UNC PEMBROKE

LEADERSHIP PROFILE

Vice Chancellor for Advancement and President of the University Foundation

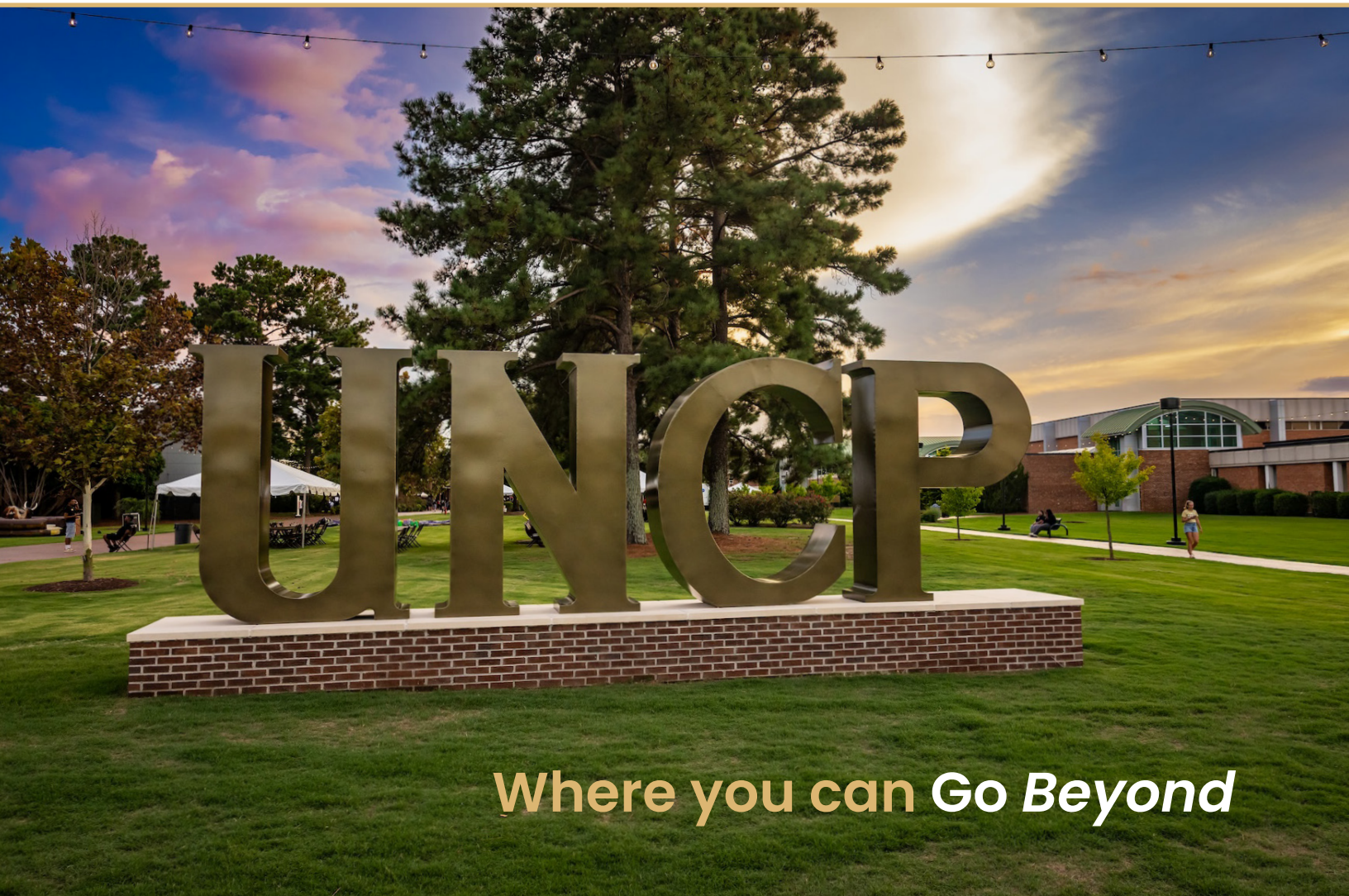
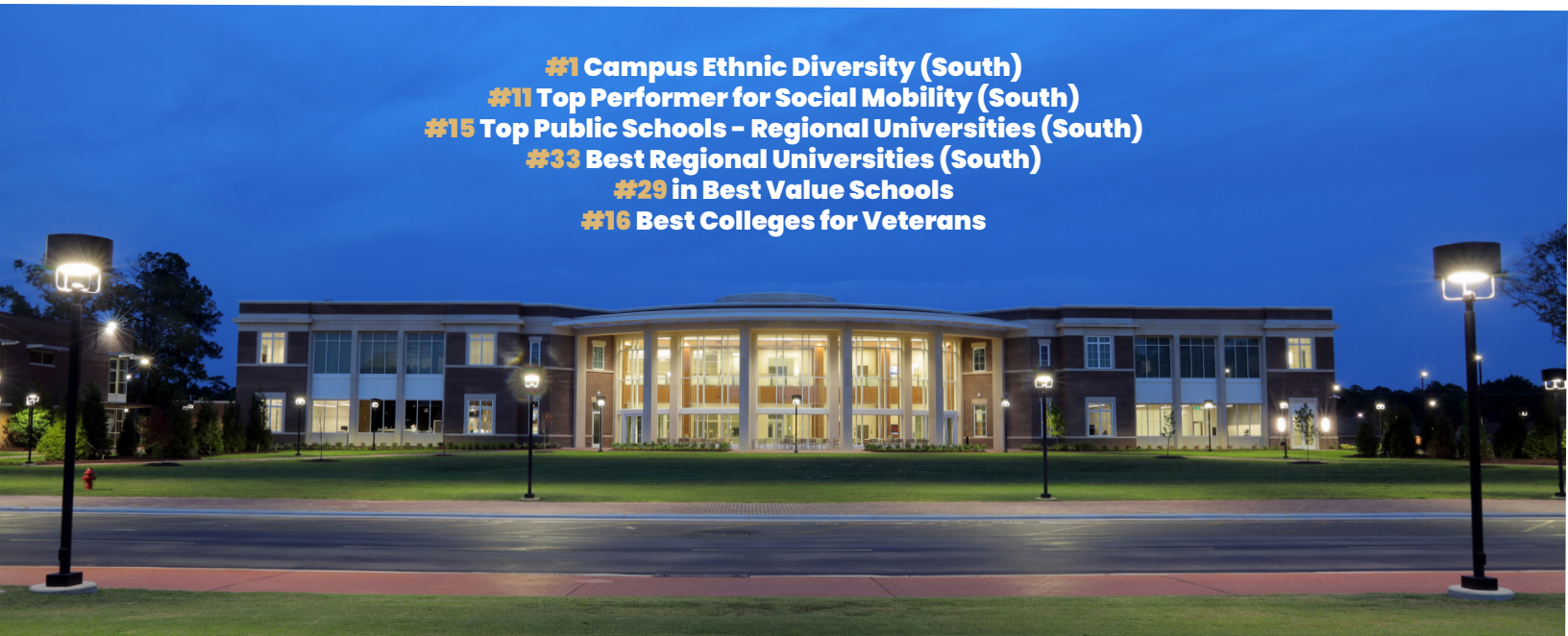


TABLE OF CONTENTS

The University of North Carolina Pembroke invites inquiries, nominations and applications for the position of vice chancellor for Advancement and president of the UNCP Foundation, Inc. The vice chancellor for Advancement is the chief fundraising strategist and will work to elevate the university's reputation and secure resources to achieve the university's strategic goals.

University of North Carolina Pembroke 1
Facts & Stats 2
Vision & Mission 3
Opportunity 4
Academic Excellence 8
Student Life 10
Athletics 12
NC Promise 15
Points of Pride 15
Meet the Chancellor 16
The Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina 17
Community 17



UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA PEMBROKE

UNC Pembroke is recognized as North Carolina's historically American Indian university and by U.S. News & World Report as the most ethnically diverse regional university in the South. UNCP combines academic excellence, personalized learning and a powerful sense of community to transform lives and strengthen the region it serves. The university enrolls more than 8,000 students and continues to experience growth in undergraduate and graduate programs while maintaining a commitment to student-centered education.

Chancellor Robin Gary Cummings, MD, is an experienced leader deeply dedicated to the success of the incoming vice chancellor and university advancement — particularly measured by its fundraising efforts. Dr. Cummings has extensive experience in philanthropy and seeks a partner with strategic insight, energy, genius creativity and total mission-driven commitment to effectively position the university for continued success. With his long history in philanthropy and relationships at the community, state and federal levels, he has built strong bonds and respect with key supporters and prospects.

Centrally located in the middle of the East Coast of the United States, UNCP is in Pembroke, North Carolina in Robeson County. The Town of Pembroke's motto "Town Tribe University" reflects the strong partnership between UNCP, the Lumbee Tribe and the surrounding community. The county is traversed by Interstate 95 and Interstate 74 and borders South Carolina. The Carolina beaches are within 90 minutes of campus. Moore County, home to Pinehurst, the "Home of American Golf," Southern Pines and Aberdeen are less than an hour away. The state capital, Raleigh, is about 90 minutes away, while Charlotte (2 hours), Washington, D.C. (4 hours) and Atlanta (5 hours) are all within driving distance.

UNC Pembroke is consistently recognized for excellence, value and service. Ranked among the top 15 public regional universities in the South and among the top 30 best value schools in the South, we deliver a high-quality, student-centered education at an unmatched value. As part of the NC Promise Tuition Plan, we offer one of the most affordable university experiences in the country without compromising quality. UNC Pembroke has maintained Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement since 2008 and emphasizes service learning as one major component of each student's experiential learning portfolio.

UNC Pembroke is nationally recognized for excellence in undergraduate programs in Business, Computer Science, Nursing and Psychology. As a top-ranked military-friendly university — #1 Small Public School, #2 Military Spouse School and named among the Best for Vets by Military Times — we proudly support those who serve. UNC Pembroke is also ranked #16 Best College for Veterans and #11 in Social Mobility by U.S. News & World Report. With more than 150 undergraduate and graduate pathways to a degree and students from more than 65 countries, UNCP offers a truly global, inclusive experience that empowers students to achieve their goals and shape meaningful futures.

As a constituent institution of the 17-campus University of North Carolina System, UNC Pembroke is known for small classes, close interaction with faculty, community involvement and inclusion. With over 8,000 students and over 30,000 alumni, UNCP is a campus where faculty and staff meet every individual student where they are with the tools needed to succeed. A student-faculty ratio of 14:1 and an average class size of 17 create a context for personalized teaching, learning and research.

FACTS & STATS

COLLEGES & SCHOOLS

College of Arts & Sciences
College of Health Sciences
Esther G. Maynor Honors College
McKenzie-Elliott School of Nursing
School of Education
Thomas College of Business & Economics
University College
William Howard Dean Graduate School

ENROLLMENT BY ETHNICITY

American Indian: **12%**
Asian: **2%**
Black/African American: **29%**
Hispanic/Latino: **10%**
White/Caucasian: **37%**
U.S. Non-Resident: **3%**

8,089
UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE ENROLLMENT

120+
CLUBS & ORGANIZATIONS

150+
UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE PATHWAYS TO A DEGREE

IN-STATE STUDENTS
91%

1,021
STAFF

430
FACULTY

STUDENT FACULTY RATIO
14:1

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE
17

Vision
UNC Pembroke will challenge students to embrace differences and adapt to change, think critically, communicate effectively and become responsible citizens. Working from a strong foundation in the liberal arts, we will increase opportunities to infuse our curriculum with interdisciplinary innovation while promoting undergraduate and graduate research as well as international opportunities.

Mission
Founded in 1887 as a school for the education of American Indians, UNC Pembroke now serves a broad student body. It encourages civil discourse and appreciation for the values of all people. UNC Pembroke promotes excellence in teaching and learning, bachelor's, master's and professional doctoral degrees, in an environment of free inquiry, interdisciplinary collaboration and rigorous intellectual standards.

Our commitment to personalized teaching uniquely prepares our students for rewarding careers, postgraduate education, leadership roles and fulfilling lives. We cultivate an international perspective rooted in our commitment to service and to preparing citizens for global engagement. Students are encouraged to participate in activities that develop their intellectual curiosity and mold them into responsible stewards of the world.

UNC Pembroke faculty and staff are dedicated to active student learning, engaged scholarship, high academic standards, creative activity, experiential learning and public service. We celebrate our heritage as we enhance the region's intellectual, cultural, economic and social life.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Vice Chancellor for Advancement and President of the University Foundation

ABOUT THE ADVANCEMENT DIVISION

The mission of the UNCP Advancement division is to support UNC Pembroke's commitment to helping students go beyond expectations, beyond limits and beyond what they thought possible through the transformative power of education. The division engages alumni, friends, parents/families, students, community leaders, businesses, corporations and foundations to seek their philanthropic support of the university and its priorities. The division builds relationships with each of these constituencies, provides ongoing stewardship of these relationships as well as prudent fiscal management of the contributions placed in its care.

The Advancement division consists of 12 FTE staff (including the vice chancellor) fulfilling all functions of development including major gift solicitation, annual giving, alumni relations, prospect research, stewardship and gift processing.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

The vice chancellor for Advancement will report directly to the chancellor and will serve as a member of the Chancellor's Cabinet.

ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY

The vice chancellor for Advancement leads the university's fundraising efforts with the support of the chancellor's leadership team and both the Foundation and Alumni boards as well as an indirect partnership with an active and growing Board of Visitors. Working in collaboration with faculty, staff and leadership, the vice chancellor creates connections between various constituencies to foster opportunities for successful fundraising.

The vice chancellor for Advancement is responsible for the development, execution and evaluation of all aspects of the university's comprehensive fundraising and engagement program including:

- Annual giving
- Corporate and foundation relations
- Legacy giving
- Donor relations
- Alumni relations
- Research and prospect management
- Advancement services
- Donor cultivation and stewardship

Serving as president of the UNCP Foundation, Inc., the vice chancellor is responsible for all aspects of oversight, coordinating quarterly meetings and ensuring the Alumni Board is an active voice and financial supporter of the work of the university. Likewise, the vice chancellor's office is responsible for the active involvement and function of the Alumni Board.

It is expected the vice chancellor will be an engaged community citizen and leader, dedicated to advancing the university's strategic interests with potential donors and recognizing the philanthropic advantage of the university's unique history and culture. The vice chancellor for Advancement will be a key partner in advancing UNCP's new strategic plan: Vision 2031, through external partnerships and alumni and donor engagement.

UNCP has benefited from tremendous alumni, volunteer and donor support, creating a strong basis for future growth. As enrollment increases, academic programs expand and capital projects move forward, the next vice chancellor will build upon this momentum by strengthening relationships across the region and beyond, deepening engagement among alumni and supporters and inspiring philanthropic investment in a university whose impact continues to grow.

The university's endowment has experienced substantial growth, increasing from $24.5 million in FY20 to $38.8 million in FY25 — a 58.3% increase over five years. This growth reflects a strategic emphasis on endowment fundraising, prudent stewardship and management of endowment assets.

Fundraising performance has demonstrated strong upward momentum, with annual fundraising averaging $5.2 million from FY20 through FY25. As of May 31, 2026, new commitments exceeded $10 million, marking the most successful fundraising year in the university's history.

Advancement has made a significant investment in strengthening its major gift pipeline, with an increased emphasis on prospect development, portfolio management and performance metrics for gift officers. As of May 31, gift officers have secured 22 gifts ranging from $25,000 to $5 million toward an annual fundraising goal of $12 million. In addition, more than $28 million in gift opportunities are currently under consideration by prospective donors, demonstrating the depth and strength of the university's fundraising pipeline.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES

THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ADVANCEMENT WILL:

1. Advance the mission, vision and short- and long-term goals of the university in concert with the chancellor, cabinet and senior leadership.
2. Collaborate closely with the chancellor in all phases of fundraising activities.
3. Serve as a member of the Chancellor's Cabinet and maintain close working relationships with members of the Board of Trustees, the Board of Directors, key supporters, alumni, parent/families and friends.
4. Maintain a dynamic portfolio of high-net-worth individuals and secure major, capital and planned gifts.
5. In partnership with the chancellor, build and lead the infrastructure, organization and culture necessary to support a comprehensive development program. Collaborate with deans, academic and administrative leaders, faculty, coaches and other stakeholders to advance fundraising and external relations priorities and strengthen the university's culture of philanthropy.
6. Participate in the implementation of the UNCP strategic plan, Vision 2031 and work to strengthen the financial resources of the university.
7. Create and execute fundraising plans using best practices in annual, major and planned gift programs to meet fundraising goals.
8. Ensure best practices in all phases of donor qualification, cultivation, solicitation and stewardship.
9. Hire, train, inspire and guide the advancement team toward accountable, goal-oriented outcomes.
10. Develop and implement annual and long-term fundraising plans that include strategies to dramatically increase giving in all sectors and with all vehicles (annual fund, grants, corporate/foundation relations, major, planned and principal giving and capital campaign).
11. Provide expertise, leadership and executive support to the UNCP Foundation Board and Alumni Board of Directors while also serving as the staff liaison for university advancement to the Board of Trustees and Board of Visitors.
12. Manage Advancement division special events.
13. Provide leadership and innovation in the areas of alumni, parent/family and other key constituent relations.
14. Develop and implement a comprehensive alumni engagement strategy that fosters lifelong relationships, increases participation and philanthropic support and aligns alumni involvement with the university's strategic plan and advancement goals.
15. Devise and implement effective messaging and methods of advancement communication.
16. Serve as an exemplary university advocate and partner with local government, business and corporate partners and build deep relationships that link the community with the university.

UNC Pembroke is an Equal Opportunity Employer. The university prohibits discrimination against qualified individuals based on their status as protected veterans or individuals with disabilities and prohibits discrimination against all individuals based on their age, race, color, genetic information, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or national origin. Moreover, the university takes affirmative action to employ and advance in employment individuals without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, protected veteran status or disability.

QUALIFICATIONS

1. The successful candidate will be an experienced and successful servant leader and fundraiser with at least seven years of progressively responsible, hands-on, demonstrated success and leadership experience in a development program of similar or greater complexity and scope to UNCP.
2. A proven record of fundraising success, including campaign planning and execution along with demonstrated accomplishments in advancement.
3. Strong organizational, supervisory and leadership capabilities.
4. A demonstrated record of soliciting and closing numerous major and principal gifts.
5. A history of building advancement programs and tracking fundraising performance.
6. Exemplary interpersonal skills and the ability to favorably affect volunteers and donors from varying backgrounds.
7. An ability to lead both on and off campus.
8. A collaborative approach to leadership and an understanding of the integrated nature of development with public relations and marketing.
9. Resonance with the mission, history, culture and surrounding communities of UNCP.
10. Experience working directly with a board of trustees, foundation board or similar governance body and with principal gift prospects.
11. Superior strategic ability at the prospect, departmental and institutional level.
12. Capacity to leverage technology to support a robust, contemporary, yet personal approach to outreach and communication.

A bachelor's degree is required, and a master's degree is preferred. Candidates from a non-prototypical advancement career will be considered.

SALARY RANGE: $190,000 to $220,000

APPLICATIONS, NOMINATIONS AND EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST AGB Search is pleased to assist UNCP with this leadership search. To apply for the vice chancellor for Advancement position, candidates are requested to submit the following:

- résumé;
- a letter of interest that addresses how the candidate's experiences and qualifications connect with the required/preferred characteristics and priorities as expressed in this position profile; and
- contact information for five references (to be contacted with candidate's permission at a later date).

Applications should be submitted to the AGB Search portal: bit.ly/4unZo8r. The search will remain open until an appointment is made.

Nominations and expressions of interest in the vice chancellor for Advancement position are encouraged. Please direct them to UNCPadvancementVC@agbsearch.com or to the AGB Search consultants listed below:

Kimberly Templeton, JD
Principal
540.761.9494
kimberly.templeton@agbsearch.com

Andrew Bowen, MA
Executive Search Consultant
802.345.1279
andrew.bowen@agbsearch.com

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

In keeping with its founding heritage, UNCP embodies a sense of spirit and opportunity. For this reason, UNCP continues to attract and nurture first-generation, low-income, rural and nontraditional college students. The university has more than 150 pathways to undergraduate and graduate degrees offered by the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Health Sciences, McKenzie-Elliott School of Nursing, Thomas College of Business and Economics, School of Education and the William Howard Dean Graduate School.

UNCP has strong relationships with regional community colleges, offering a unique BraveNation Advantage co-admission program providing increased access to quality education throughout the region. UNCP has 41 articulation agreements with the community colleges in its region, and the UNC System has an umbrella agreement with all 58 community colleges in North Carolina.

Innovative Pathways

UNC Pembroke has established a variety of academic partnerships that expand educational and professional opportunities for students. Through a dual-degree partnership with NC State University's College of Engineering, students can earn bachelor's degrees in applied physics or geo-environmental science from UNCP while also completing degrees in electrical, mechanical, civil or environmental engineering from NC State. Students pursuing careers in medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and other health professions benefit from a growing network of early assurance and articulation agreements, including the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, the UNC Adams School of Dentistry, the UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy and Methodist University's Physician Assistant Program. The partnership with the UNC Adams School of Dentistry provides high-achieving students with an early assurance pathway to one of the nation's top-ranked dental schools. Additional agreements support students interested in physical therapy, public health and veterinary medicine through partnerships with East Carolina University, NC State University's College of Veterinary Medicine and Tuskegee University.

Growing Health Professionals

A 2017 legislatively directed study led to the launch of a new College of Health Sciences in fall 2018 that combines existing health-related academic departments and looks to add multiple graduate, undergraduate and doctoral programs in the coming years. Among its most notable recent additions are the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP), the Master of Science in Occupational Therapy (MSOT), the Master of Healthcare Administration and plans for the state's first public College of Optometric Medicine, which will expand UNCP's role in training the next generation of health professionals. UNCP recently broke ground on a $99.8 million Clinical Sciences building, further demonstrating the university's dedication to healthcare initiatives.

Accreditation

UNCP is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award baccalaureate, master's and professional doctoral degrees. Individual programs also hold prestigious accreditations including: the McKenzie-Elliott School of Nursing, the Social Work program, the School of Education, the Clinical Mental Health program, the Professional School Counseling program, the Department of Art and the Department of Music. UNCP's Thomas College of Business and Economics is accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB), a distinction held by only 6% of business schools.

The University of North Carolina
at Pembroke

STUDENT LIFE

With nearly 4,000 students living on or near campus, UNCP offers a robust student experience. More than 120 clubs and organizations, including 20 Greek organizations, keep students connected to campus and engaged in the community.

Each year more than 1,750 students participate in club and intramural sports. Campus Recreation also offers outdoor, fitness and summer recreational programs. In addition to programming efforts, the office manages the Campbell Wellness Center, Aquatics Center, Auxiliary Gym, racquetball, tennis and pickleball courts and disc golf course. Together, these facilities serve over 90,000 individuals annually.

The Spirit of the Carolinas Marching Band, music groups of all varieties and other arts programs are flourishing centers of student involvement. Ensembles include jazz, choral, concert, brass, wind and several percussion groups. The renovated Moore Hall Auditorium, which seats 204, is home to well over 100 musical events each year. The 1,600-seat Givens Performing Arts Center, with its outstanding Professional Artist Series, uses student talent in the presentation and production of events. The university's theatre and the musical theatre programs stage two events per year in GPAC. The Art Department Gallery hosts international artists as well as student and faculty art exhibitions annually.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In the 2024-2025 academic year:

3,233 students volunteered

17,830 service and volunteer hours

107,131 pounds of food collected for the on-campus food pantry

UNCP

ATHLETICS

UNCP excels in intercollegiate athletics and is a member of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division II, Conference Carolinas and the Mountain East Conference.

MEN'S ATHLETICS	WOMEN'S ATHLETICS
Basketball	Basketball
Baseball	Cross Country
Cross Country	Golf
Football	Soccer
Track & Field	Softball
Wrestling	Swimming
	Track & Field
	Volleyball

Conference championships, national rankings and NCAA tournament bids are frequent. Two UNCP wrestlers won national championships in recent years. In 2007, UNCP added college football to the mix of athletic opportunities, and the record of this young program has been remarkable. From the team's inaugural season, the groundswell of support has exceeded expectations. In 2009, with just three years of competition, UNCP became the fastest intercollegiate start-up football program to earn an NCAA tournament berth. In 2009, 2012 and 2017, UNCP boasted nationally ranked football teams and invitations to the NCAA tournament. In 2016, the UNCP football team (celebrating the 10th year of the program) pulled in its first playoff win, falling during the second round to the top-seeded and third-ranked national team.

The athletics department has enjoyed exceptional success over the last five full seasons. UNCP teams won 17 conference regular season and/or tournament championships during that time, while 20 more teams posted runner-up finishes to their seasons. Four teams won conference championships during the pandemic-shortened 2019-20 season. Black & Gold teams have made 37 playoff appearances since 2017, including a record 10 NCAA tournament berths in 2022-23.

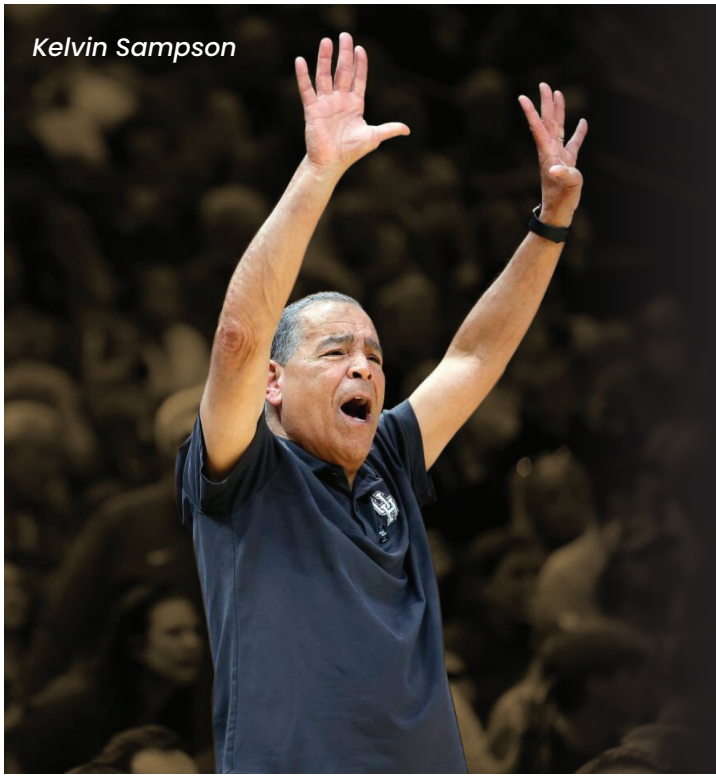
Women's teams have played a major role in UNCP's recent athletics success, winning 16 conference championships since the close of the 2016-17 season. Six women's teams went to the NCAA playoffs in 2022-23, a school record and 15 women's programs have earned playoff spots since 2017.

In March 2025, the men's basketball team captured the Conference Carolinas championship and earned its 11th NCAA Division II tournament appearance and its first visit to the Sweet 16. UNCP has also claimed the prestigious Joby Hawn Cup — awarded to the top overall athletics program in Conference Carolinas — for four consecutive years, highlighting the university's consistent excellence across all sports. The wrestling program continues to earn national recognition, with multiple returning national qualifiers and a top-25 preseason national ranking in 2024.

BRAVES
FOOTBALL

583

UNC
32



Kelvin Sampson

NOTABLE ALUMNI:

Kelvin Sampson
University of Houston Men's Basketball Coach

Trey Allen
North Carolina Supreme Court Justice

Michael Holmes
U.S. Navy Admiral, retired

Allen Jamerson
U.S. Air Force Brigadier General, retired

Pardon Ndlohvu
Olympian, men's marathon Rio 2016

Sallie McRorie, PhD
Former Provost, Florida State University

GROWING INTO THE FUTURE

Adopted by the NC General Assembly during the 2016 session, NC Promise offers a tuition buy-down for undergraduate students at four UNC System campuses — UNC Pembroke, Elizabeth City State, Western Carolina and Fayetteville State. The state will reimburse NC Promise campuses to effectively buy down tuition to $500 per semester for in-state students and $3,500 per semester for out-of-state students. The program makes college significantly more accessible and affordable for prospective students.

Thanks to the NC Promise plan, one in two UNCP undergraduates complete their degrees debt-free. This allows students to benefit from innovative academic programming, an exceptional campus experience and high-quality instruction, without the stress of student-loan debt.

Global Reach
UNCP Global Engagement is leading the university's efforts to strengthen and expand its international programs, establishing agreements with universities around the world. New partnerships are being developed in Ghana, Nigeria, Mexico and Southeast Asia including Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Turkey. The university currently partners with China University of Geosciences (Beijing), China Harbin Normal University, North China Institute of Science and Technology, China Anyang University, South Korea Dankook University, South Korea University of Seoul, South Korea Suan Sunandha Rajabhat University, Thailand and Nguyen Tat Thanh University, Vietnam. In addition, UNCP participates in the Sino-American Cooperation on Higher Education and Professional Development (CHEPD) undergraduate and graduate transfer programs.

POINTS OF PRIDE

As an anchor economic institution for southeastern North Carolina, UNCP considers its primary service area to be Robeson, Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Cumberland, Hoke, Moore, Scotland and Richmond counties.

Commitment to Student Success
Student success is at the heart of UNCP's mission. The goals and objectives advance that mission by offering a safe place to learn and grow. Student resources — both personal and academic — are offered at every stage in their journey while a robust campus life provides opportunities for involvement and leadership. From advising to academic support, students are surrounded by faculty and staff who know them by name and make student success their mission.

Commitment to Teaching
The student-faculty ratio is 14:1 with an average class size of 17 students. Students get individualized attention from highly skilled faculty, unique research opportunities and 360-degree support from a network of advisors, coaches, health care practitioners and student service professionals. All UNCP courses are taught by qualified faculty members rather than teaching or graduate assistants. The mentorship and experiential learning opportunities make for a rich, engaging academic experience preparing graduates to excel in their chosen fields.

Commitment to Service
UNCP is the linchpin of economic growth for rural Robeson County. Partnerships with K-12 schools, local government, health care organizations and regional businesses promote the discovery of new opportunities for socioeconomic development. UNCP students are committed to giving back to their community through co-curricular, extracurricular and service-learning with a 50% increase in students enrolled in service-learning courses in the 2024-25 academic year.

UNCP CHANCELLOR
ROBIN GARY CUMMINGS, MD

Dr. Cummings took office as the sixth Chancellor of UNC Pembroke in July 2015 after being elected by the Board of Governors of the 17-campus University of North Carolina System.

Under his leadership, UNCP has increased access to high-quality education through the NC Promise Tuition Plan, expanded academic opportunities through institutional partnerships, enhanced the university's role in regional economic development and set records for philanthropic giving. Through Chancellor Cummings' leadership, UNCP is building on its mission of transforming opportunity into achievement and preparing students to go beyond their expectations and make a lasting impact.

Chancellor Cummings earned his undergraduate degree in zoology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, where he was a James M. Johnston Scholar and founding member of the Carolina Indian Circle. He then attended Duke University Medical School as a UNC Board of Governors Medical Scholar and Henry J. Kaiser Merit Scholar, earning the Sandoz Award for Basic Science Research and the National Library of Science Award. After receiving his medical degree in 1983, he interned in surgery and completed general and cardiac surgery residencies at Duke University Medical Center. During this period, he earned a National Research Service Award, enabling him to complete a two-year research fellowship in cardiothoracic surgery.

Chancellor Cummings practiced cardiothoracic surgery at the Pinehurst Surgical Clinic and Moore Regional Hospital, where he chaired the Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery and Section of Cardiovascular and General Surgery. After retiring from surgery, he remained active in the hospital, serving on the Moore Regional Hospital Board of Trustees and chairing the FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital Foundation. He subsequently served as medical and executive director of Community Care of the Sandhills. This regional healthcare organization managed 75,000 Medicaid patients across seven counties and coordinated services provided by more than 100 primary-care practices.

In March 2013, Chancellor Cummings joined the NC Department of Health and Human Services as Director of the NC Office of Rural Health and Community Care. Six months later, he was named Deputy Secretary for Health Services and Acting State Health Director. In February 2014, he was given additional responsibility for the Division of Medical Assistance, overseeing Medicaid delivery for more than 1.8 million low-income parents, children, seniors and people with disabilities who cannot afford health care.

Active in professional and civic activities, Chancellor Cummings is a former chairman of the UNC Pembroke Board of Trustees, has chaired the UNC Pembroke Foundation board and has served on the UNC-Chapel Hill Board of Visitors. The founding chair of the NC American Indian Health Board, he has also chaired the Commission on NC Indian Health and served on the NC Council on Developmental Disabilities and the NC Rural Center board. He serves on the UNC Health Southeastern Board of Trustees and the BlueCross BlueShield of North Carolina Foundation Board. His honors include the 2016 John L. Sanders Student Advocate Award from the UNC Association of Student Governments, the 2014 Presidential Award from the NC Academy of Family Physicians, the Visionary Award from NC Prevent Blindness and the 2019 Jim Bernstein Community Health Career Achievement Award.

BUMPIT!

The University of North Carolina
at Pembroke

Braves
FOOTBALL
Braves
FOOTBALL

B
4.A

UNC
PEMBROKE
TRISTEN LOCKLEAR

THE LUMBEE TRIBE OF NORTH CAROLINA

The approximately 55,000 members of the Lumbee Tribe reside primarily in Robeson, Hoke, Cumberland and Scotland counties in southeastern North Carolina.

The Lumbee Tribe is the largest tribe in North Carolina, the largest tribe east of the Mississippi River and among the largest tribes in the United States. The Lumbee take their name from the Lumbee River, which winds through Robeson County. Pembroke serves as the cultural, economic and political center of the tribe.

The Lumbee people have been recognized by the state of North Carolina since 1885. In 1887, the state established the Croatan Normal Indian School, which later evolved into the University of North Carolina Pembroke.

In 1956, Congress formally recognized the Lumbee people as American Indians through the Lumbee Act. In 2025, the Lumbee Tribe achieved full federal recognition, becoming the 575th federally recognized tribe in the United States. Today, the longstanding relationship between the Lumbee Tribe and UNC Pembroke remains a defining part of the university's history, identity and mission.

COMMUNITY

Pembroke, North Carolina
Population: 3,000 (Approx.)

The UNCP campus is located in the Town of Pembroke, which is in the coastal plains of southeastern North Carolina. The service, healthcare, education and government sectors are major sources of employment in the region along with agriculture, agribusiness, construction and light manufacturing.

Pembroke is convenient to most metro areas in North Carolina and nearby states, coastal beaches and the famous golf courses of Pinehurst. Located 12 miles away, Lumberton, the county seat, is a city of approximately 19,000 and is a hub of shopping, banking, healthcare and government operations. Lumberton is located at the crossroads of I-95 and I-74.

Most of UNCP's faculty and staff reside within 45 minutes of the campus University alumni include about 32,000 graduates living in various parts of the country with concentrations primarily in the Southeast. Geographically, approximately 90% live and work in North Carolina and approximately 30% are residents of Robeson County, the home of UNC Pembroke.

Alma Mater: *Hail to UNCP!*

Lyrics and music by Reba and Ira Pate Lowry, 1954

Where Carolina's lofty pine trees
Pierce the southern blue,
Proudly stands our Alma Mater
Courageous, strong and true;
Black and gold float on forever
Symbol of loyalty,
Pembroke, our Alma Mater,
Hail to UNCP!

910.521.6000 • uncp.edu
1 University Drive
Pembroke, NC 28372