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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.

**Mission**

$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.

“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, 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.


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  
newly elected 2018  
Chief Executive Officer  
Sanford Area Growth Alliance

Henry McKoy  
newly elected 2018  
President  
Olde Lexington Products, Inc.

E. Stuart Powell, Jr.  
newly elected 2018  
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  
Director of Entrepreneurship  
North Carolina Central University

Richard Hurley  
newly elected 2018  
Director of Entrepreneurship  
North Carolina Central University

C. Michael Smith  
newly elected 2018  
Human Resources Manager (retired)  
Schneider Electric

Gwendolyn Vass  
serving since 2009  
Partner, CPA & Certified Fraud Examiner  
Williams Overman Pierce LLP
...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 Recipients

Cassie Jo 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
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 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. Burleson, 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
2017-18 Excellence Award Recipients

**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

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**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

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**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
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.

Investment Portfolio
(Managed by Wells Fargo Advisors)

As of March 31, 2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Restricted Funds Performance</td>
<td>$6,488,592</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Equity/Growth Assets</td>
<td>$3,247,562</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fixed Income/Risk Reduction Assets</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alternative Strategies/Inflation Protection Assets</td>
<td>$620,053</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unrestricted Funds Performance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Equity/Growth Assets</td>
<td>$1,060,553</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fixed Income/Risk Reduction Assets</td>
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<td>Alternative Strategies/Inflation Protection Assets</td>
<td>$219,892</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL Investment Market Value</td>
<td>$8,691,350</td>
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Statement of Realized Revenues and Expenses

as of 6/30/2018

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>REVENUE</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts - Individual</td>
<td>$2,100</td>
<td>$2,115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipts - Academic Excellence Awards</td>
<td>$4,800</td>
<td>$3,975</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receipts - Student Leadership Development Program</td>
<td>$25,600</td>
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<td>Receipts - MMSI</td>
<td>$3,150</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receipts - Scholarship Contribution</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>$20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dividends</td>
<td>$284,179</td>
<td>$224,762</td>
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<td>Interest - Checking</td>
<td>$17</td>
<td>$11</td>
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<tr>
<td>Interest - Money Market</td>
<td>$108</td>
<td>$61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Income - Trust</td>
<td>$5,065</td>
<td>$5,058</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest Income - Wells Fargo</td>
<td>$1</td>
<td>$7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realized Gain (Loss)</td>
<td>$147,840</td>
<td>$57,294</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td>$532,860</td>
<td>$313,283</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit and Accounting</td>
<td>$9,300</td>
<td>$9,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department Projects - Academic Excellence Awards</td>
<td>$4,442</td>
<td>$2,374</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department Projects - Student Leadership Development Program</td>
<td>$8,636</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department Projects - Minority Male Student Initiative</td>
<td>$3,080</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>$19</td>
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<tr>
<td>Software</td>
<td>$418</td>
<td>$385</td>
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<tr>
<td>Postage and Printing</td>
<td>$165.00</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel and Transportation</td>
<td>$306.00</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meetings</td>
<td>$171</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Supplies</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food and Beverage Cost</td>
<td>$14,073</td>
<td>$12,536</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Fees</td>
<td>$5,250</td>
<td>$5,325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Scholarships</td>
<td>$45,000</td>
<td>$41,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gifts</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awards</td>
<td>$32,000</td>
<td>$32,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Charges</td>
<td>$365</td>
<td>$181</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>$4,292</td>
<td>$3,406</td>
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<tr>
<td>Professional Fees</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$2,342</td>
<td>$10,270</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advocacy</td>
<td>$12,431</td>
<td>$27,895</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management Fees</td>
<td>$34,115</td>
<td>$34,007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>$176,404</td>
<td>$178,579</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENSES</strong></td>
<td>$356,457</td>
<td>$134,704</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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

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

$262k Budgeted

$111k Actual
as of 6/30/18
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
Arkham 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 McMahon, Wayne Community College
Vernon Byrd, Wilkes Community College
Carrie Morris, Wilson Community College

2018 Academic Excellence Award Recipients
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, Brest Cancer Awareness, and the Annual Cherokee Relay for Life. I make donations every paycheck to Hero, the Care Fund, and Lunch Box Heroes.

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.

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

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

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

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

“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, 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
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