

NC STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Education
Belk Center for Community College
Leadership and Research

NC STATE DAY OF GIVING: MARCH 26



At the Belk Center, our work is made possible by the **generosity of NC State alumni, partners and friends like you**—people who believe in strengthening community colleges across North Carolina.

On **NC State's Day of Giving**, we pause to say thank you. Your support fuels our mission and helps us strengthen our programs and empower community colleges across North Carolina.

The Day of Giving ends at midnight. Every gift—big or small—makes a difference.

Thank you for being part of this journey with us!

GIVE NOW

COMMUNITY COLLEGE DATA HUB NOW AVAILABLE

We are excited to announce the launch of the **Community College Data Hub**! This publicly available resource provides researchers, faculty and doctoral students access to curated community college datasets and publications.



We were proud to work in partnership with the [Center for the Study of Community Colleges](#) and the [Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research \(ICPSR\)](#) at the **University of Michigan** to create a central hub for all community college data.

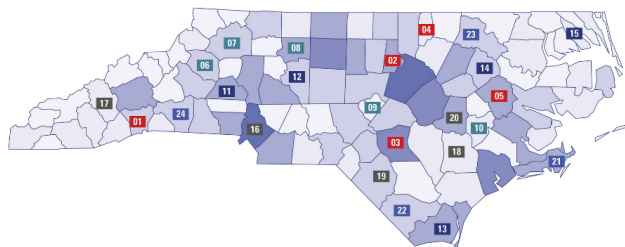
EXPLORE THE DATA HUB

ADVANCING ACCESS FOR ADULT LEARNERS THROUGH NC RECONNECT

NC Reconnect is launching its fifth cohort, opening doors for adult learners to **return to the classroom, secure in-demand jobs** and **strengthen North Carolina's workforce**. By earning their degrees, these learners improve the quality of life for themselves, their families and their communities.



NC RECONNECT NOW SERVES 24 NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGES



COHORT ONE	COHORT TWO	COHORT THREE	COHORT FOUR	COHORT FIVE
01 Blue Ridge Community College	06 CCC&T	11 Catawba Valley Community College	16 CENTRAL PIEDMONT COMMUNITY COLLEGE	21 CARTERET
02 DURHAM TECH	07 WILKES COMMUNITY COLLEGE WILKES • ARDEN • STUDDARD	12 Davidson-Davie COMMUNITY COLLEGE	17 HCC	22 Southeastern COMMUNITY COLLEGE
03 FCC	08 Forsyth Tech	13 BRUNSWICK COMMUNITY COLLEGE	18 James Sprunt COMMUNITY COLLEGE	23 Halifax COMMUNITY COLLEGE
04 Vance-Granville Community College	09 CENTRAL CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	14 Edgecombe COMMUNITY COLLEGE	19 ROBESON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	24 ISOTHERMAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE
05 PITT COMMUNITY COLLEGE	10 LENOIR COMMUNITY COLLEGE	15 COLLEGE OF ALBEMARLE	20 WAYNE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	

Together with the [Belk Endowment](#) and [myFutureNC](#), we've developed **research-backed strategies** that have boosted adult learner engagement and enrollment across four previous cohorts.

We're proud to be part of this joint effort and look forward to hearing success stories from [Carteret Community College](#), [Halifax Community College](#), [Isothermal Community College](#) and [Southeastern Community College](#).

HOW FACULTY SUPPORT ADULT LEARNERS IN NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

HOW NC RECONNECT COLLEGES MEET THE ADVISING NEEDS OF ADULT LEARNERS

EXPLORE MORE ADULT LEARNER AND NC RECONNECT RESEARCH

BELK CENTER FELLOWS AT INNOVATIONS

This month, seven of our [2025 Belk Center Fellows](#) attended the [League for Innovation in the Community College](#)'s annual **Innovations Conference** in San Antonio. There, they collaborated with national thought leaders, explored innovative community college practices and deepened their research in student success.



Every year, the **Innovations Conference** stands as the premier gathering for professionals dedicated to enhancing teaching, learning, leadership, management and the overall community college experience. The event offers academic experts and thought leaders a platform to collaborate and explore the most innovative and inspiring community college programs from around the world.

The insights and strategies our Fellows gained will not only strengthen their leadership development but also contribute to their work in supporting student success. **We look forward to seeing the impact of their experiences in action!**

[READ THE RECAP](#)

2025 DALLAS HERRING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

CONGRATULATIONS!

N.C. COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM'S
DALLAS HERRING STUDENT
ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER



KYLE HARRIS

Congratulations to **Kyle Harris** of [Vance-Granville Community College](#) for winning the [North Carolina Community College System's 2025 Dallas Herring Student Achievement Award](#)! This award recognizes a student who embodies Dr. Dallas Herring's philosophy of ***"taking people where they are and carrying them as far as they can go."*** Kyle Harris is an embodiment of that philosophy.

As a military veteran who has faced PTSD, addiction, homelessness and incarceration after his service, Kyle is now actively supporting fellow veterans by **encouraging them to pursue education and employment**. His resilience and commitment to growth stand as a testament to the transformative power of community colleges.

Congratulations, Kyle! You are an inspiration to us all.

READ MORE OF KYLE'S STORY

GREAT 58 SPOTLIGHT: WAKE TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Increasing enrollment is an exciting challenge, and community colleges must strategically adapt to accommodate it. [Wake Technical Community College](#), North Carolina's largest community college, was recently highlighted by [New America](#) for its successful enrollment-boosting strategies.

By implementing **new advising models**, a **designated care team** and **proactive outreach** to potential students, Wake Tech is ensuring more students can access the education they need to advance their careers.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THEIR APPROACH FROM NEW AMERICA](#)

NEWLY RELEASED RESEARCH: LEADING RURAL INNOVATION

NEW BELK CENTER REPORT



Community college leadership must evolve to meet today's challenges. Our latest research, "**Leading Rural Innovation and Change Series: Becoming an Innovator**," explores the Innovator's DNA model and how key leadership practices are shaping the future of rural-serving community colleges.

This research, based on insights from **17 rural-serving community college presidents**, is a must-read for those driving innovation in rural communities.

[READ THE REPORT](#)



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