

NORTH CAROLINA INDEPENDENT COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES

FALL 2022 NEWSLETTER



iBELONG MALE MENTORING PROGRAMSM

NCICU held a meeting of campus coordinators for its *iBelong* program at Queens University of Charlotte on September 29. The grant-funded program is active on 13 campuses. Learn more about the program [here](#).

The Science of Reading

NCICU recently disbursed a total of \$248,000 in subgrants to the 31 Education Prep Programs (EPPs) to support the work of the faculty in implementing the Science of Reading Curriculum that has been adopted by the State. The funds were part of a grant from the Goodnight Educational Foundation. The work will include enhancing, redesigning, and developing effective literacy coursework, practica, and internships based on the Science of Reading.

Each of NCICU's 31 EPPs received \$8,000 in grant funds following an application and review process. Subgrant funds are being used for faculty stipends, external reviewer costs, curricular revision, relevant teaching and learning materials, student evaluation, and other professional development supports.

"Reading is the core concept and foundation for success in all levels of education," said *NCICU President Hope Williams*, "We deeply appreciate the grant from the Goodnight Educational Foundation to support this critical work."

Pending continued funding from the Goodnight Educational Foundation, each of the 31 EPPs will receive an additional \$7,600 in 2023 to complete implementation of their projects.

Grant Funds Research on Impact of COVID-19

Duke University, in collaboration with Lenoir-Rhyne University, and in partnership with North Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, has been selected as one of 20 academic research teams across

Economic Development Council

The NCICU Economic Development Council met on September 20 at High Point University. **Barry Kitley**, *senior vice president for University Operations*, welcomed the group. The Council heard from **Mike Fox**, *president/CEO of the Piedmont Triad Partnership and chair of the North Carolina Board of Transportation*; *Secretary of State Elaine Marshall*; and *Chief Deputy Secretary Jordan Whichard*, of the Department of Commerce. The Council has been established in recognition of the important role that NCICU campuses have in economic development across the state. The next meeting will be held in the spring with the location and date to be confirmed. **Phil Kirk**, *NCICU community relations advisor*, is staff lead for the Council.

NCICU Receives Scholarship Challenge Grant

NCICU has received a \$25,000 grant that will establish scholarships for students who are pursuing teacher education at one of NCICU's 36 colleges or universities. The scholarships have been funded through a Scholarship Challenge Grant from the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) and requires a match of at least \$37,000. NCICU expects to begin distributing the scholarships for the 2023-24 academic year.

the State to receive funding to research the impact of COVID-19 on student learning in North Carolina. The NC Department of Public Instruction and the North Carolina Collaboratory together have provided \$6.73 million in funding opportunities for his initiative.

The research effort, entitled "Teacher Attrition, Health, and Well-Being: Exploring the mismatch between teacher preparation (and teacher expectations) and district realities in the midst of COVID-19," and led by **Drs. Lorrie Schmidt, Kristen Stephens, T. Scott Holcomb, Jessica Sperling, and Jan Rigsbee** at Duke, and **Dr. Hank Weddington** of Lenoir-Rhyne, will focus on how the pandemic has impacted the educator workforce and which strategies are helping districts recruit and retain teachers. **Denise Adams** and **Tom West** of NCICU will assist Duke and Lenoir-Rhyne in collecting data and coordinating responses from NCICU's 31 Educator Preparation Programs.



NCICU held Administrative Group Meetings last month for Chief Academic Officers, Student Affairs Deans, Directors of Academic Advising, HR, CIOs & IT, Directors of Institutional Research, and Non-Traditional/Online Learning staff. It was great to be back in person and we are so grateful to Bennett College for hosting us! Chief Financial Officers met at the Inn at Elon on the Elon University campus on October 27 & 28. Additional administrative groups will meet in December and January.



Participants in Livingstone College's STEM Mentoring Program kick-off in September.

STEM Mentoring Program Launched

NCICU received a three-year grant for a STEM Mentoring Program with funding provided by the NC GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Foundation, Council of Independent Colleges (CIC), Dominion NC Power, Pfizer, and Albemarle Foundation in the amount of \$288,250. The program provides twelve NCICU campuses support for faculty and peer mentoring of STEM students. The primary aim is improving student retention and graduation rates among minority STEM majors, to include low-income, first-generation, female and students of color.

On August 18, 2022, the Faculty-Student STEM Mentoring Program Kick-Off was held virtually with participating institutions Belmont Abbey College Bennett College, Campbell University, Chowan University, Gardner-Webb University, Guilford College, Johnson C. Smith University, Livingstone College, Mars Hill University, Meredith College, Saint Augustine's University, and Shaw University. Selected students are receiving small group mentoring to facilitate access and to foster faculty-student relationships that will enhance student engagement and increase student success in science gateway courses.

For more information about NCICU or any of these stories, contact Sandy Briscar, briscar@ncicu.org, or call 919.832.5817.

NCICU's 12th Annual Ethics Bowl



Excitement is building for NCICU's annual Ethics Bowl which will be held in person for the first time since 2020. The event will take place on Friday and Saturday, February 10 & 11, 2023, in the NC Legislative Complex. Nineteen campuses are sending teams to the competition, which will center around the theme of *Ethics in Contemporary Society*. Judges and Moderators are currently being recruited for the event and sponsors are invited to support the Ethics Bowl to help campuses and students participate without financial burden. Please contact our office if you would like to be a part of this great NCICU tradition!

NCICU Welcomes New Presidents!



Former Board Chair and alumnus, **Bill Christy**, became interim president of Warren Wilson College on May 16.



Religious Scholar and alumnus, **Dr. Douglas Hicks**, became Davidson College's 19th president on August 1.



Senior VP of Institutional Advancement, **Dr. Anthony J. Davis**, became Livingstone College's 13th president on October 1.

New Business Affiliates

BHDP **Paycor** **FORV/S**

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