

**NC STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

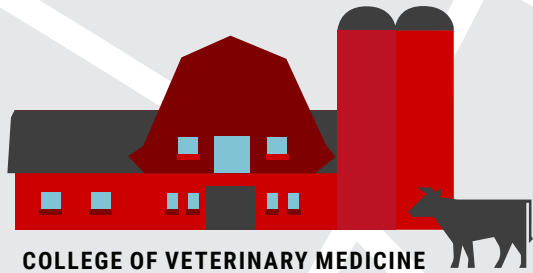
# 2024

## Chancellor's Report

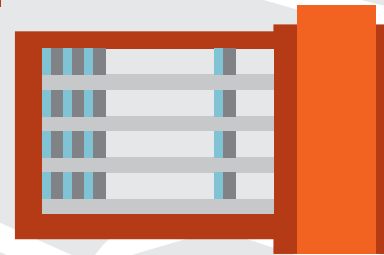


# NC State University

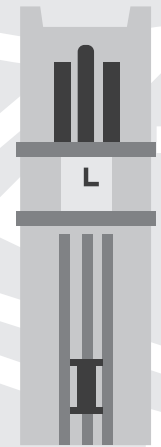
## MAIN CAMPUS



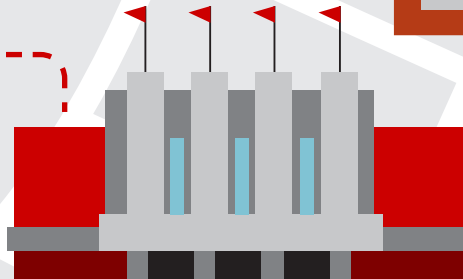
PARK SHOPS



SAS HALL



MEMORIAL BELLTOWER



REYNOLDS COLISEUM

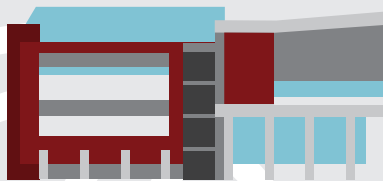


HOLLADAY HALL



TALLEY STUDENT UNION

## CENTENNIAL CAMPUS



PLANT SCIENCES BUILDING



WILSON COLLEGE OF TEXTILES



FITTS-WOOLARD HALL



# From the Chancellor

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In the 15 years I've been a part of NC State, I've never been prouder of this university than I am today. By just about every measure you can think of, we're setting new standards of excellence. Incoming student GPAs, first-year retention rates and graduation rates are all up. Our research enterprise continues to grow, attracting more externally sponsored funding and resulting in more patents being issued to our researchers. Our outreach and partnership efforts are forging more collaborations that are tackling the grand challenges of today and will create the innovations of tomorrow. And overall, our rankings are the highest they've ever been.

Yet the thing I'm proudest of can't be measured in rankings, dollars or any other number. NC State's most valuable asset is the spirit of community that energizes the campus and all its statewide locations.

We saw that community spirit in evidence after Hurricane Helene caused historic levels of flooding in western North Carolina, and members of the Wolfpack pitched in with volunteers from all over the state to help our neighbors. We see it in the fans' fervor at athletics events; the way alumni, donors and friends of the university come together to support us every year on Day of Giving;

and the glow of pride on graduates' faces as they turn their tassels at commencement. This is the largest university in the state, but every day our students, faculty and staff make it into a home where they all belong.

This is a particularly special Chancellor's Report for me, because it will be my final one as part of the Wolfpack. I've notified NC State's Board of Trustees that I plan to retire at the end of my current contract in June 2025. After everything we've been through together in my time at NC State — a pandemic, a recession and a few hurricanes among them — and all we've accomplished despite these challenges, I can honestly say that serving as chancellor of this world-class university has been the greatest honor of my professional life.

So for my last Chancellor's Report, I invite you to let these pages guide you on a tour around campus. Along the way you'll see iconic landmarks where amazing people have accomplished incredible things, and you'll learn more about what makes NC State one of the top universities in the world.

Turn the page, and get ready to take a run with the Wolfpack.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Randy Woodson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

**Randy Woodson**  
Chancellor

# Helping the Whole Student Succeed

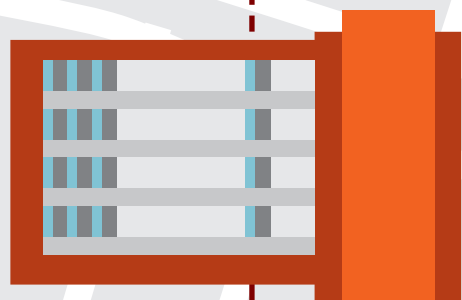
At NC State, we know that a university's most important job is helping students succeed — academically, personally and professionally — both while they're in school and after they leave. We've become a national model for how to accomplish those goals because we understand that to truly support a student, you have to support the whole person.

For instance, our academic affairs and student affairs units are housed in a single Division of Academic and Student Affairs (DASA), located in the historic Park Shops building. When we originally combined these units back in 2012, we were one of the first universities in the nation to take that step.

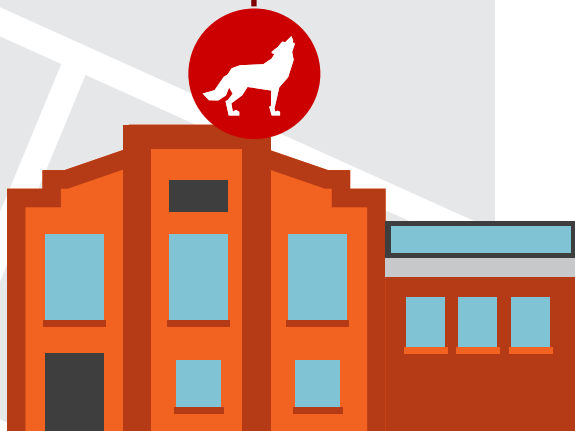
Since then we've launched more direct student-support services, like DASA's Pack Essentials program, which helps students facing challenges with food, housing or financial security. Last year we created a new Office of Student Life and Advocacy to centralize more student resources, including student leadership and engagement, resiliency and community support, and Greek life. Also last year our Counseling Center completed nearly 32,000 clinical appointments with more than 4,500 students, while keeping wait times below the national average for schools of our size.

These initiatives and others like them have paid off handsomely: Applications are up, GPAs are on the rise, and retention and graduation rates have jumped. Turns out that when you give members of the Wolfpack what they need to succeed, they'll do the rest. In 2024 five of our students received scholarships from the Fulbright U.S. Student program, and NC State was once again named a top producer of Fulbright participants. In addition, 17 students received Graduate Research Fellowships from the National Science Foundation, and chemical engineering student Katherine Traynelis won the prestigious Astronaut Scholarship.

At NC State, student success isn't just a goal we work toward; together, we achieve it.



SAS HALL



PARK SHOPS





**4.31**

Average High School GPA

**94.4%**

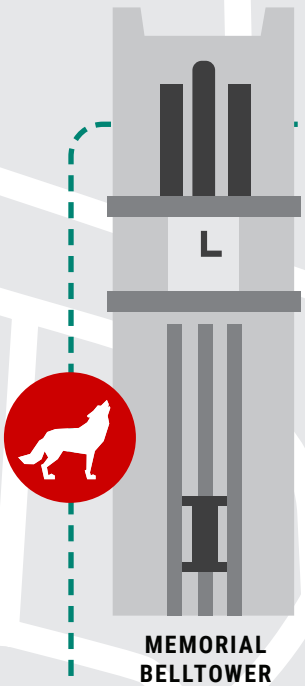
First-Year Retention Rate

**85.3%**

Six-Year Graduation Rate



# Faculty and Staff Who Redefine Excellence



NC State's Memorial Belltower — built to honor NC State alumni who were killed during World War I — is one of the university's most cherished symbols. The strength and dignity of that structure, the peeling sound of those bells, evoke NC State's unique spirit and tremendous potential. The key to realizing that potential is our people, because they're the engine that drives everything we accomplish — and because they're exceptional at what they do.

The UNC System and the state of North Carolina have often recognized our faculty and staff as being among the best in the state. Since 2016, four members of our faculty have won the UNC System's Holshouser Award in recognition of their exemplary public service, and seven NC State staff members have won the Governor's Award for Excellence, the highest honor a state employee can receive for dedicated service to the state of North Carolina and its residents.

Our people are winning national and international recognition too. In the past year, six faculty members were elected as fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, seven received the National Science Foundation Faculty Early Career Award, and eight were named Fulbright Scholars. Other recent faculty highlights include the following honors and accolades:

- › **Meg Day**, assistant professor of English, was named the Guggenheim Museum's 2024 Poet-in-Residence.
- › **Belle Boggs and Susanna Lee**, from the departments of English and history, were selected as National Humanities Center Fellows.
- › **Kenneth Adler**, professor of cell biology and toxicology in the College of Veterinary Medicine, and **Craig Yenko**, the William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, both became fellows of the National Academy of Inventors.
- › **Craig Yenko** also received the 2024 O. Max Gardner Award, which recognizes faculty from across the UNC System who have made "the greatest contribution to the welfare of the human race."
- › **Jay Baliga**, the Progress Energy Distinguished University Emeritus Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, has become NC State's first winner of the Millennium Technology Prize, the most prestigious international award for technological innovation.

Simply put, you can't have an exceptional university without exceptional faculty and staff. Fortunately, NC State has the very best as part of the Wolfpack.





32

Faculty Winners of the UNC System  
O. Max Gardner Award



4

Faculty Winners of the UNC  
System Holshouser Award

7

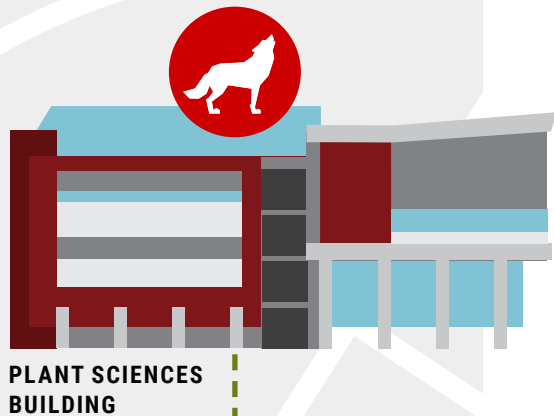
Staff Winners of the Governor's  
Award for Excellence

25

Faculty Members of the  
National Academies



# A Research Powerhouse Fuels Innovation



For a great illustration of how NC State unites its traditional strength in agriculture with 21st-century scientific prowess, look no further than the North Carolina Plant Sciences Initiative. The initiative is based in the NC State Plant Sciences Building, which broke ground in 2019 and now gathers students, faculty and staff from a cross-section of fields to tackle the challenges involved in providing healthy food for a growing world. This is only one example of the burgeoning vitality that characterizes NC State's entire research enterprise.

For a STEM-focused school like NC State, research stands at the center of what we do. In 1973 NC State became one of the first universities to be designated as an R1 institution with "very high research activity," the highest level of research recognized by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. We've maintained that level of research excellence ever since. The teaching we provide for our students, the solutions we create in collaboration with our partners, the evidence-based assistance we provide throughout the state, the economic impact we create through our startups and spinoffs — our research informs it all.

Speaking of economic impact, last year entrepreneurs launched 15 startups based on NC State intellectual

property, and university-based inventors negotiated 144 commercialization agreements. In FY23, NC State pulled in \$517 million in sponsored research awards — a new record for the institution. Our overall research expenditures were also the highest on record: \$633 million. In fact, among public universities without medical schools, NC State ranks sixth in the nation for dollars devoted to research.

Other research highlights from the past year include these achievements:

- › The **Bezos Earth Fund** chose NC State to lead a \$30 million hub to develop sustainable proteins.
- › The **Department of Defense** awarded us \$39 million to lead a regional innovation hub in wide bandgap semiconductors, which are essential to our energy future.
- › NC State will serve as a core partner in the **North Carolina Textile Innovation and Sustainability Engine**, a National Science Foundation project backed by up to \$160 million over the next 10 years.

When it comes to doing research that extends the boundaries of knowledge, solves tough problems and makes the world a better place, nobody can beat NC State.





**144**

Commercialization  
Agreements Signed

**\$517 Million**

in Sponsored  
Research Awards

**15**

Startups Launched Based  
on NC State Research

**\$633 Million**

in Overall Research  
Expenditures

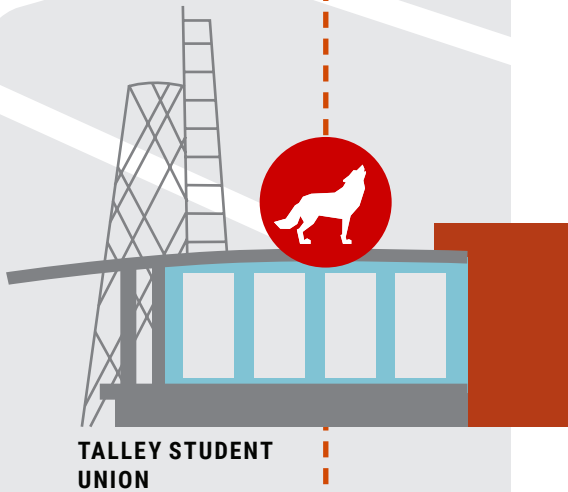
**#6**

in Research Expenditures  
Among Public Universities  
Without a Medical School





# The Strength of the Wolf Is the Pack



The NC State Wolfpack is a community of people who take care of each other in ways large and small — and it always has been.

For example, in 2012 a group of students, faculty and staff from across the university launched Feed the Pack, a student-led food pantry founded to help meet the needs of all members of the NC State community with dignity and respect. The pantry depends heavily on donations, starting with its very first office space (donated by NC State's Facilities division) and the funding for its first shelving units (donated by the construction company that built Talley Student Union). Since then Feed the Pack has served nearly 50,000 visits to the pantry and given out over 650,000 pounds of food.

Another inspiring example of the Wolfpack spirit is the generosity shown by those who donate to the university. Since 2010, the university's endowment has more than quadrupled; today it stands at \$2.22 billion, ensuring long-term financial stability that can weather the ups and downs of a volatile economy. What's more, private support has enabled us to triple the number of scholarships available to our students. That means more paths to NC State, and more paths forward for those who come here.

Last year our donors made total gifts and commitments of \$241 million to NC State, making it the second-highest fundraising year in university history. On the sixth annual NC State Day of Giving, donors from 99 of North Carolina's 100 counties, all 50 states and 20 countries around the world gave 21,920 gifts — setting a record for number of gifts given for the second year in a row — for a total of \$46,622,214.

Feed the Pack is now located in a bigger space in the Pack Essentials Hub in North Hall on Hillsborough Street. Since 2021 NC State and UNC-Chapel Hill have been holding a friendly annual competition called the Pantry Bowl, in which the two schools compete to see who can make the most donations to support their respective food pantries. NC State won the 2024 Pantry Bowl by giving 1,520 gifts, compared to UNC-Chapel Hill's 847. The contest raised \$179,744.82 to benefit both campus communities, proving the truth of the old adage: The strength of the wolf is the Pack.





**\$241 Million**

Fundraising Total FY24

**\$2.22 Billion**

University Endowment

**\$46.6 Million**

Raised on Day of Giving 2024



# Outstanding Outreach, Productive Partnerships

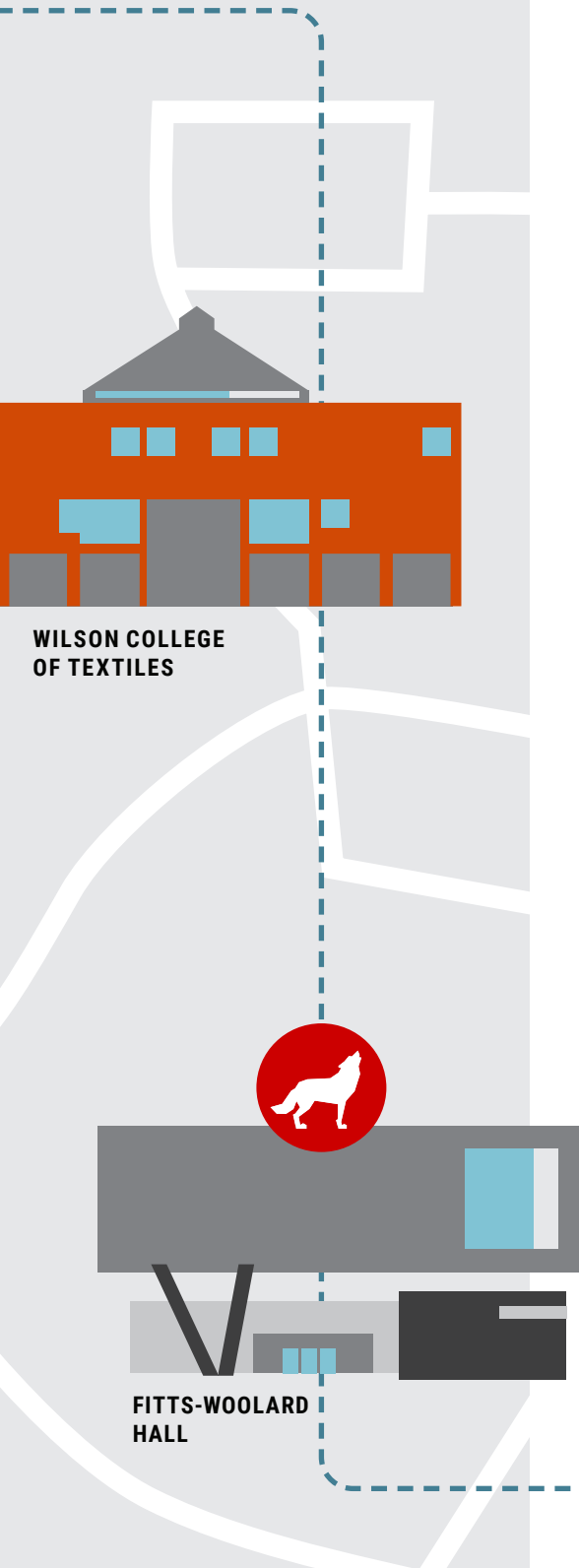
Land-grant universities were founded to disseminate the fruits of higher education for the benefit of society. NC State has always been an exemplar of the land-grant tradition of outreach and partnership, whether through providing direct assistance to North Carolinians or collaborating with businesses to drive innovation and boost local economies.

When you talk about outreach at NC State, you obviously have to talk about NC State Extension, the cooperative extension service that provides evidence-based assistance to people in all 100 North Carolina counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians. Yet not everyone knows we also have an industrial extension service, Industry Expansion Solutions, that serves hundreds of clients in dozens of business sectors across the state by providing consultations, education and assessment based on the principles of process improvement. And the Belk Center for Community College Leadership and Research performs educational outreach to North Carolina's community college leaders by providing them with actionable research, professional education and coaching, and opportunities to collaborate with their peers.

In terms of partnerships, there's no better example than our award-winning Centennial Campus, a public-private research park where 70-plus NC State academic units work alongside 70-plus corporate, government and nonprofit partners, including LexisNexis, IBM and the National Weather Service. In addition, our Office of Research and Innovation facilitates productive research partnerships by helping to forge master research agreements with industry leaders like Eastman Chemical (working with the College of Design), Under Armour (Wilson College of Textiles) and ABB (College of Engineering).

NC State participates in economic partnerships, too. Last year the university's Economic Development Partnership office worked with statewide partners on nearly 50 projects to bring business to our state. That work helped secure several new industry announcements, resulting in capital investments of \$3.5 billion and the creation of 2,296 new jobs across North Carolina.

By providing advice to farmers and gardeners, training collegiate leaders and working with government and business to promote economic growth, NC State creates economic, societal and intellectual prosperity for all.





**2,296**

New Jobs Secured Through  
Partnerships

**\$3.5 Billion**

In Capital Investment Secured  
Through Partnerships



# Moving the Needle, Higher Than Ever

At NC State we often say that our work isn't driven by the rankings. We do it for the students, who want to pursue their life's dreams; the families, who want the best for their students; our researchers and scholars and extension specialists, who are working to solve real problems and make a positive difference in the world.

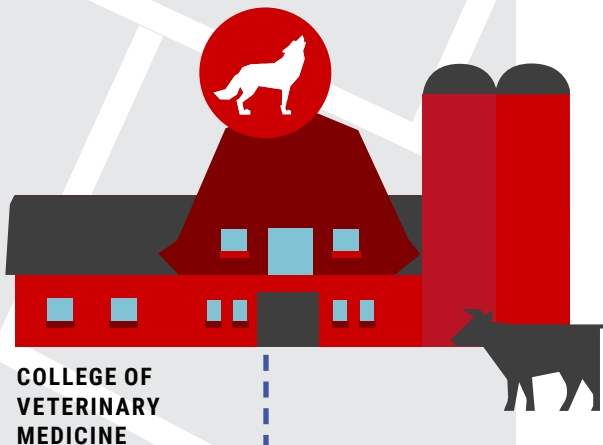
But we still love it every time another great ranking comes in, because it's a good opportunity for the rest of the world to find out what we already know: NC State is North Carolina's flagship STEM university and a preeminent research enterprise that attracts high-performing students and world-leading faculty.

The truth is, NC State's come a long way in recent years. In 2011, NC State was ranked No. 111 in the *U.S. News & World Report* rankings. Today we're No. 58 — and No. 26 among public universities nationwide. We've got more top-25 programs than we have room to list here, including biological and agricultural engineering, software engineering, analytics, statistics, online bachelor's, the College of Veterinary Medicine — the list goes on.

Yet some of the rankings we're proudest of are those that demonstrate what a great value we are. Year after year, NC State is recognized as one of the best values

in higher education because our outstanding faculty and staff have cracked the code for how to provide a top-notch education, conduct groundbreaking research and perform life-changing outreach in an economically sustainable way. It's clear why our graduates hit the job market with prestigious, valuable degrees — and below-average debt.

We don't do it for the rankings; we do it for the results. That's what our motto of Think and Do is all about.



## #3

**Graduate Biological/Agricultural  
Engineering Program**

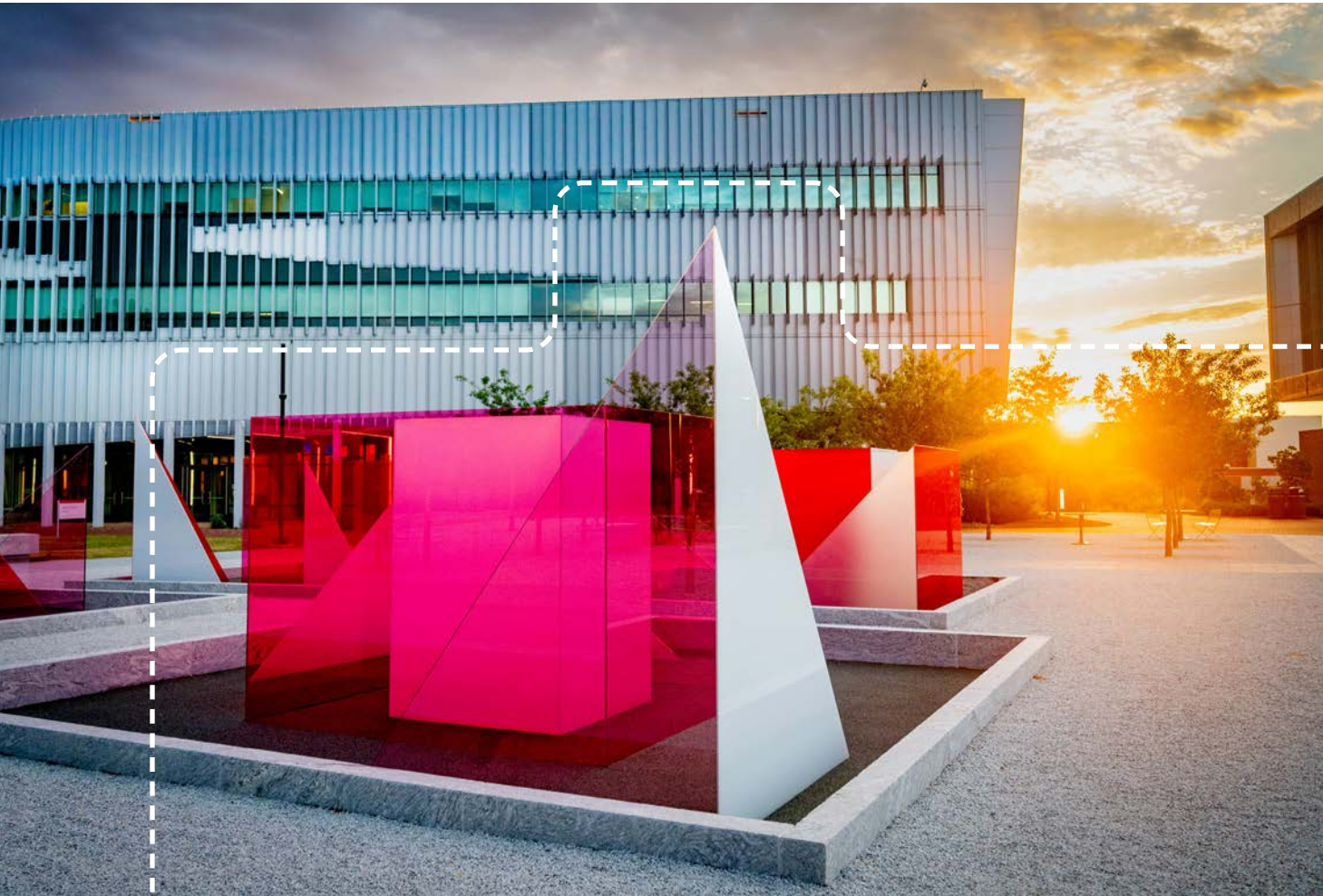
*U.S. News & World Report*

## #4

**Online Bachelor's Program**

*U.S. News & World Report*





**Top 1%**

Center for World University  
Rankings

**#2**

Best Public College in  
N.C. for Value  
*Money*

**#5**

Veterinary Medicine Program  
*U.S. News & World Report*

**#9**

Best Value Among  
Public Universities  
*Princeton Review*

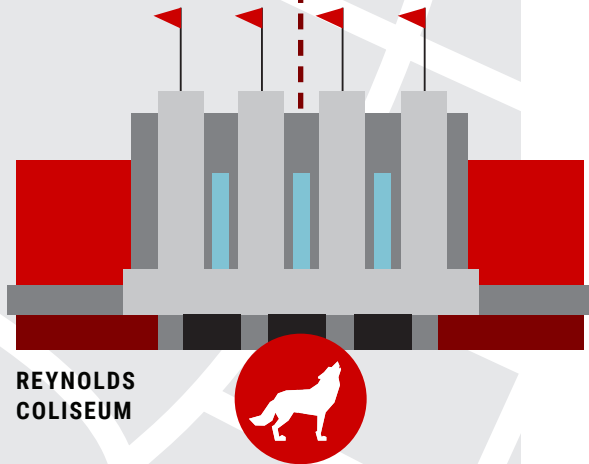
**#3**

Graduate Nuclear  
Engineering Program  
*U.S. News & World Report*

**#26**

Among Public Universities  
*U.S. News & World Report*

# The Red and White From State, Winning Across the Board



NC State's Reynolds Coliseum — the original home of Wolfpack basketball, and one of the most beloved landmarks on campus — celebrated its 75th anniversary in 2024. Today the storied venue hosts the championship-winning women's basketball, gymnastics and wrestling programs, as well as a volleyball program on the rise. In a way, that encapsulates the story of NC State athletics: a broad base of excellence.

When you look at NC State's athletics program as a whole, you'll see that it's one of the best in the nation. In fact, the Wolfpack finished 21st in the 2023-24 Learfield Directors' Cup standings, which evaluate the performance of a college's entire athletics program. We have now finished in the Directors' Cup top 25 for four consecutive years.

How did we get there? This past year NC State was the only Division I school in the nation to have football, baseball, and men's and women's basketball finish in the top 25 of their respective sports. Seven more of our teams also finished in the top 25, and we became the third school ever to make the Final Four in both men's and women's basketball and to reach the men's College World Series all in the same season.

We also won five Atlantic Coast Conference championships: men's basketball, women's cross-country, gymnastics, wrestling and men's swimming. Women's cross-country also won its third straight national title, and swimmer Katharine Berkoff won an individual national championship in the 100-yard backstroke — the third of her career. Overall, NC State's 2023-24 athletics season was one of the most successful in the past 50 years.

Outside collegiate athletics, a record 13 current or former NC State students competed in the Olympic Games in Paris in the summer of 2024. Diana Shnaider claimed silver for women's tennis, and Katharine Berkoff won gold in women's swimming and diving.

Whenever our football team gets tapped to play in a bowl game or our basketball teams advance to the Final Four, the nation sits up and takes notice. But the truth is that our 500-plus student-athletes are competing at the highest levels across all 22 of our Division I varsity programs. That's why our fans are so proud to be part of the Wolfpack.



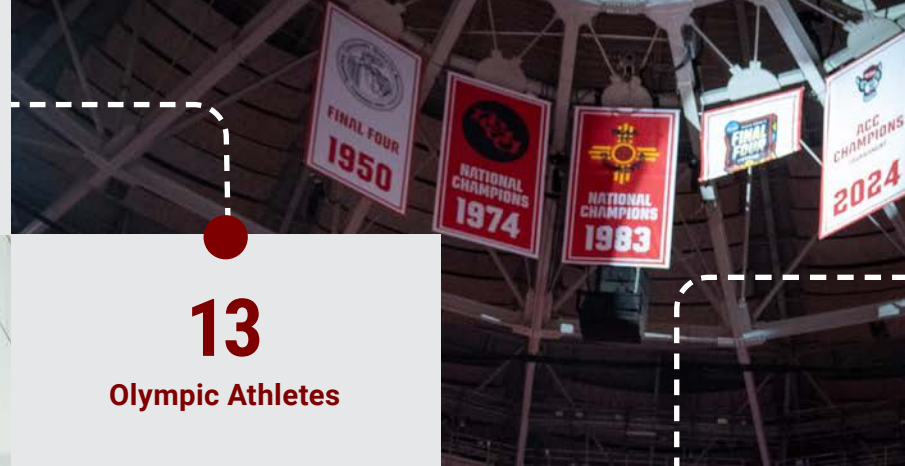
11

Teams Finished in the Top 25



5

Atlantic Coast Conference  
Championships



1

Individual National  
Championship



2

Olympic Medalists



13

Olympic Athletes



1

Team National Championship





# From the Chancellor, One Last Time

I hope you've enjoyed your tour around campus. There's so much more I wish we had room to show you: the modernist wonder of the Hunt Library, which became one of the most famous libraries in the world the day it opened; the placid beauty of Lake Raleigh, which I often gaze at from The Point, the chancellor's official residence on Centennial Campus; the colorful profusion of painted words and images in the Free Expression tunnel, which gives students the freedom to express themselves in their own way.

This letter is just the latest in my series of "lasts": my last Packapalooza, my last fall address, my last homecoming game, and so on. Eventually my last day as chancellor will come, and that'll be that. I'll be sad to leave, of course, but only for myself. I won't be sad for NC State because I know this great university is poised to accomplish even greater things after I'm gone.

NC State has students who are academic superstars, research innovators and community leaders. The university's faculty provide some of the best teaching, research and scholarship in higher education. NC State's staff are also among the best, not only in North Carolina but anywhere in the collegiate world. The university's 260,000 living alumni are committed, engaged fans, both of NC State itself and of Wolfpack athletics, which will only continue to excel. The university's donors, friends and supporters are deeply committed to NC State's success.

All of these people are laying down a solid foundation for an expansive, exciting future. That's why I feel so good about NC State's path forward. This university has all the right people on its side. That's why we call it a Wolfpack.

So let's say it loud and clear, one last time: Go Pack!

  
**Randy Woodson**  
Chancellor



HOLLADAY HALL







**NC STATE**

[go.ncsu.edu/2024-annual-report](https://go.ncsu.edu/2024-annual-report)