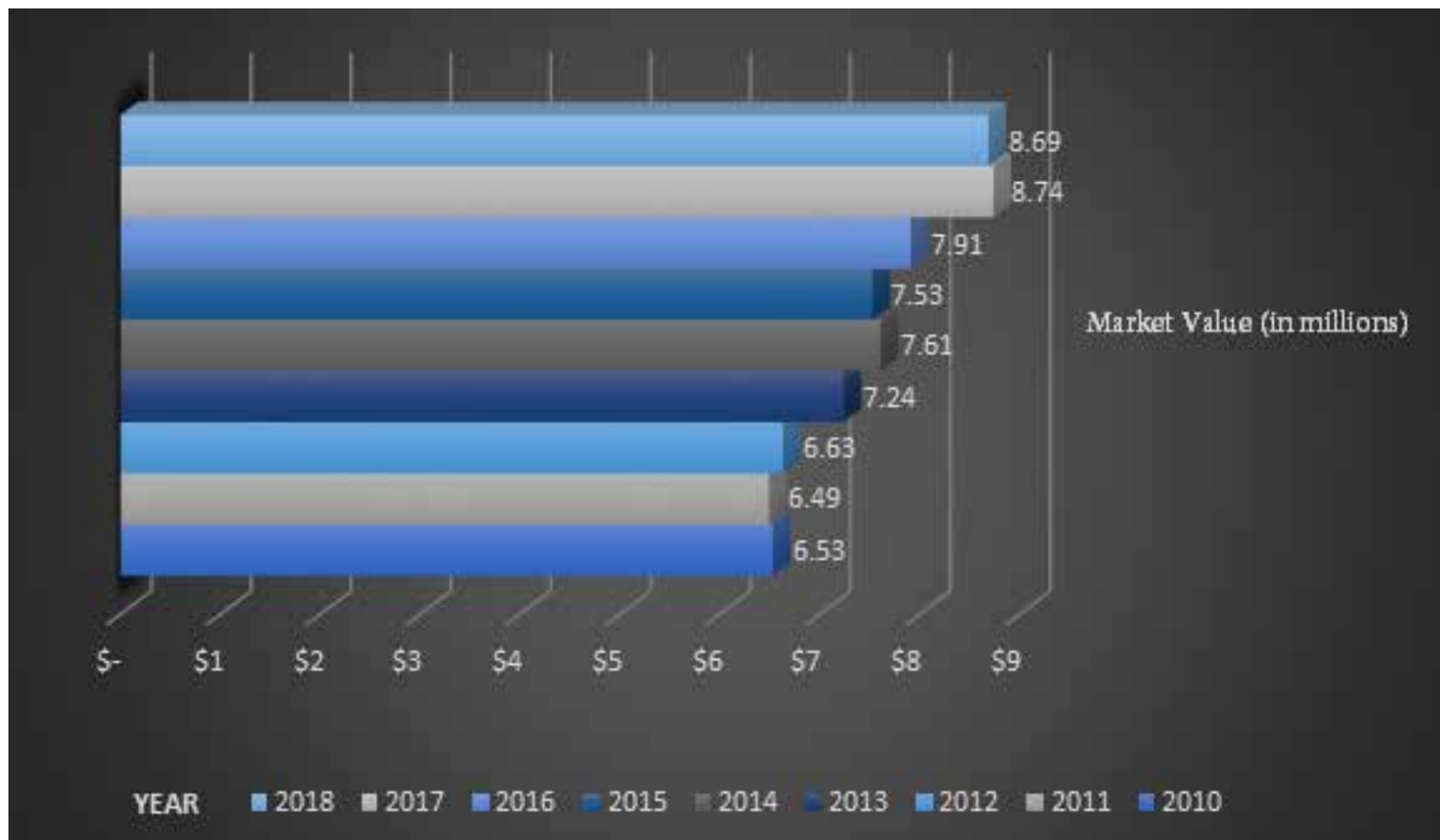
“President Bailey’s legacy is evident on our campus today,” said A-B Tech President Dennis King. “It can be seen through the Haynes Building that houses the state’s first Digital Media Technology Center and the Brumit Center for Hospitality Education, home to a nationally-ranked culinary program. His creation of the A-B Tech Foundation has given thousands of scholarships to students in need. His dedication to the college and its students is indeed praiseworthy.”

After retirement from A-B Tech, Bailey’s commitment to the community college didn’t stop. He was elected Buncombe County Commissioner, winning more votes than any other candidate. He played a key role in luring the manufacturer Linamar to the area, bringing hundreds of high paying jobs to the county during his term. Bailey also remained involved with the community college system. He served on the State Board of Community Colleges from 2009-2015 and was elected vice chair for two years. He also chaired the board’s Finance Committee from 2011-2015.

<https://www.abtech.edu/news/president-emeritus-k-ray-bailey-receives-highest-honor-state-board-community-colleges>

# Investment Portfolio

(managed by Wells Fargo Advisors)



As of March 31, 2018	
Restricted Funds Performance	\$6,488,592
Global Equity/Growth Assets	\$3,247,562
Fixed Income/Risk Reduction Assets	\$2,620,976
Alternative Strategies/Inflation Protection Assets	\$620,053
Unrestricted Funds Performance	\$2,202,758
Global Equity/Growth Assets	\$1,060,553
Fixed Income/Risk Reduction Assets	\$922,312
Alternative Strategies/Inflation Protection Assets	\$219,892
<b>TOTAL Investment Market Value</b>	<b>\$8,691,350</b>



# Statement of Realized Revenues and Expenses

as of 6/30/2018

	2018	2017
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Receipts - Individual	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,115
Receipts - Academic Excellence Awards	\$ 4,800	\$ 3,975
Receipts - Student Leadership Development Program	\$ 25,600	-
Receipts - MMSI	\$ 3,150	
Receipts - Scholarship Contribution	\$ 60,000	\$ 20,000
Dividends	\$ 284,179	\$ 224,762
Interest - Checking	\$ 17	\$ 11
Interest - Money Market	\$ 108	\$ 61
Interest Income - Trust	\$ 5,065	\$ 5,058
Interest Income - Wells Fargo	\$ 1	\$ 7
Realized Gain (Loss)	\$ 147,840	\$ 57,294
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$ 532,860</b>	<b>\$ 313,283</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Audit and Accounting	\$ 9,300	\$ 9,200
Department Projects - Academic Excellence Awards	\$ 4,442	\$ 2,374
Department Projects - Student Leadership Development Program	\$ 8,636	-
Department Projects - Minority Male Student Initiative	\$ 3,080	-
Telephone	\$ 19	
Software	\$ 418	\$ 385
Postage and Printing	\$ 165.00	-
Travel and Transportation	\$ 306.00	-
Meetings	\$ 171	-
Meeting Supplies	-	-
Food and Beverage Cost	\$ 14,073	\$ 12,536
Registration Fees	\$ 5,250	\$ 5,325
Membership Dues	-	-
Scholarships	\$ 45,000	\$ 41,000
Grants	-	-
Gifts	-	-
Awards	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000
Bank Charges	\$ 365	\$ 181
Insurance	\$ 4,292	\$ 3,406
Professional Fees	-	
Miscellaneous	\$ 2,342	\$ 10,270
Advocacy	\$ 12,431	\$ 27,895
Management Fees	\$ 34,115	\$ 34,007
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 176,404</b>	<b>\$ 178,579</b>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 356,457</b>	<b>\$ 134,704</b>

# Statement of Activities

7/1/17 - 6/30/2018

**Revenue**

Receipts	\$96,650
Contributed Services	\$17,558
Dividends	\$284,179
Interest Checking	\$17
Interest Money Market	\$108
Interest Income Trust	\$506
Interest Inc - Wells Fargo	\$1
Unrealized Gain/Loss	\$159,457
Short Term Gains/Losses	\$1,064
Long Term Gains/Losses	\$146,776
Total Revenue	\$709,875

**Organization Totals****Expenses**

Audit and Accounting Services	\$9,300
Department Projects	\$16,157
Telephone	\$19
Postage	\$165
Software & Installation	\$418
Other Travel	\$306
Conference/Meeting	\$171
Food & Beverage Costs	\$14,073
Registration Fees	\$5,250
Scholarships	\$45,000
Awards	\$32,000
Bank Charges	\$364
Insurance	\$4,292
Miscellaneous	\$2,342
Advocacy	\$12,431
Management Fees	\$34,115
In-Kind Services	\$17,558
Total Expenses	\$193,961
Excess (Deficit) of Revenue over Expenses	\$515,914

## Student Leadership Development Program

Founded in 1994, the mission of the Student Leadership Development Program is to enhance leadership quality for community college students and increase their knowledge of soft skills to prepare them for professional and civic responsibilities. As a result of the program, each year 30 students receive training in skills that will assist them in becoming better campus leaders, community citizens, and provide a smoother and successful transition into tomorrow's workforce.



An annual week-long summer session consists of numerous workshops, speakers, and group and individual projects. During the week, four groups work tirelessly through the afternoons and evenings to accomplish their tasks and projects. Additionally, each student is also required to keep a leadership journal, introduce a speaker or workshop presenter, and write at least one article for the daily newsletter. Two mini-sessions in the fall and spring, extend leadership training with additional workshops and smaller projects. A graduation banquet is held at the spring mini-session to celebrate the students' completion of the program.

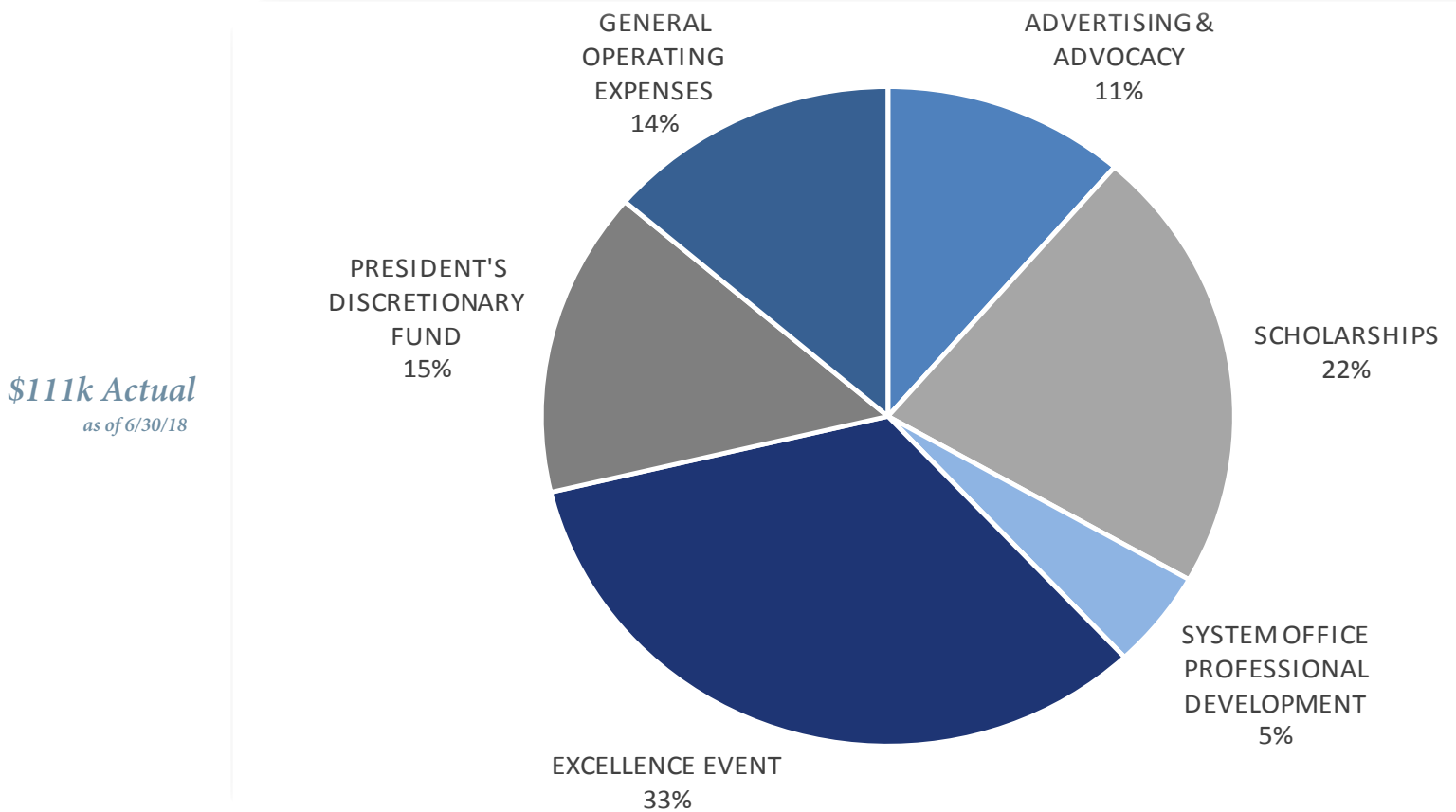
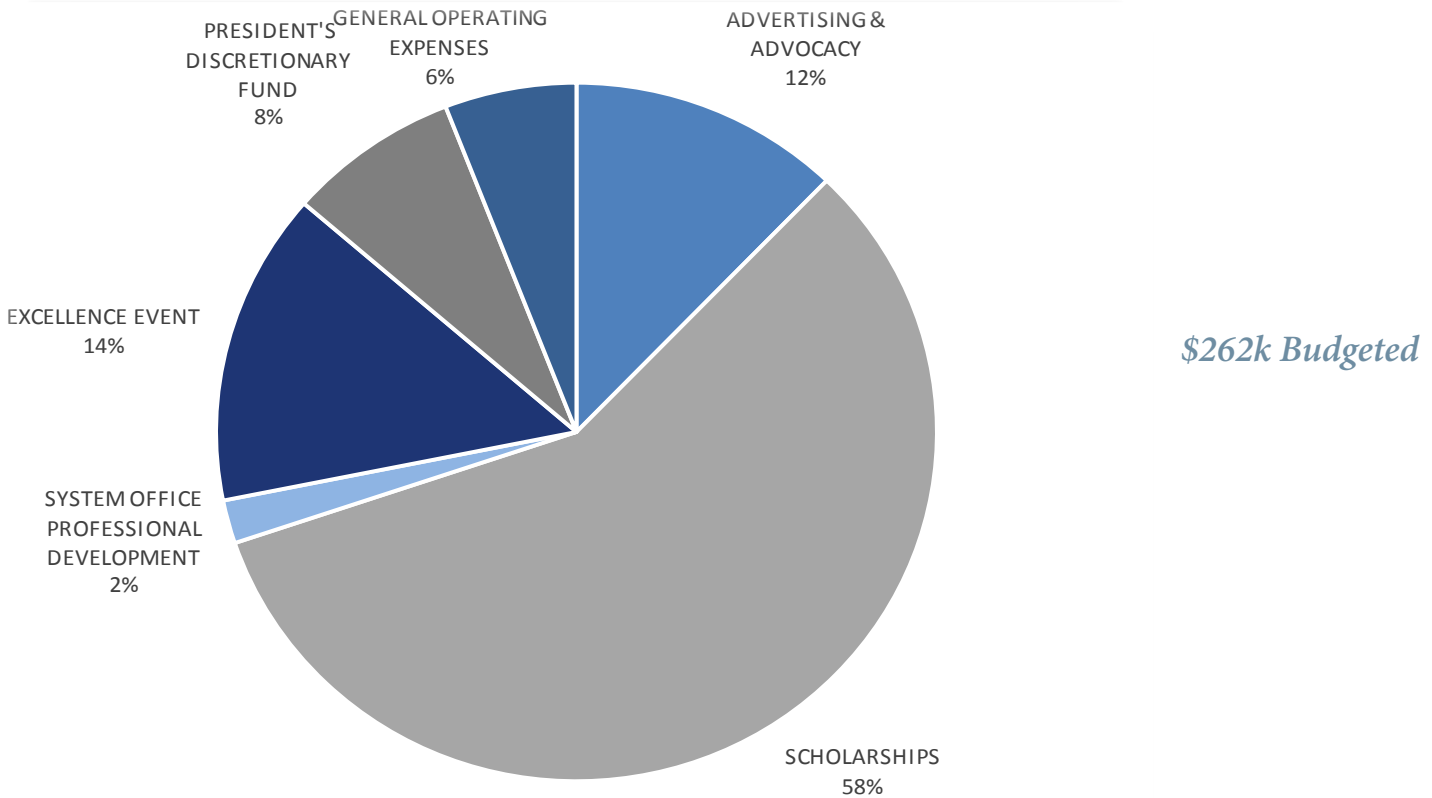


# Statement of Financial Position

as of 6/30/2018

Assets	6/30/2018		6/30/2017	
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Cash - Checking	\$	146,949	\$	101,108
Money Market	\$	147,492	\$	205,337
PayPal Cash	\$	7,995	\$	3,889
Checking - Wells Fargo Unrest Inv	\$	-	\$	3,990
Checking - Wells Fargo Rest Inv	\$	-	\$	2,153
Prepaid Expenses	\$	2,393	\$	2,393
Grants Receivable - Noncurrent	\$	-	\$	250,000
Wells Fargo Securities - cost	\$	4,970,027	\$	4,786,536
Wells Fargo Securities- cost B/D	\$	2,562,499	\$	2,441,943
Unrealized Gains/Losses	\$	1,148,764	\$	988,904
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,986,119</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,786,253</b>
<b>Fixed Assets</b>				
Fixed Assets	\$	7,491	\$	7,491
Accumulated Depreciation	\$	(2,185)	\$	(2,185)
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,306</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>5,306</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>				
Perpetual Trust	\$	103,243	\$	102,436
Pledge Receivable Hodges Trust	\$	86,949	\$	86,949
<b>Total Other Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>190,192</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>189,385</b>
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,181,617</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,980,942</b>
<b>Liabilities and Net Assets</b>				
<b>Current Liabilities</b>				
Accounts Payable	\$	-	\$	12,271
Due to Related Party	\$	-	\$	50,000
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>62,771</b>
<b>Other Liabilities</b>				
Due to Related Party	\$	-	\$	250,000
<b>Total Other Liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>250,000</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>312,771</b>
<b>Net Assets</b>				
Net Asset - Board	\$	4,553,569	\$	4,432,932
Net Asset - Temporarily Restricted	\$	4,520,699	\$	4,132,803
Net Asset - Permanently Restricted	\$	103,243	\$	102,436
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,177,511</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,668,171</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Net Assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>9,117,511</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>8,980,942</b>

# Budgeted vs. Actual Expenditures



Christina Causey, *Alamance Community College*  
 Kendra Joyner, *Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College*  
 Katelyn Kincer, *Beaufort County Community College*  
 Kyle Gause, *Bladen Community College*  
 Hannah Wermuth, *Blue Ridge Community College*  
 Maria Steenberg, *Brunswick Community College*  
 Lucas Price, *Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute*  
 Adriana Kysely, *Cape Fear Community College*  
 Bianca Hill, *Carteret Community College*  
 Chad Ledford, *Catawba Valley Community College*  
 Seth Kuenzler, *Central Carolina Community College*  
 Patsy Montesinos, *Central Piedmont Community College*  
 Jamie Hamrick, *Cleveland Community College*  
 Tiffany Zimmerman, *Coastal Carolina Community College*  
 Anna Gallop, *College of The Albemarle*  
 Leigh Hollar, *Craven Community College*  
 Christopher Whitaker, *Davidson County Community College*  
 Daniel Koris, *Durham Technical Community College*  
 Sa'quin Winstead, *Edgecombe Community College*  
 Catheryne Hill, *Fayetteville Technical Community College*  
 Arkhum Smith, *Forsyth Technical Community College*  
 Marcella Patterson, *Gaston College*  
 Stephanie Jarrell, *Guilford Technical Community College*  
 Regana Powers, *Halifax Community College*  
 Garrett Jones, *Haywood Community College*  
 Ruth Wurzbach, *Isothermal Community College*  
 Rebecca Hines, *James Sprunt Community College*  
 Adina Harris, *Johnston Community College*  
 Kelsey Worthington, *Lenoir Community College*  
 Abigail Spencer, *Martin Community College*  
 Dima Jabakji, *Mayland Community College*  
 Brandy Garner, *McDowell Technical Community College*  
 Rachel Vance, *Mitchell Community College*  
 Maegan Archer, *Montgomery Community College*  
 Kelsey Skaggs, *Nash Community College*  
 Kaitlyn Jones, *Pamlico Community College*  
 Katie Slaughter, *Piedmont Community College*  
 Amira Ali, *Pitt Community College*  
 Denise Greenwell, *Randolph Community College*  
 Anna Auman, *Richmond Community College*  
 Tiffany Jordan, *Roanoke-Chowan Community College*  
 Jalen Oxendine, *Robeson Community College*  
 Curtis McGehee, *Rockingham Community College*  
 Mark Hill, *Rowan-Cabarrus Community College*  
 Sophia Miller, *Sampson Community College*  
 Jeremy Thompson, *Sandhills Community College*  
 Danielle Burnham, *South Piedmont Community College*  
 Kloe Stackhouse, *Southeastern Community College*  
 Veronica Judson, *Southwestern Community College*  
 Thomas McEachern, *Stanly Community College*  
 Christian Payne, *Surry Community College*  
 Beth Thomason, *Tri-County Community College*  
 Andrew Lynam, *Vance-Granville Community College*  
 Jose Rivera, *Wake Technical Community College*  
 LaTeasha McMahan, *Wayne Community College*  
 Vernon Byrd, *Wilkes Community College*  
 Carrie Morris, *Wilson Community College*

# 2018 Academic Excellence Award Recipients

# Scholars'

Two years ago, at the age of 50 years old, I started a journey to make one of my dreams come true. That dream was to finish school and receive a degree. I started work at Harrah's Cherokee Casino, a company that encourages education by giving those with degrees a better chance of advancing. I had been wanting to finish school since I was 25 years old but let's just say life got in the way.

I had already had a year of college but then I gave birth to my handicapped son. I originally decided to take Business Administration because it had a variety of different career opportunities. It was when I was taking the required Accounting course that my instructor asked me why I wasn't an Accounting Major. It made me think about my first love, taxes.

From the age of sixteen I realized I liked - no actually loved - doing taxes, and I liked helping other people with their taxes. Later, I worked for H&R Block for four years, but it was only part time and I had to work other jobs to support my family. It was my instructor at Haywood Community College that made me realize that I could take that love of Accounting and turn it into the career I wanted.

When I started this journey, I made a commitment to not just get this degree but to be the best student I can be. I have a 4.0 GPA and am determined to keep it all the way to the end. I work for a company that not only supports higher education but also encourages community service through their Care Fund & Hero hours. I have accumulated over 200 Hero hours, since I started working for Harrah's two years ago, through community service.

I have done this by giving blood, helping with churches, walking in parades, and participating in bake sales. I have also volunteered my time to Toys for Tots, Christmas Children's Fund, Breast Cancer Awareness, and the Annual Cherokee Relay for Life. I make donations every paycheck to Hero, the Care Fund, and Lunch Box Heroes.



*Renee Kocher*  
*Haywood Community College*  
*2017-18 IIANC Scholar*

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***“[The staff at HCC] breathed life into my dream and gave me the resources to make it a reality.”***

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I truly believe that I need to give back to those in need for every opportunity I have been given in life. I am also grateful to Haywood Community College for making it easy for me to go back to school. From the administration staff, to the financial aid department, to the wonderful instructors, they have all helped and encouraged me along the way. They breathed life into my dream and gave me the resources to make it a reality. I am honored to receive this nomination and hope to make HCC proud to call me one of their students. I can't wait to say I am a graduate of Haywood Community College and then step into the next part of my Journey, as an Accountant.

# Spotlight

Erin Peyton Jones many times has found herself reflecting on the words of Thomas Edison: “Our greatest weakness lies in giving up. The most certain way to succeed is always to try just one more time.” A student at Surry Community College, Jones has found that college success isn’t always measured by being the smartest, but by also being willing to work hard to achieve academic success and continuing to move forward even when one fails. Her time at SCC not only prepared for to attend a 4-year university but also helped her realize her potential and that she can accomplish more academically that she could ever imagine.

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***“Her time at SCC...helped her realize her potential...”***

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The professors at Surry pushed her to do her best and believed in her throughout her educational journey there. Jones realized the importance of being involved in organizations and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa, and the National Honor Society, and Leadership and Success. Jones has learned that being

***Erin Peyton Jones  
Surry Community College  
2017-18 IANCScholar***



involved in these organizations is important because it leads to being involved in helping the community.



***Elizabeth Garrity  
Craven Community College  
2017-18 IIANC Scholar***

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***“I wanted to be more in control of my life ... my destiny.”***

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“I wanted to be more in control of my life ... my destiny. I am extremely grateful (for the scholarship). It helped a whole lot. I was just blown away because I wanted it so, so badly. I have already gotten my property and casualty license. I know I wanted to do insurance and it is very expensive. It was an absolute blessing. I could not be more grateful. “

Elizabeth is working toward an Associates Degree in Business Administration and hopes to own her own insurance business one day.



*Allen Dunkleman is an instructor at Cleveland Community College in Shelby.*

*Director's Pick: How the Community*



# Community College Gave Me a Second Chance

Fifteen-years ago, Martin Lancaster, the President of the North Carolina Community College System, made a simple statement that got my attention and moved me to frame his words and display them in my office. Lancaster simply stated that “Community colleges are the only second chance that many students have.”

The reason Lancaster’s statement resonated so strongly is that he was talking directly to me. You see, I understand academic failure because I was one, and I understand this “second chance” because I was given one. The only things that motivated me in high school were sports, band, chorus, art, and, let’s not forget, girls. Some of you can relate.

From my perspective, the school day started at 3:15 p.m. Now as far as math, English, history,

*“You see, I understand academic failure because I was one, and I understand this ‘second chance’ because I was given one.”*

social studies, biology and chemistry went—well, not so much. In high school, I had aspirations to one day be an art teacher. I took every possible art class that I could. By my senior year, my portfolio was well stocked with skilled drawings, paintings and photographs.

In the spring of my senior year, I applied to five different state schools and took my portfolio to three different interviews. The professors would say, “My you’re doing third-year art work,” but then they would look at my grades, and my SAT score, which gave the 700 Club new meaning, and soberly share, “I’m sorry, but we can’t help you.” As I would sit in the lunch room and learn of the colleges my friends were getting accepted to, I would sit quietly, with my head down, not mentioning the rejection letters I had received that week.

It was a few weeks before graduation, and it seemed apparent that I was all dressed up, and had nowhere to go. I barely did make it out of high school. Actually, I didn’t receive my diploma until about six-weeks after graduation because I hadn’t finished my English term paper on Bob Dylan.

Let’s now fast forward eighteen-years. At age 36 a former educator and member of my church picked me up one day and took me to the local community college. He introduced me to numerous administrators, faculty and staff. He guided me into an academic counselor’s office. After speaking with the counselor for about an hour, I was then shuffled to another room where they signed me up for three classes. What?

As I look back, that was one of the scariest, and best days of my life. You see for eighteen-years after high school, I had internalized that I just didn’t have the right stuff, that college was not for me and that I had sealed my fate with poor performance and lack of focus and discipline in high school. A community college gave me a second chance to make a first impression—and that has made all the difference.

*by Allen Dunkleman, Cleveland Community College, Sociology Instructor*

*College System Changes Lives*

## *The Foundation supports the NC Community College System 2018-2022 Strategic Plan: “Putting Education to Work”*

### **1. Student Interest and Access**

*Goal: Increase the percentage of North Carolinians, particularly within underserved populations, pursuing and easily accessing education or training through North Carolina community colleges.*

Objectives:

- 1.1. Improve the understanding and perceived value of educational opportunities, including lifelong learning, offered by community colleges.
- 1.2. Increase student interest and success in industries experiencing skills gaps.
- 1.3. Identify and reduce access barriers for all prospective students, particularly among underserved populations.
- 1.4. Improve the student experience and increase enrollment by simplifying enrollment policies, processes, and communications.

### **2. Clear & Supported Pathways for Student Progress and Success**

*Goal: Provide a continuum of education, training, advising, and support to help learners make informed decisions that lead to credentials and careers.*

Objectives:

- 2.1. Provide timely and accurate career exploration and academic planning opportunities.
- 2.2. Provide integrated, targeted support services that promote student success.
- 2.3. Increase completion of credentials for successful transition to careers and/or further education.
- 2.4. Reduce achievement gaps for underserved students.

### **3. Economic and Workforce Impact**

*Goal: Ensure the educational pipeline prepares a workforce possessing the interest, knowledge, skills, and abilities to meet the needs of employers, now and into the future.*

Objectives:

- 3.1. Collaborate with stakeholders to promote a workforce system that fosters innovation and establishes seamless connections among community colleges, K-12 education, universities, workforce and economic development partners, and business and industry.
- 3.2. Offer relevant, high-quality instructional programs that meet the needs of business and industry for existing and future jobs.
- 3.3. Increase student access to work experience.

### **4. System Effectiveness**

*Goal: Advance organizational effectiveness, operations, and decision-making to support a cohesive system of nimble, empowered, and community-driven colleges.*

Objectives:

- 4.1. Ensure colleges and the System have access to technology and related infrastructure to meet student and institutional needs.
- 4.2. Improve decision-making through increased access to comprehensive, timely, and quality data.
- 4.3. Enhance and support workplace environments that value and engage employees and provide opportunities for growth and development.
- 4.4. Ensure policies, procedures, and processes facilitate System effectiveness and compliance.
- 4.5. Leverage partnerships and agreements to create efficiencies for the System as a whole.
- 4.6. Improve cohesiveness between colleges, professional associations, System Office, and partners.

*On behalf of the NC Community Colleges Foundation Board, I want to thank everyone who has contributed towards making the NC Community College System the successful workforce engine that it has become. The Foundation Board has always supported the work of the System and will continue to support the students, programs, initiatives and System Office staff in coordination with and through the leadership of President Peter Hans.*

*Crystal Morphis, Chair*

*#WeAre58Strong*



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