

NCCentral
UNIVERSITY

DIVISION of ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
Presentation to the NCCU Board of Trustees

by

Dr. David H. Jackson, Jr.

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

April 26, 2023

Outline

- Spring 2023 Eagle Preview
- Update on Research and Sponsored Programs
- Graduate and Undergraduate Research Symposium (GURS)
- Update on Upper Division Academic Advising Initiative
- NCCU Listens! Student Forum
- Academic Affairs Division Highlights

Research and Sponsored Programs Updates

- **As of March 31, 2022, FY22**
 - Submissions: \$94,553,092 (129 actual submissions)
 - Awards: \$21,844,285 (56 actual awards)
- **As of March 31, 2023, FY23**
 - Submissions: \$174,343,210 (100 actual submissions)
 - Awards: \$41,901,510 (94 actual awards)

*Goal for Research Productivity for 2021-2022 is \$21.6 million (UNC System performance metrics)
And with 10% increase goal for 2022-2023 is \$23.8 million*

Examples of the Types of Sponsored Research Funding

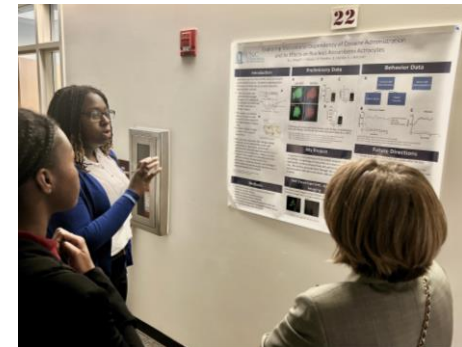
| Award Title | Amount | Lead Principal Investigators | Sponsor |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>Cross-Cutting Improvements: The Development of a Geospatial Big-Data Infrastructure Supporting Socially and Environmentally Relevant Spatial Decision-Making and Analysis</i> | \$1,135,805 | Dr. Timothy Mulrooney | National Science Foundation |
| <i>Digital Equity Leadership Program (DELP): Connecting Durham</i> | \$2,919,534 | Dr. Jon Gant | Department of Commerce - (NTIA) |
| <i>HBCU coalition for workforce equity in biomanufacturing</i> | \$6,191,261 | Dr. Hernan Navarro | Department of Commerce |
| <i>Purpose, Persistence, and Power: Pioneering African American Women and their Fight for Racial Justice in North Carolina</i> | \$500,000 | Dr. Rachel Gold | Mellon Foundation |

Examples of the Types of Sponsored Research Funding

| Award Title | Amount | Lead Principal Investigators | Sponsor |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| <i>RCMI Center for Health Disparities Research (17 million over 5 years)</i> | \$3,339,271/year | Dr. Deepak Kumar Dr. Cherise Harrington | National Institutes of Health (NIH) |
| <i>Feeding the STEM Pipeline with Neuroscientists Trained at an HBCU</i> | \$216,134 | Dr. S. Alex Marshall | National Institutes of Health (NIH) |
| <i>Collaborative Research: Building Confidence through Culturally Relevant Co-requisite Mathematics Courses within Math Pathways</i> | \$117,002 | Dr. Kimberly Weems | National Science Foundation |
| <i>Faith Alliance Intervention Towards Health (FAITH)</i> | \$250,000 | Dr. Lorraine Graves | Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Admin. (SAMHSA) |

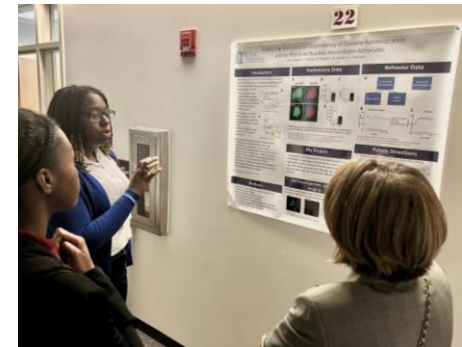
Graduate and Undergraduate Research Symposium (GURS)

- NCCU hosted its annual research symposium on Saturday, March 25, 2023.
- Undergraduate students and graduate students presented their various research projects in the following areas:
 - Pharmaceutical Sciences,
 - Chemistry, Biochemistry,
 - Biological and Biomedical Sciences,
 - Communication Disorders,
 - Geospatial, Environmental and Earth Sciences
 - Psychology,
 - Public Health,
 - Political Science,
 - Mass Communication,
 - Music,
 - Education,
 - Library and Information Sciences



Graduate and Undergraduate Research Symposium (GURS)

- Provost David Jackson provided greetings to the students, faculty, and staff who participated in GURS.
- The keynote speaker was NCCU alumnus Dr. Brian Shackelford, who currently serves as the medical director of Student Health Services at NCCU.
- Top scholars were recognized and awarded at the GURS luncheon that was held after oral and poster presentations.



Upper Division Academic Advising Initiative

A Title III Activity

Purpose: To provide centralized, professional undergraduate academic advising and services at the upper division level.

Update

- Coordinator for Upper Division Academic Advising started March 13, 2023.
- First Graduation Specialist will begin on April 3, 2023.
- Five Graduation Specialists will begin on May 1, 2023.
- Last four Graduation Specialists will be onboarded by June 1, 2023.

Impact

- Enhanced advising supports.
- Improve retention and graduation rates of juniors and seniors.
- Enhanced systems and processes.
- Ongoing training for academic advisors.
- Enhanced transition from University College to the upper division.

Upper Division Academic Advising Initiative: Focus Areas

A Title III Activity



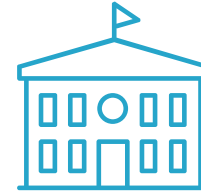
Academic Advising

Strengthen academic advising through systematizing the use of predictive-analytics-based and faculty-generated early alerts to generate timely, proactive, and coordinated interventions with students



Financial Wellness

Strengthen financial aid alerts through collaboration with other units and coordinated, proactive outreach to students



Transition to Upper Division

Standardize and scale intentional pathways to help students learn about and select majors, and transition from University College to the upper division



Academic Design and Support

Systematize the use of data to identify and direct resources to courses with high non-pass rates, limited availability, and insufficient academic supports

NCCU Listens! Student Forum

- Provide students an opportunity to meet with the Provost and members of his leadership team to discuss their NCCU experience.
- Spring 2023 session held on March 16, 2023 (15 student participants)
- Students shared their experiences on the following:
 - Faculty engagement.
 - Classroom instruction.
 - Campus engagements outside of the classroom.
 - Why they selected NCCU.
- Feedback from students is analyzed to identify areas of improvement, as well as those areas where the University is excelling.
- Feedback is shared with deans and department chairs to explore potential solutions.
- Next sessions scheduled for Fall 2023 (September and November)



Academic Affairs Highlights

- **College of Arts, Social Sciences, and Humanities**

- March 21, 2023: Department of Political Science hosted the Dan T. Blue Symposium - *Black Women and Politics in Brazil and the USA*.
 - Presenters - Durham's Mayor Elaine O'Neal, Judge Josephine Davis, Dr. Dalila Negreiros from the Executive Office of the President of Brazil, and Monica Cunha, council woman for the city of Rio de Janeiro.
 - The Symposium was coordinated by Dr. Gladys Mitchell-Walthour, the Dan T. Blue Endowed Professor of Political Science.
- April 1-2, 2023: Theater Department presented its Spring Dance Concert.
 - April 20-22: Theatre presented the play *On Strivers Row*, a 1940s satirical comedy highlighting the lifestyle of the Black Bourgeois.
- April 18-27, 2023: NCCU Jazz Studies Program conducted the 32nd Annual Jazz Festival.
 - The Festival included workshops and performances by the NCCU Jazz Ensembles and nationally renowned Jazz musicians Antonio Hart and the We Up RE UP TRIO.



NCCU JAZZ STUDIES PROGRAM PRESENTS

32ND ANNUAL JAZZ festival

ANTONIO HART WE UP RE UP TRIO

FEATURING GUEST ARTISTS

MULTI-GRAMMY NOMINEE
ANTONIO HART
PERFORMING WITH THE
NCCU JAZZ ENSEMBLE
AND
NCCU VOCAL ENSEMBLE
(Ticketed Event, Open to the Public)

WE UP RE UP TRIO
**J.D. ALLEN
ERIC REVIS
NASHEET WAITS**
(Free, Open to the Public)

APRIL 2023

TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY
APRIL 18 & 19 7 P.M.
Jazz Studies Student Combos
Free / Open to the Public

MONDAY & TUESDAY
APRIL 24 4 P.M.
APRIL 25 7 P.M.
Guest Artists:
We Up Re Up Trio
Free / Open to the Public

WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
APRIL 26 & 27 7 P.M.
Guest Artist:
Saxophonist Antonio Hart
with the NCCU Jazz Ensemble
and NCCU Vocal Ensemble
(Ticketed Event)

SUNDAY
APRIL 30 12-5 P.M.
International Jazz Day
Free / Open to the Public

NC Central UNIVERSITY
Durham, NC

For a full list of events, NCCU locations and tickets, visit nccu.edu/events.



NCCU JAZZ STUDIES PROGRAM PRESENTS

32ND ANNUAL JAZZ festival

THURSDAY, APRIL 26 & 27 7 P.M.

MULTI-GRAMMY NOMINEE
SAXOPHONIST
ANTONIO HART
PERFORMING WITH THE
NCCU JAZZ ENSEMBLE
— AND —
NCCU VOCAL ENSEMBLE
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NC Central UNIVERSITY
Durham, NC

Academic Affairs Highlights

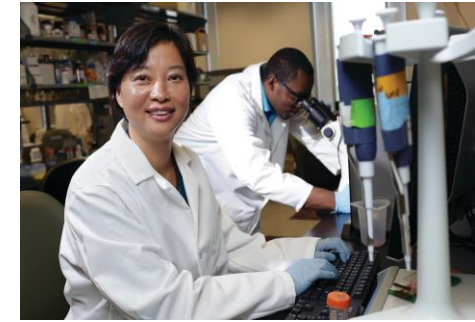
- **College of Health and Sciences**

- **Environmental, Earth and Geospatial Sciences**

- Selected for the NASA Minority University Research and Education Opportunity Data Science Equity, Access, and Priority (DEAP) program.
 - Award is \$1,461,659 and will support one post-doctoral researcher, six graduate students, and a number of undergraduate projects.
 - Project title is “Capacity Building to Support the Machine Learning-Based Detection of Floods and other Natural Hazard Impacts in the Department of Environmental, Earth and Geospatial Sciences at North Carolina Central University.”
 - Collaboration with Elizabeth City State and UM-Eastern Shore, with NCCU as the lead institution.

- **Kinesiology and Recreation Administration**

- Dr. Andrea Woodson-Smith received a grant from the U.S. Department of State, Sports Envoy COVID Relief Fund for \$25,000.
- Students participated in the U.S. State Department Sports Visitor Program Mentorship Program.
- Recreation received their accreditation from Council on Accreditation for Parks, Recreation, Tourism and Related Professions (COAPRT).
- MS Online program was approved to begin Fall 2023.
- Dr. Dohyun Lee presented at the Samuel Dubois Cook Center on Social Equity at Duke University.
- Dr. Amy Linder presented at the Implementation Science in Action at NCCU’s BBRI.



Academic Affairs Highlights

- **School of Education**

- Awarded the Goodnight Distinguished Professorship in Literacy in the amount of \$1.5M.
- April 18, 2023: Dr. Tressie McMillian Cottom, an NCCU alumni and recipient of the 2020 MacArthur Foundation Genius Award spoke to education students.
- Dr. Taheera Blount received funding from the International Association of Addicts and Offender Counseling in the amount of \$500 to extend her research, “ How African American Women Maintained their sobriety during COVID-19. She has also been invited be a panelist for the ASWAD conference in Ghana, West Africa.
- Dr. Tryan McMickens was named to the NASPA African American Knowledge Community Stellar 50 class.
- Eagle Counseling Clinic is currently serving 31 clients.



Academic Affairs Highlights

- **School of Business**

- **PNC Pitch Competition – First Place Winner**

- Jahmir Hamilton is a Center of Entrepreneurship and Economic Development (CEED) Ambassador currently pursuing a degree in Information Technology with a concentration in Data Analytics at NCCU. He is also the Lead Developer and Founder of IX Studio LLC. IX Studio, a Roblox mod he created in his dorm room. He is currently generating a projected income of around \$152,000 this year and attracting over 52,000 daily active users. With the support of the CEED, Jahmir recently won against 20 other HBCU students during PNCs Pitch Competition.

- **Lowes Day Visit and Pledge**

- In addition to over \$1.6M in School of Business contributions, several executives from Lowes Home Improvement visited the School of Business to discuss their roles, corporate culture, and strategic plans with students. They engaged 300+ students and recruited interns and entry level roles.

- **Student Professional Development Week**

- The Office of Student Professional Development hosted a weeklong program with corporate partners to share best practices with students.
 - Writing Lab sponsored by McDonald's Corporation
 - Mock Interviews and Elevator Pitch sponsored by Walker Dunlop and Amazon
 - Branding Yourself - LinkedIn Basics & Digital Presence sponsored by Credit Suisse)
 - You're Hired - Now What? Do's and Don'ts sponsored by Dell



Academic Affairs Highlights

- **School of Business (cont.)**

- **Dell Technologies Intern**

- Zyon Rodgers, a Business Administration major, with a concentration in Financial Analytics, intends to intern in the Finance Department at Dell Technologies, located in Austin, TX. He currently serves as the NAACP's Treasurer, University Honor's Program Director of Campus Partnerships, Career Eagle Officer, Cricket Student Ambassador, Thurgood Marshall College Fund Student Ambassador, Prime Student Ambassador, and University Ambassador.

- **Battle of the Brains**

- The 6th annual HBCU Battle of the Brains took place in Austin, TX. The faculty advisor, Professor Laura Graham, and eight students participated in a 24-hr business case and technology competition.

- **Dr. Abm Nasir Interview**

- Interviewed by ABC 11 to discuss the new Consumer Index Report released in March. Professor Nasir highlighted the economic impact of the financial markets on a global and national level.



Academic Affairs Highlights

• School of Library and Information Sciences

- Received a grant from the State of North Carolina Department of Information Technology for a research partnership with the North Carolina State University William and Ida Friday Institute for Educational Innovation.
 - Dr. Erezi Ogbo and Dr. Jon Gant will develop the state's first digital equity and inclusion asset inventory of programs and services to help address the digital divide in North Carolina.
- Dr. Jon Gant served as a keynote speaker for the Federal Communication Commission's *Digital Ecosystem Forum*.
 - Addressed approaches for the US to handle digital upskilling to ensure historically underserved populations benefit from next generation technologies.
- Dr. Jon Gant served as a keynote speaker for the Chronicle of Higher Education's Salon to discuss ways to overcome the digital equity gap.
- The NCCU Office of Professional Development has invited Dr. Jon Gant to speak about artificial intelligence in higher education and the impact of ChatGPT.
- SLIS students earned top honors at the Graduate Undergraduate Research Showcase.



Academic Affairs Highlights

• University College

- As of March 24th, 62% of Aspiring Eagles Academy (cohort 19) will graduate May 2023. This will be the largest Aspiring Eagles Academy class to graduate in four years.
- As of March 27th, 52% of fall 2022 admitted First-Time Freshmen are enrolled in fall 2023 courses.
- Academic Coaching referrals are available for students who require support with time management, organizational skills, and study skills.
- The new Executive Director of Student Enrichment (First & Second Year Experience) begins April 3, 2023. This role is responsible for UNIV 1100, first and second-year success and programming.
- Actively recruiting for 2023 Aspiring Eagles Academy Summer Bridge Program, which provides college transition support to incoming low-income, first-generation & rural students.



