K-12/Higher Education Partnerships
HIGHLIGHTS 2014-15
# TEACHER DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING

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<tr>
<th>University Of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</th>
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<tr>
<td>Carolina Navigators</td>
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<td>This service-learning program works with UNC students who have international expertise to create free global resources for K-16 teachers and students across the state. They create culture kits, digital resources, and virtual presentations. The program, which has been around for almost 20 years, reaches 30,000 K-16 students in NC each year (on average). Last year they sent kits to 30 different counties in NC, and 45% of the kits went to Title I schools. Carolina Navigators helps teachers with limited lesson planning time and funds to easily incorporate culture and global education into their curriculum.</td>
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<tr>
<th>University of North Carolina at Asheville</th>
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<tr>
<td>Teaching Enduring Understanding: Literacy Across the Curriculum</td>
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<td>This is a partnership with the National Paideia Center and is funded by a $280,456 U.S. Department of Education grant awarded as part the University of North Carolina system's NC Quest program. Commenced in 2013, UNC Asheville faculty worked over the summer with teams of teachers from Asheville City Schools to help the schools implement new state standards, provide more intellectually engaging topics, subject matter expertise and support teaching of “big ideas.” Teachers from Asheville Middle School partner with peers from McDowell County junior high schools and UNC Asheville faculty to produce a minimum of 12 model units of study reflecting the new Common Core State Standards in language arts and math, and the NC Essential Standards in science and social studies. Faculty from many different UNC Asheville departments and experts from the National Paideia Center provide support and training to the middle school teachers, who in turn help train their colleagues. After working with UNC Asheville faculty to develop the lessons and units, teachers used them in their classrooms during the 2013-14 school year with support and advice from the university faculty members. The success of the lessons are currently being evaluated an external party at Western Carolina University. All planning materials for the teaching units are now posted online for use by middle schools throughout North Carolina and across the country. UNC Asheville faculty were selected from the Education Department, Humanities and Natural Sciences.</td>
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<th>Wake Forest University</th>
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<td>Computational Thinking @ Wake CS4HS Teacher Workshop</td>
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<td>With support from Google, Wake Forest’s departments of Computer Science and Physics, host a 2-day professional development opportunity for teachers. Workshop attendees have the opportunity to learn and share ideas for incorporating cutting-edge computer science concepts in their middle and high school curriculums. Post-workshop feedback has been positive with attendees being enthusiastic about incorporating new skills and information in their own classrooms and interested in participating in future workshops. New relationships among participants themselves and with Wake Forest faculty have been forged through the workshop. An outgrowth has been that Wake Forest professors have been invited to and participated in “STEM Nights” that are held annually at local middle and high schools.</td>
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<td>University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill</td>
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<td>Earth Partnership for Schools</td>
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The North Carolina Botanical Garden and City of Durham Stormwater Services invite teams of teachers to join this week-long institute. Teams of teachers will learn how to create rain gardens, native plant gardens, or restored natural habitats on school grounds.

During the institute, teachers will learn about North Carolina's local flora, native plant gardening, and using the outdoors as a place for learning. Participants will also have the opportunity to visit some unique natural areas in the Triangle as well as some area schools that have created schoolyard native plant gardens.

Participants will be provided with a curriculum notebook containing over 100 lesson plans and other resources. All curriculum is aligned with the Common Core and Essential Standards and is applicable to all subject areas for grades K - 12. This institute is approved as a Criteria I workshop for the NC Environmental Education Certification.

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<th>COLLEGE ACCESS</th>
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<td>Elon University</td>
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<td>The Elon Academy</td>
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The Academy is a college access and success program for academically promising high school students in Alamance County with a financial need and/or no family history of college. The Academy includes three consecutive summer residential experiences prior to the sophomore, junior and senior years, as well as year-round Saturday programs for students and families. The summer after high school graduation, scholars and families participate in the Elon Academy Transitions to College Program. Once on their respective college campuses, Elon Academy graduates and families are provided with continuing support through the Elon Academy College Success Program to ensure college completion. This program is in partnership with the Alamance-Burlington School System and has served approximately 250 students and their families since its inception in 2007. The program is funded through donations, grants, and in-kind gifts from Elon University.

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<td>JUNTOS Western North Carolina</td>
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UNC Asheville, in partnership with North Carolina State University, is currently implementing the nationally acclaimed Juntos ("together" in Spanish) Program in Western North Carolina. Conceived in 2010 in North Carolina and now active in 56 U.S. communities, JUNTOS reduces dropout risks by convening cohorts of 8-12 grade youth, as well as school districts, community, families and higher education, to collaboratively build students’ paths to college. The program is a partnership among Cooperative Extension’s 4-H agents, schools and college administrators and staff, and other community volunteers—all trained in cultural competency by JUNTOS leaders. JUNTOS WNC’s target audience is low-income, 9th grade youth attending Asheville, Erwin and Mountain Heritage high schools—where some of the highest numbers of Latino high school youth in our region are concentrated. Each school district (Asheville City, Buncombe County and Yancey County) will identify 12-14 students to form a regional cohort of approximately 40 students.

The program has 5 critical components:

1) JUNTOS Coach & ESL Coordinator: Youth meet one-on-one with the JUNTOS Coach and their school’s ESL Coordinator biweekly during school hours to remediate academic deficiencies, learn study habits, and develop skills to prepare to graduate and have college success. Since its inception 18 years ago, ProjectPOWER has served thousands of vulnerable youth through activities designed to
decrease high school dropout rates. Working from an office at UNCA, the Coach will be trained in Project POWER and JUNTOS models to then offer training to ESL Coordinators in school districts and facilitate all activities related to JUNTOS WNC.

2) JUNTOS Family Workshop Series: The Series is comprised of 2.5-hour workshops over six consecutive weeks. It brings together high school teachers and guidance counselors with the community to help families gain the knowledge, skills and resources they need to effectively engage in their child’s education and make college access a realistic family goal (Behnke & Kelly, 2011). This 15-hour research-based series will be held annually at each high school and parent involvement is continued throughout the year via bi-monthly Family Nights. We will also use technology and “Powerschools” to enhance two-way communication between families and schools.

3) JUNTOS 4-H Clubs: During the school year, student-led clubs will be held monthly at each school or UNCA with organizational support from ESL coordinators, 4-H agents, the JUNTOS Coach, and community partners. Each county has an assigned 4-H agent who has agreed to partner with UNCA in offering afterschool clubs. At UNCA, students will be trained in business etiquette, team building, public speaking, mock job interviewing, and learn the benefits of civic engagement.

4) JUNTOS Summer Academy: Students will participate in a residential experience at UNCA offering special university classes, college student panels, STEM activities, and leadership training. UNCA student organizations, Herman@s Orgullo@/s en Las Americas (HOLA) and Scholars Latino Initiative (SLI), will run the program along with faculty, school personnel and 4-H agents. The Academy aims to help students succeed in their coursework and begin preparing for college and includes enriching field trips to colleges and museums, sporting events, and community service projects. During this 3-day residential camp, the entire cohort of JUNTOS participants from the three high schools will gather to participate in team-building, recreational, academic and college preparatory activities.

5) Mentoring/Tutoring: Overseen by Dr. Michelle Bettencourt, UNCA Professor of Foreign Languages, HOLA and students from UNCA’s Scholars Latino Initiative (SLI) initiative will be paired with JUNTOS students for intensive tutoring throughout the year and during Summer Academy. UNCA’S SLI is a core component of Dr. Bettencourt’s Service-Learning course through which college students mentor and tutor Latino students in area public schools. We will host periodic Skyping sessions to link the entire cohort of JUNTOS students to build peer networks, communication and foster a sense of community.

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill**

*Upward Bound*

This program serves students that are from low-income and first generation backgrounds at 6 target high schools in Chatham, Durham, and Lee counties. Students enrolled in the Program are provided with after school tutoring, Saturday workshops held at UNC Chapel Hill, and campus visits. In the summer, participants live on campus and take classes to prepare them for fall. There is also an internship opportunity for select students to be matched with an employer in the career field of their interest. All students receive research experience, academic and career advising, financial planning assistance, testing preparation, leadership development and help navigating the college application and decision process. Every service provided through Upward Bound is completely free for Program participants.

Other member institutions with Upward Bound:
Fayetteville State University
Appalachian State University, UNC Asheville, and Warren Wilson College

**Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness of Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP)**

The GEAR UP Appalachian Partnership

GEAR UP is designed to promote and foster a college going ideology in school districts throughout Western North Carolina. Launched under the Clinton Administration in 1998, GEAR UP is designed to support students as they progress through three distinct, yet equally important, transitions: 1) College awareness and readiness; 2) College enrollment; and 3) College achievement by employing evidence-based support services and resources that are early indicators and predictors of success. The program structure incorporates services to eight school districts using a four-grade cohort model beginning with sixth (6th) and seventh (7th) grade students in Year One.

The objectives of GEAR UP are to:

- Ensure that all students have access to rigorous courses that prepare them for college.
- Provide early information about college options, required courses, and financial aid.
- Increase the participation and success of students in "gateway" courses such as Algebra.
- Provide information to families about the costs of college and the availability of student financial assistance.
- Be a catalyst for school reform especially at the middle school grades.
- Provide support for parents in preparing their students for college.
- Develop intensive tutoring, mentoring, and counseling programs that meet students' needs.
- Build capacity for continuous school improvement through funding and assistance for staff training and professional development.

Appalachian State University's GEAR UP initiative includes partnerships with UNC Asheville, Western Carolina University, Isothermal Community College, Tri-County Community College, Wilkes Community College, Discovery Place and the Public School Forum of North Carolina.

Other member institutions with GEAR UP:
- Fayetteville State University
- Western Piedmont Community College

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**Davidson County Community College**

8th grade visit

All eighth grade students in the local school system come to the college. Each academic area sets up a hands-on display or simulation that students engage in. Students also attend a session on the importance of college and how to save money by attending a community college. This one-day visit has occurred for 10 years. The focus is on helping a child select a career they are interested in and helping them see that they can achieve that through community college.

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**Fayetteville State University**

The Talent Search (ETS) Program

ETS is a college preparatory program designed to provide academic support services to economically disadvantaged and/or first generation middle and high school students. The goal of Talent Search is to increase the number of youth from disadvantaged backgrounds who complete high school and enroll in and complete their postsecondary education. The program provides academic support services through career awareness, college workshops and fieldtrips, and financial aid counseling. The program serves students in Cumberland (E.E. Smith High & Douglas Byrd High), Hoke (East Hoke Middle & Hoke High) and Robeson (Red Springs Middle and Red Springs High) Counties. ETS serves students in the 6th-12th grades.
STEM EDUCATION

Wake Forest University

STEM at Wake Laboratory Tours

As part of the statewide North Carolina Science Festival, STEM at Wake provides high school students the opportunity to participate in six 20-minute collegiate laboratory sessions in physics, chemistry, biology, health and exercise science, mathematics, computer science, and regenerative medicine. This event is designed to expose students to STEM teaching and research in a setting with world-class faculty and researchers, hopefully encouraging them to pursue these subjects in their own collegiate experience and professional careers.

During last year’s event, held in on April 9, 2014, Wake Forest hosted approximately 120 students from twelve local public high schools, representing Forsyth, Stokes, and Randolph counties. Feedback from faculty and community partners attests to the influence STEM at Wake has had on the way students envision their futures.

Robots!

This is a two-week workshop instructing students at Parkland High School in programming Lego robots to perform geometric transformations.

Duke University

Boeing Grand Challenges K-12 Outreach Fellows Program

This academic enhancement program partners the Pratt School of Engineering with local elementary, middle and high Schools in Durham and Orange counties to increase the number of younger students who are interested in and prepared for college-level engineering and science classes. The Boeing Fellows interact with teachers and students by bringing activities to K-12 students that inform and engage them in making the world a better place through projects on health, sustainability, security and joy of living. They bring these Grand Challenges to the K-12 population through hands-on, mind-engaging learning activities in many venues, including the classroom, in afterschool, club and organization settings, and during on-campus visits and activities. All of these activities are mapped and correlated to the existing common core math and the essential science standards approved by the State Board of Education and the NC Department of Public Instruction.

Boeing Fellows also develop exciting hands-on activities as requested by teachers to fit specific components of their curriculum. For instance, for a biology class, a module could be developed on the brain and nervous system, or on the heart and circulatory system, or on DNA, or on communicable diseases, or on viruses, or on life cycles of plants or animals, as is appropriate for a specific grade level and course. Mathematics is an important part of these modules and modules include activities which show the principles learned in students’ mathematics courses in actual use. All of the modules are developed so that students understand the value and utility of the subjects they are learning and their relevance to their actual lives.

Appalachian State University

For two years an Environmental Studies Course has identified an environmental theme and Environmental Education lessons to implement using lessons from the Project WILD workshop and other resources from class. After participating in the 6-hour Project WILD training, students communicate with teachers at WD Williams Elementary School and then implement the lessons in teams of 2-3 students per classroom. Each team of students submits a written lesson plan with correlations to the state standards.
**Warren Wilson College**

*Eco Team*

This is a service opportunity to teach environmental education to 3rd graders in five local elementary schools. The curriculum is activity based and WWC students facilitate the lessons. The program has taken place for the last 10 academic years. In 14-15 the Eco Team taught lessons in 13 classrooms for over 300 students.

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**LITERACY**

**University Of North Carolina at Charlotte**

*ReadWriteServe--Partnership for Literacy Action Initiatives*

UNC Charlotte and community-based resources work together to address increasingly complex literacy needs of students and their families through service, research and community-based programs that are culturally relevant and focused on community needs. ReadWriteServe's Student-to-Student Programs bring UNC Charlotte college-students to partner schools and community organizations in the Charlotte region seeks to support and tutor K-12 students.

These programs include:

- The RWS Cyber Tutoring project is a collaboration that includes Communities in Schools (CIS), Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools (CMS). The goal of this program is to connect UNCC students to high school students at West Mecklenburg and West Charlotte High Schools to support students through online tutoring. RWS Cyber Tutors receive training and support from CIS and RWS and use technology to tutor students. In addition to weekly online tutoring sessions, tutors and students meet a few times for organized socials at the schools.

- The Urban Youth in Schools Internship is a one-semester internship developed by the Center as part of the First 3 Early Career Teacher Support program in the College of Education. Interns serve 80 hours in urban schools to support the academic, extracurricular, social, and community needs of the schools.

- America Reads pairs work-study eligible college students with 2-4 elementary school students in a school for literacy tutoring. Tutors receive substantial initial training and ongoing support to tutor struggling students in reading and writing. Local partners include CMS and Cabarrus County Schools.

- Literacy PALS (Partners Achieving Literacy Success) is a volunteer tutoring training program that provides training and support to tutors in the community. Currently, we are working with the United Way of Central Carolinas Project 1,000 initiative to training tutors, mentors, and readers.

- Literacy for Democracy (LFD) works in economically disadvantaged communities to improve children and adolescents' literacy and academic achievement through service learning with university pre-service and in-service teachers. Partners include Charlotte Mecklenburg, Cabarrus County and Kannapolis City Schools as well as Freedom School Partners, Inc.

The Community Volunteer Tutor Training Program (CVTT) brings expertise developed at UNC Charlotte in its work with literacy tutoring programs and seeks to share that with existing volunteer program that work with K-12 students. Under development, CVTT will provide tutor training to schools, community and faith-based organizations that have existing groups of volunteers.

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**Elizabeth City State University**

*Faculty and students assist with Reading Recovery at an Elementary School.* Students are engaged through reading, technology and or science while they are awaiting Reading Recovery sessions.
### University of North Carolina at Pembroke

**UNCP Literacy Commons**

Students enrolled in Composition I and II, work with elementary age students at Oxendine Elementary School to develop literacy programs and a literary magazine featuring student work. The UNCP students visit the school regularly throughout the semester (approximately once per week). This partnership has existed for four years.

**UNCP College Opportunity Program (COP)**

UNCP students enrolled in COP host a reading party/literacy celebration on campus with Union Elementary second and third grade students twice a year. This partnership has existed for 3 years.

### High Point University

**Community Writing Center**

HPU is partnering with Kirkman Park Elementary School and Mt. Zion Baptist Church to offer a Community Writing Center three days a week after school for 3 hours a day, helping students engage their creativity to improve literacy.

### North Carolina Central University

Through *America Reads* college students provide tutoring to school children during the regular academic year with the focus on literacy.

Other member institutions who facilitate *America Reads*:
- Central Piedmont Community College
- Duke University
- UNC Chapel Hill
- UNC Charlotte

### AFTERSCHOOL INITIATIVES

### Pfeiffer University

This partnership has been in existence for six years. University students engage with Stanly County Public School students at the YMCA-Albemarle one full afternoon each week. During that time, students provide homework support, special activities, and mentoring.

### University of North Carolina at Pembroke

**Brave Impact Mentoring program**

Students go to the Pembroke Housing Authority afterschool program to mentor at-risk youth in the areas of college readiness, leadership and life skills development, conflict resolution, and more. For the past four years mentors have visited the afterschool program at least 2 times per week during the academic year.

### Warren Wilson College

**MANOS Latino Youth Mentoring Program**

Students engage weekly in tutoring and mentoring with Latino middle and high school students focusing on academic skills, self-esteem and college readiness. They work on college access issues and have the group visit campus for activities. The program is 4 years old.
### University of North Carolina at Asheville

**Mindful in the Middle**

Mindful in the Middle, sponsored by the North Carolina Center for Health and Wellness, introduces 6 - 8 graders to the concept of mindfulness, through slacklining and mindful eating activities. Overall, the goal of the program, which also will involve staff and families, is to promote self-awareness with the intention of influencing healthy eating, physical activity, and coping with stress. Jesse Goldman, a junior political science major at UNCA and co-founder of the Slacklibrium Club, leads slacklining and mindfulness activities with Asheville Middle School students. Slacklining is the act of balancing on a one to two inch piece of webbing that is tensioned between two objects. Students also learn about mindful eating from UNCA health and wellness majors who lead various activities to promote self-awareness of feelings of hunger and eating behaviors. AMS staff also participate in the Mindfulness-Based Stress Reduction (MSBR) program with community instructor Mary Ellen Phillips, who is an interdisciplinary studies major at UNCA. Phillips conducts poetry and mindfulness classes with adults locally and is looking forward to working with school counseling and other staff. The Mindful in the Middle Program also includes family events and a communication campaign each New Year.

Mindful in the Middle is in its pilot phase, with the hope of demonstrating a positive impact on students, staff, and families and findings ways to sustain the program. This project is supported by a focus area grant through the North Carolina Center for Health and Wellness.

### Elon University

**It Takes A Village project**

"It Takes a Village" Project, in operation since 2008, uses a collaborative approach to help children in the community who are struggling to read. Children and Elon students who are majoring in education are paired together for weekly tutoring sessions at May Memorial Library in downtown Burlington. While in an environment rich with available resources, the preservice teachers assess the individual reading challenges of the children and show their parents different techniques they can use at home to help improve reading skills.

The Village Project operates out Elon's downtown campus building on East Davis Street in Burlington, N.C. The Elon Village community partners are: May Memorial Library, Burlington, N.C.; First Presbyterian Church, Burlington, N.C.; Barnes & Noble (Alamance Crossing); teachers; parents; and students.

**Elon Volunteers**

Elon University students, through *Elon Volunteers* program provide tutoring and mentoring in the Boys and Girls Club: afterschool program and at the Positive Attitude Youth Center. They also work with the Burlington Housing Authority to work one-on-one with elementary, middle, and high school students and provide tutoring at Cummings High School.
### GENERAL

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<th>Wake Forest University</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>The Network for Educational Resource Development (NERD)</em></td>
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Developed in 2012-13 by the NC Campus Compact AmeriCorps VISTA in the Office for Service and Social Action, NERD brings together students and student groups who are interested in tutoring and mentoring. With substantial input from community partners, NERD provides trainings on risk management, mentoring, best practices and cultural competency for students engaged in service to the community. NERD also serves as a connecting point for students who are not yet engaged to find an effective place to serve in the community. Currently a total of 7 programs are part of NERD with approx. 130 volunteers participating in Protection of Minors training over the course of the year. Two of the organizations are chartered with four more undergoing the chartering process, and one organization being supported primarily by a community partner. A variety of students in the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County school system are being impacted by NERD programs through mentoring, tutoring and other engaging activities on and off campus.

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<td><em>Speech-language Pathology Service Delivery Program</em></td>
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This program is coordinated by a clinical supervising faculty with seven to eight student clinicians. The service is provided throughout the school year. Students provide speech and language services to elementary school-aged children including speech, language and hearing screenings, evaluations, therapy, IEP meetings, parent and teacher consults. This program has been going on since 2009.

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<th>High Point University</th>
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<td>HPU worked with Montlieu Elementary School to write grants and provide the funding and tech support to provide all their students with tablets, which resulted in a 30 million dollar federal grant to Guilford County Schools to fund a system wide technology project.</td>
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<th>Pfeiffer University</th>
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<td><em>World Health Day</em></td>
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This partnership with Richfield Elementary School has been in existence for 10 years. It includes World Health Day and classroom instruction. World Health Day is a one-day event that takes all year for students to plan and coordinate with the other groups who participate (Nursing Department, Athletics, etc.). The classroom instruction in physical education and adaptive physical education occurs during alternating semesters and include one hour of work each week with students in those classes.

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<th>Fayetteville State University</th>
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<tr>
<td><em>Cumberland County Schools, Annual Youth Entrepreneurship Conference</em></td>
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This Conference teaches and inspires young adults to develop an entrepreneurial mindset. Students (individually or in groups) develop a business idea and present an elevator pitch to a panel of judges. The top 3 winners are awarded cash prizes. The 6th Annual Youth Entrepreneurship Conference was held in May 2015.

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<td>A Computer Science professor partners with the NC School for the Blind where students in his adaptive technologies class create usable projects (where a current technology is adapted to meet the needs of students who are blind). This is offered at least once a year and requires long-term partnerships with teachers and administrators. Final products are given to the school or families (students in this course also partner with other groups support children with disabilities, but this school is one example).</td>
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### Warren Wilson College

*Common Ground ESL/Garden program*

Twice a week, during the academic year, students have served as classroom assistants and/or a conversation and garden partners for this project that combines English as a Second Language class for the parents of Hall Fletcher Elementary students and an enrichment program for their children. The program has been in existence for two years.

### Fayetteville State University

*Youth Entrepreneurship Day (YED)*

YED is an experiential learning activity that teaches children how to start, own, and operate their own business. Youth work with a team of faculty and students from the School of Business and Economics and follow a customized curriculum guide to learn how to market and sell a product. Tasks include setting goals, developing mini-business plans, raising funds to purchase supplies and equipment, choosing locations, making their product, and turning a profit. The overall goal is to train the next generation of entrepreneurs.

### Davidson County Community College

*STEM Jr. Camp and STEM Camp*

First - third graders experience fun, hands-on activities and educational STEM projects through STEM Jr. Camp. Fourth - eighth graders do the same during STEM camp. The camp concludes with a Celebration of Learning event allowing campers the opportunity to share their favorite activities and demonstrate the science behind those activities in front of their parents, family members and others in attendance. For their participation, each camper received a certificate, backpack, t-shirt and an ice cream party.
Queens University of Charlotte

Since 2011 Queens has worked with Sedgefield Elementary, a Title I school in Charlotte where more than 90% of students receive free-or-reduced lunch. They have strategically deiced to concentrate their efforts on one school for systemic and sustainable change. Queen's students are in the school building on a daily basis focusing on literacy, healthy living, college access, teacher and office support and special programs. Already test scores have improved and Sedgefield has become a second home to Queens faculty, staff and students. In addition to quality time spent in the classroom through tutoring and mentoring, Queen's students have built a community garden and started an afterschool garden club. The lacrosse team re-organized the media center and staffed an accelerated reader program and the university's Health and Wellness Center collected and donated more than 650 books so each child could have at least one book of their own. Students have created new murals on the walls, participate as lunch buddies, Big Brothers, or Big Sisters, and much more.

In 2013 Queens received the 2013 Governor's Medallion Award, becoming just one of 20 organizations in the state so honored. The award recognizes outstanding volunteer service and stewardship. Sedgefield staff nominated Queens for the honor presented by the North Carolina Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service.

"Queens has provided volunteers that are both dedicated and supportive, and it is a joy to watch them build strong relationships with our students," said Principal Ivy Gill. "We are incredibly grateful to the entire Queens community for coming together to improve the lives of the children we serve."

NC Campus Compact has played a role in the project. Since 2011, an AmeriCorps VISTA member from the NC Campus Compact VISTA program has been hosted by Queens to support the development of the Sedgefield partnership.