

The Search for a Leader

What does leading the UNC System mean?

The UNC System's presidential role and responsibilities are outlined in statute and Code.

It means the president of the University of North Carolina shall be the chief administrative and executive officer of the University.

The chief administrative and executive officer of a 17-campus system as well as the UNC Center for Public Television, the UNC Health Care System, the cooperative extension and research services, area health education centers, and countless other programs and facilities. The UNC System serves nearly 250,000 students and delivers an annual economic impact of more than \$27.9 billion.

It means the president shall have complete authority to manage the affairs and execute the policies of the University of North Carolina and its constituent institutions, subject to the direction and control of the Board of Governors and the provisions of the Code and Policies of the University.

The UNC System operates under a system of shared governance designed to preserve the unique identity and mission of each constituent institution, led by a chancellor and overseen by a board of trustees, while providing for statewide coordination under the authority of the president and the Board of Governors.

It means the president shall personally represent before the state, the region, and the nation the ideals and the spirit of the University of North Carolina.

The president shall carry out the unanimously adopted Strategic Plan.

It means as the chief executive, the president shall be the official administrative spokesperson for and the interpreter of the University to the alumni and alumnae as a whole, the news media, the educational world, and the general public.

The president communicates the work and vision of the entire UNC System to the communities the entire System serves.

It means the president shall be responsible for the presentation and interpretation of all University policies, recommendations, and requests to the General Assembly, the governor, state officers and commissions, and the federal government.

The president is responsible for communicating the policies and needs of the University and working to ensure those needs are met.

The President Carries Out The Strategic Plan:

The Strategic Plan is a unanimously passed five-year plan that sets a series of well-defined, measurable goals in five key areas—Access, Student Success, Affordability and Efficiency, Economic Impact and Community Engagement, and Excellent and Diverse Institutions.

These are the priorities of the University and the priorities for the next president:

1. Access

Goal: Increase Access to Success: Enrollments and degree recipients will more closely reflect the demographics and growth rate of the state by 2021-2022.

Goal: Improve the Transition from K-12 to College: Improve student transitions from high school to college and community college into University through better alignment of K-12, community college, and University policies, practices, and standards.

2. Student Success

Goal: All Useful Learning: Provide all students with outstanding academic and experiential learning opportunities to acquire “all useful learning” needed to be responsible citizens, productive members of the workplace, and life-long learners in a global environment.

Goal: Improve Timely Degree Completion while Reducing Achievement Gaps: Improve timely degree completion for all and be the nation’s leader in degree completion by groups with disproportionate achievement gaps.

3. Affordability and Efficiency

Goal: Affordability: Offer education of equal or higher quality than currently provided at a cost that is both consistent with the State constitution and attainable to students and families in North Carolina.

Goal: Efficiency: Pursue and utilize increased operational and financial flexibility for the benefit of the educational, research, and public service missions of the University.

4. Economic Impact and Community Engagement

Goal: Critical Workforces: While maintaining excellence in the delivery of a foundational liberal arts education, increase the number of high quality credentials awarded in health sciences, STEM, K-12 education, and other emerging regional workforce needs.

Goal: Research Productivity: Strive for continuous improvement in research and scholarship, collaboration with UNC institutions and outside entities, and effective commercialization of technologies.

Goal: Community Engagement: Increase investment of time and resources in strengthening North Carolina communities.

5. Excellent and Diverse Institutions

Goal: Areas of Distinction: Strengthen the reputation and accomplishments of the University by having each constituent institution identify mission-focused academic “areas of distinction” and achieve significant regional and national recognition within those areas by 2021-2022.

Goal: Human Capital: The University will systematically focus on recruitment, retention, and development of the most talented and diverse workforce possible at all levels.