MEASURING OUR IMPACT

Annual Report 2019–20
Introduction

As Student Affairs professionals, it is our Division’s responsibility not only to engage, empower, and enrich our students, but to also remove obstacles on their path to graduation and help prepare them to succeed. Our commitment to seeing students through to the finish line is reflected in our university’s culture of care. When faced with one of the most challenging and unique academic years in our history, it is that care that helped us to achieve new goals and accolades in the fall, and to persevere through the spring in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Our students bring a wide spectrum of backgrounds and experiences with them. 53% are racial minorities. Over half are Pell grant eligible. Nearly a third of Spartans are the first in their family to attend a university. This year, not only were we recognized as a NASPA First-Gen Forward institution, we were ranked #1 in North Carolina for social mobility. No matter what backgrounds and experiences a student brings with them when they arrive at UNCG, we want to help them find their way – and their place – here. Our Division provides these opportunities for students to grow and develop through community service, student groups, leadership training, discourse and dialogue, career preparation, and more. Our programming is as diverse as our campus.

This spring we faced the difficulty of moving most of our students out of residence halls and shifting to remote learning in response to Covid-19. Our staff quickly transitioned programs and services to a virtual environment to help students successfully complete their semester. Our commitment to care shined as we made ways to keep our most vulnerable Spartans on campus, our staff made regular calls to students in quarantine and isolation so they knew they were cared for, we were able to financially support students in need through our SAFE fund, and our Spartan Open Pantry distributed over twice the amount of food that it provided last year.

In our annual report, you’ll read not only about our goals and strategic plan as a Division, but you’ll read about student experiences in their own words and see why we say that UNCG cares. Thank you for your continued support.

Cathy Akens, Ed.D.
Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

CONTENTS
Strategic Plan Highlights 4
Departmental Highlights 8
Campus Activities & Programs 10
Career & Professional Development 12
Dean of Students 14
Elliott University Center 16
Housing & Residence Life 18
Military-Affiliated Services 20
Office of Accessibility Resources & Services 22
Intercultural Engagement 24
Leadership & Civic Engagement 26
Recreation & Wellness 28
Student Health Services 30
Donors 32
Student Learning & Student Success

The Division of Student Affairs is committed to student success and helping students document their experience at UNC Greensboro. SpartanConnect serves as the platform that documents the co-curricular engagement of students on campus. It documents their club membership, event attendance, and involvement with co-curricular experiences provided by offices. To engage students earlier in their co-curricular learning, Student Affairs partnered with the Division of Student Success to incentivize engagement through First Year Experience (FYE) courses. Through this work, 458 students completed 40% of their Co-Curricular Transcript in their first semester.

Spartan Ready: A Student Employee Professional Development Program is specifically designed to document learning through student employment in the Division. A committee developed specific outcomes for student learning and success that documented the skills gained through student employment, and forty students completed the pilot program this year.

Career & Professional Development also engaged 241 alumni in the UNCG Making Connections program designed to connect alumni to current students for mentoring relationships.

Career mentoring was also made available to those wanting to explore service and civic engagement. Through the Civic Career series, 40 students participated in the program with the following engagement statistics:
- 73% completion of Skill Survey
- 78% interview workshop participation
- 60% of students completing VMock score of 65+

The Division believes supporting graduate students is essential for the future of the Student Affairs profession. Based off of feedback from the Masters in Student Affairs Administration in Higher Education (SAAHE) program, graduate students, and supervisors, a series of events was created to support not only graduate students, but also departmental staff. This included a graduate assistant supervisor training, focused trainings on feedback for both graduate assistants and supervisors, inclusive supervision, self-care, salary negotiations, and one-on-one time with the Vice Chancellor. The program served 26 staff and 97 students in 2019–2020.

Student Engagement

Engagement is one of the core goals of the Division, so our work often focuses on connecting students with co-curricular initiatives. This strategic plan goal relates to both deepening the experience and expanding the types of students who participate in programs hosted by the Division. One priority of this goal is to engage students earlier in their academic experience. The BASE Camp program was designed to reach out to students prior to enrollment, help them develop relationships with faculty and staff and one another, understand how to get engaged on campus, and foster leadership development. In the pilot year of 2019, the program registered 100 students, with 98 completing the program. The fall to spring data analysis showed a higher retention than institutional average and slightly higher overall GPA.

Supporting students in their leadership development and civic identity is another area of focus. The Leadership Challenge program through the Office of Leadership & Civic Engagement is an institutional-wide commitment to offer all UNCG students leadership education, training, and development through curricular and co-curricular experiences. To expand the program’s reach, an online program was developed for the Bronze Level and was piloted with graduate students and distance education students. A leadership summit was also implemented for student leaders on campus, and 100 students participated in its inaugural year. The Civic Engagement Academy was developed to help students grow as responsible citizens. 14 students completed this pilot program. Additionally, there was a 3% increase
in the number of students who participated in OLCE’s community day of service events.

Housing & Residence Life has expanded their presence in the Glenwood neighborhood, located along the southern border of UNCG’s campus. We have worked closely with Glenwood residents to foster a relationship, and the partnership provides additional opportunities for students to serve in the Greensboro community. This year, there were 103 volunteers and 663 participants in co-sponsored events.

Another effort meant to increase student engagement was fostering more involvement with SGA in developing recommendations and policy for campus initiatives. One point of pride was that the 97th Session of the Student Government Association passed 25 pieces of legislation on topics related to accessibility of SGA meetings, policies and requirements within the SGA organization, student needs assessments, and other initiatives.

Campus Climate and Inclusion
2019–2020 marked the continuation of the iBelong Campus Climate project. The team conducted focus groups and gave data presentations regarding key findings. The project included eight presentations to various campus stakeholders. The Spring 2020 administration of the graduate student survey was delayed due to COVID-19, but it is planned to be administered in the 2020–2021 academic year. One specific area of focus was educating faculty about the needs of students based on the results of the survey. The committee was expanded to include representation from the Division of Student Success and University Teaching & Learning Commons. Several sessions were held with Student Affairs to develop a three-year plan based on data.

In order to better serve students on campus based on their ability status, the Division also conducted a review with department directors of Universal Design concepts and continue the adjustments to programming and services to be more inclusive to students.

Health and Wellness
In 2019–2020, the UNCG Cares campaign was expanded from primarily a Dean of Students program to include all of the comprehensive support provided to students by the University. A new logo was created, the website updated, and materials were developed for seven events that were tied to the Culture of Care.

To further help educate our students about alcohol and sexual violence on campus, the online training incoming students must complete was updated. The new program itMatters was piloted and 5331 students completed it (3545 undergraduate and 1786 graduates). As part of this program, a social norming campaign was conducted (#SpartansAsk) through bus ads, marketing screens, and posters. There were also five workshops held related to bystander training in which 115 students participated; of those there was representation from 10 different student groups. Additionally, 124 students who were cited with an alcohol or substance use were served through the BASICS and CASICS intervention training program in 2019–2020.

Organizational Sustainability and Infrastructure
This year, multiple initiatives were undertaken to strengthen our Division. The First G at the G program was piloted in 2019–2020 with 173 students. First G at the G highlights the significant number of first-generation students at UNCG and helps them connect with each other, faculty/staff, and supporting departments. The team also worked on the proposal that resulted in the University receiving the NASPA First-Gen Forward Institution designation.

Professional Development and continuous improvement are both key initiatives for the Division. As part of that commitment, Student Affairs provided six trainings for staff to develop their skills in assessment, hosted webinars, and provided materials for staff to grow. The Hot Topics conference was held in March, right before COVID-19 impacted on-campus activities, with 180 attendees:

• 91% reported the conference was relevant and engaging.
• 91.2% were satisfied with the experience.

The panel this year focused on civic engagement with specific focus on how universities can support students in an election year.
Campus Activities and Programs

The Campus Activities and Programming office saw significant changes in 2019–2020:

- The programming model was updated, with more responsibility for planning programs placed back on ACE, the student leader planning organization.
- For Fall 2019, there was a 10% increase in event participation.
- Homecoming specifically saw a noticeable 18% increase in participation.
- Spartan Family Weekend attendance increased by 29.3% from the fall of 2019 compared to the fall of 2018. It saw the highest number of attendees – just under 700 – since the program moved to the Division of Student Affairs.
- CAP’s Instagram following increased by 36.5%, and Twitter followers increased by 2.5% from May 2019 to May 2020.

In Fraternity and Sorority Life, there was an intentional effort to provide more support to chapters. This was achieved primarily through a partnership with the Counseling Center for a mental health opening workshop for Fraternal Leadership Institute. Mental health was a topic specifically identified by FSL presidents as a need for their members, and the Counseling Center presenters were both sorority women who could speak to the FSL experience within their presentation. Further, Fraternity and Sorority Life staff members took a delegation of students from the Multicultural Greek Council and National Pan-Hellenic Council to the Harbor Institute’s "Road Trip" conference in Washington DC, geared specifically at culturally based fraternal organizations.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

Lauren Barnette
Communication studies major, minor in retail and consumer studies, May 2020

“The Campus Activities and Programs office has made a significant impact on my time at UNCG. Starting with working on the ACE Executive team and transitioning into the CAP office as their Marketing Assistant has been a crucial part to my involvement on campus. Through working here, I have not only grown my professional network and skills, but I have also grown immensely as a person. Before getting involved on campus, I was beginning to feel like I didn’t have much of a place to belong, and was struggling to ‘Find My Way Here’ but once I got involved, the many ways in which I belong here came to light. I couldn’t imagine getting my education in any other place!

“I think my involvement on campus has helped me better prepare for my life after graduation by giving me office experience, planning experience as well as first-hand social media management experience; which is the most similar to my current post-graduation career plans. Knowing that I have given my all to my job in the CAP office has not only helped my time here, but I also know that I have a plethora of recommendation letters for the future, as well as the advantage of knowing so many different students from different departments, growing my network to possibly find out about jobs I might not have access to on my own.”
Career and Professional Development

With the rollout of VMock and expansion of Handshake, it was a busy year for Career and Professional Development (CPD). Overall student engagement increased by 6,000 students to 15,000 this academic year, which also includes an increase of 2,351 unique students. In addition to individual career coaching and classroom career readiness sessions, the growth was largely driven by the success of hallmark events including the Part-Time Job Fair, Spring Career Fair, Handshake Launch Party, and the Etiquette Dinner. Each of these events exceeded target participation goals. Online engagement also contributed to student career readiness with nearly 3,000 students utilizing VMock during the first year of the platform. Feedback has been positive from students and employers.

Another area of focus for Career and Professional Development is better understanding the employment outcomes for students after they graduate. We have a knowledge rate of 77.5% for undergraduates and 83.5% for graduate students, which is well above the 65% set for NACE. The top 10 employers who made the most full-time hires were:

- UNC Greensboro
- Guilford County Schools
- Wake Forest Baptist Health
- Cone Health/Cone Alamance
- Novant Health
- Duke University Hospital/Duke Regional
- UNC Health Care
- Volvo Group
- Wake County Public School System
- BB&T

To assist students with their internship and job search, CPD hosts several career fairs throughout the year. Of note, 1,120 students registered for the Spring Career Fair, and 960 attended — a 38% increase over the prior year and the highest attendance ever achieved:

- 104 employers across diverse industries engaged with students.
- 188 students took advantage of getting professional head shots at the fair.
- 93% of student attendees surveyed indicated they were “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” with the career fair.
- 96% of employer attendees surveyed indicated they were “very satisfied” or “somewhat satisfied” with the career fair.

**STUDENT HIGHLIGHT**

Deymaris Zambrano-Soler
Communication Studies & Sociology major, May 2021

“The Career & Professional Development (CPD) office has provided services that have helped me excel in my professional endeavors. I utilized Peer Career Ambassadors to help me polish my resume, and was taught by a Career Coach what was a cover letter and how to properly write one.”

“As a Spartan I have gotten to enjoy many resources from many offices within the Division of Student Affairs. Offices like CAP, OLCE, OIE, and RecWell have helped me feel heard and an active member of the UNCG community. From events on campus for me and my friends to enjoy (most hosted in the EUC), to seminars that enlighten students on what our worlds looks like, these offices help establish the connection that bonds the student with the campus community.”

15,104 students participated in services through CPD
2,796+ students worked on campus this academic year
3,647 unique employer organizations
The Dean of Students Office is regarded as the one-stop-shop for students experiencing hardship or distress. One of the primary ways this works is through the department’s Crisis Management process. The 2019–2020 academic year resulted in 63 less cases than the previous year. However, in comparison to four years ago, there has been a 78% increase in crisis management cases. This year, Dean of Students staff provided more touchpoints with students during the process, which resulted in a higher percentage of successful completions – 22% more than last year.

Two data points for success were:

• 80% of respondents report being able to make an informed decision about their academic journey as a result of the crisis management process.

• 93% of respondents reported that the crisis management agreement provided adequate actions to increase their likelihood of success at UNCG.

Additional metrics showing the success this year has had include:

• A 4% increase in students continuing studies into the next semester, 2% increase in following through with crisis management agreement, and 1% decrease in administrative withdrawal.

In all, 5,642 students were served by the office.

Another point of pride was that support for students and collaboration with faculty partners continued this year with higher numbers. Dean of Students staff worked with Students First staff to improve the Starfish flag process. Flags are now reported in CARES team meetings, helping to bridge the gap between student behavior, outreach, and academic progress.

Starfish alerts routed to the Dean of Students office increased 91% from last year. This resulted in more closing the loop conversations with faculty and more outreach to students.

An emphasis was placed on the Student Assistance Fund for Emergencies (SAFE Fund) this year to grow another avenue to help students in need. The SAFE fund has over $200,000 to give to students who are in dire need and facing an emergency. Given the current pandemic, the Dean of Students office has received many requests for funds.

**STUDENT HIGHLIGHT**

Angelique Townsend
Psychology major, Sociology minor, December 2019

“Of the Student Affairs departments, the Dean of Students helped me the most, both when I was hospitalized for a few days and helped me withdraw when I could not catch up. I struggled to get back to the university and the day I [was] accepted again, they reached out to make sure that I’m ok and safe and if I need additional resources. They empowered me to keep going forward.”

“I think being active on campus has taught me that my voice and my experience can help others. That I can advocate for myself as well as be an inspiration to others. That I can share my knowledge while knowing that it could help someone dealing with similar situations.”

$98,000 dispersed to students requesting assistance through the SAFE Fund (as of August 2020)
Elliott University Center

Engaging the campus community in the reservation process is an important role the EUC staff facilitates, both in terms of EUC facilities as well as reservations across campus.

- 85% of those surveyed were satisfied with the ease of making reservations.
- 92% felt EUC staff were courteous.
- 82% reported the room was set up to meet needs.
- 88% reported their visit to the EUC was very good/excellent.

Service remains a priority for the EUC staff. The campus blood drives have been sponsored by the EUC for 10 years. In the 2019–2020 academic year:

- 501 pints were collected through three blood drives, bringing the 10-year total to 9,267.
- In the three drives we held this academic year: 146 students representing 18 student groups contributed 238.5 hours of service to help with the flow and operation of the blood drives.
- Also, 45 students and two professional staff members spent several hours at the Out of the Garden project warehouse performing a multitude of tasks to support this community organization.

Providing student employees with a rich experience is a priority for the department. Instead of tracking individual employee attendance at cultural events, we decided to produce a cultural event to show case the diversity of the student employee staff in the EUC. Student staff were on the planning committee and participated as part of the tabling fair and entertainment for the event. A majority of our student employees were able to participate in this event on the event planning team, as participants in the event, or as attendees.

The other area of professional development was the Spartan Ready program. Six students, two from each of our work areas, participated in the pilot program. These students met with their supervisors to discuss their work and professional goals and how the core competencies which were a part of this program could help them achieve these goals. The students participated in VMock and completed the required surveys as part of this program.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

Reem Al Raiisi
International Business major, December 2019

“The Elliott University Center made a hugely significant impact on my time at UNCG. Working as an Information Desk associate changed me a lot and has impacted me in a better way. I made a lot of good connections by working there, meeting new people from different departments and fields. It helped strengthened my confidence over time.”

“I’ll never forget being a part of the EUC Culture Fest event by planning the event from scratch and also performing one of my poems at the Islam Around the World event that was organized by the MSA club. These were unforgettable experiences that helped me step out of my comfort zone and move a step closer towards my goals.”

10,455 reservations were managed by the Reservations staff.

6,693 clubs, organizations, and departments booked rooms in the EUC.
Housing & Residence Life began the academic year at capacity with 5,726 students in the residence halls.

One of the major programs to help new students connect to campus is the House Calls program, where staff and faculty from all over campus visit the residence halls to greet students in their rooms, ask how their semester has started, and make sure they are settling in. There were 1,909 new students in residence halls and 1,316 were contacted through this event by staff and faculty volunteers.

Housing & Residence Life is also committed to diversity and inclusion. In 2019–2020, HRL created a new program initiative to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, Papel Picado, and revamped the Breaking Barriers series. Additionally, new marketing was created for Hispanic Heritage Month, Black History Month, Breaking Barriers, and World Day of Social Justice. The office further implemented a training program called Flight Program Experience which facilitated new staff to reflect on their various identities, how they intersected with one another, how they impacted the Coordinator for Residence Life role, and how their identities and role played a part in promoting social justice on campus and within their residence halls. There was also six monthly diversity publications from September 2019 – April 2020 with about 304 page views and 233 unique page views.

Cameron Farrar
Sociology & Political Science major, May 2022

“Housing and Residence Life has been the most impactful office during my time here at UNCG. I was a Desk Assistant my freshman year, a Summer Conference Assistant last summer and I am currently a Residential Advisor. This department has been so welcoming! HRL has taught me so much about our campus, myself, and the world around us. I have participated in multiple training sessions through the department and each year I learn more new facts.

“UNCG has prepared me for so much. Interacting with people from different backgrounds, building rapport with people in a professional setting, registering people to vote, public speaking and building my networking skills. I have also been able to do a notable amount of networking and relationship building in and out of the professional realm. It is only my sophomore year and I have found my way here and I am also confident about finding my way out there too!”

5,544 connections with students living in housing
20,692 contacts made with those students
Military-Affiliated Services

The University saw a slight decline in military-affiliated student enrollment – a 1.57% reduction – but there was a substantial increase in students using VA education benefits during the academic year (4.82%). With this increase, MAS’s School Certifying Officials were able to maintain and even exceed the standards of efficiency set for the certification of VA education benefits. During the 2019–2020 academic year, in the fall semester:

- 85% of students had coursework certified before the first day of classes
- 99% of students had coursework certified within 30 days of the first day of classes
- 98% of Post-9/11 students had tuition and fees certified within 60 days of the first day of classes.

In the spring semester:

- 92% of students had coursework certified before the first day of classes
- 99.8% of students had coursework certified within 30 days of the first day of classes
- 100% of Post-9/11 students had tuition and fees were certified within 60 days of the first day of classes.

Fostering professional development with Federal Work Study student staff is a major priority for the office as well. To evaluate their experience, students completed a self-assessment of their experience at the end of the year. The data revealed the following:

- 100% felt it improved their professional communication
- 100% felt it increased their awareness of resources available
- 100% felt it deepened their understanding of University processes
- 100% agreed it helped prepare them for post-graduation employment.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

Arley Arriaga
Nutrition & Dietetics major, May 2021

“The UNCG Military Affiliated Services was able to make my transition from a community college much easier. Any questions or issues I had on attending the university were always taken care of. Everyone in the office from the staff to the work studies always made me feel welcomed and a part of the group. I was able to instantly make friends as soon as I got there. As veteran myself, finding other fellow veterans within the campus was also important. Us veterans tend to seek one another to continue having that bond we all had in the military, and UNCG Military Affiliated Services resembles that.”

“UNCG is a diverse, welcoming university that allows you to feel like you belong there. It doesn’t matter what background you come from; you do have place here within UNCG. Your experience here will not only help you reach whatever goal you have for yourself but give you the tools to make an impact to the world.”
Office of Accessibility & Resource Services

OARS continues to promote disability as another form of diversity. One of the ways this has been achieved is through a disability-focused honor society: In Spring 2020, the Delta Alpha Phi Honor Society accepted our request to form a chapter on the UNCG campus. The honor society will be known at UNCG as Delta Phi. The Delta Alpha Honor Society honors students with disabilities who maintain at least a 3.1 GPA for undergraduate students and a 3.4 GPA for graduate students. Currently, OARS 21 students were inducted in Delta Phi’s inaugural year.

OARS also transitioned their recordkeeping system to better support students registered with the office. OARS signed on with Maxient, which has allowed the department to improve its reporting and tracking of undergraduate and graduate student numbers who are registered with OARS. In partnership with DOS/OSRR, OARS was able to streamline its student information management system by transitioning records onto a robust, secure online system increasing OARS’ efficiency by giving us more immediate access to data at any time from any location.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

Mekaila Bostic
Music major, Communications Studies minor, May 2021

“Being a part of Delta Alpha Pi International Honor Society at UNCG is a truly unique honor. DAPi gives high achieving students with a disability the opportunity to advocate for our community while celebrating excellence and leadership. As we celebrate each other, I look forward to advocacy and removing the social stigma reflected upon students with disabilities!”

886 students were registered for services with OARS in the 19–20 academic year

1,257 students utilized the testing center
Office of Intercultural Engagement

OIE continued to expand the offerings of programs provided to students and expand outreach to student populations. First, the department co-founded the first ever Hispanic Heritage Month series. The House of Privilege continued to grow and served 594 students in its third year, an increase of 59%. OIE student peer educators delivered 49 educational workshops in spite of the move to remote instruction in the middle of March 2020. The Intercultural Leadership Council reached an all-time high membership of 55 organizations and awarded funds for 16 student events before the shift to remote learning in mid-March of 2020.

OIE staff further supported students through a variety of diversity and inclusion concerns throughout the year on initiatives including student learning outcomes for general education changes, She Can We Can programming, Science Everywhere, and the department of Psychology. OIE staff continued to advocate for various student communities including Black and African American students, Asian and Pacific Islander students, LGBTQ+ students, Hispanic and Latinx students, Native students, Muslim Students, and Jewish students through direct advocacy, club advising, and program and services delivery.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

Laura Comino
Political Science, May 2021

“I’m a transfer student – I came in after my freshman year, which was a hard transition at first but clearly worth it. In the space of a month after getting on campus, I started volunteering with the Campus Violence Response Center, ran for the Hall Council of my residence hall (and won!), and got an awesome job as an Office Assistant for the Office of Intercultural Engagement. Now that I’ve completed a full semester at the G, I’ve been very lucky to be able to create and put on my own program at the university, “Qwhite Interesting,” a talk about white privilege for UNCG’s 2020 Black History Month this past February. I haven’t even been on campus for a full academic year yet, and I’ve already had the chance to get so much done!”

“Working here as an Office Assistant, but just being able to come into the office as a student, I’ve been part of so much. I’ve been able to attend lectures on various cultures, open dialogues and a variety of events through the office. From a panel on Mental Health in the Black Church, to LGBTQ+ inclusion workshops, to movie showings, the office has something for everyone! It’s easily been my favorite place on campus, because of its awesome staff and its community spirit. Being able to work here has been incredible, and makes me happy to be contributing to UNCG!”

1,082 students, faculty, and staff participated in LGBTQ+ workshops offered by the Office of Intercultural Engagement (92% increase)
Office of Leadership & Civic Engagement

OLCE continued to improve and innovate leadership development and opportunities for students. The new Civic Engagement Academy rolled out this fall with a successful cohort of 15 students, 14 of whom finished. These students engaged in workshops, programs and field trips designed to increase their knowledge, skills, attitudes, and values around civic engagement.

- There was a 38% increase overall in participation in co-curricular service programs.
- Days of Service alone had 424 student participants compared to 381 last year, an 11% increase in participation.
- Including Catalyst, 527 total students participated in service events, resulting in a 38% increase.

The Leadership Challenge continued to grow and has become a premier program as other institutions have contacted the office to learn from the staff. Through the program, students gave over 5,000 hours of service back to the institution and Greensboro community. This year was also the largest Leadership Challenge graduating class in the fall, with 213 students finishing the program, compared to 134 the previous fall – a 37% increase.

OLCE graduate students selected and highlighted (with poster in the EUC and social media) students for the Change Maker of the Month initiative throughout the fall semester and into early spring. The highlighted students were involved in various OLCE programs including the Leadership Challenge, Catalyst, and the Peer Leadership Educator program. We highlighted four students total (September, October, November, and January).

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT
Kalonji Jegede-Roberts
English major, December 2020

“OLCE has made a huge impact on my time here thus far, but also on my life generally! Through OLCE, I’ve been able to explore one of my many passions through being a Catalyst Leader. Catalyst allows myself, and many of my peers, to learn more about the greater Greensboro community and what issues and/or topics are affecting us. Through this experience, I’ve been able to grow as an individual, broaden my perspective, and ultimately find purpose in doing meaningful work. This opportunity has been priceless, and I am immensely grateful that I have the opportunity to be a part of it!”

“I chose to attend UNCG because I wanted to invest more into my personal growth and development as an individual, a scholar, and a member of society at large. UNCG proved to be the perfect place for that as the campus is diverse, it promotes inclusion, and therefore making self-discovery a great possibility.”

$50,000 grant from the SECU Foundation, administered through the SECU Public Fellows Internship, to support 10 summer interns.

213 students completed Leadership Challenge in Fall 2019 (37% increase)
Recreation & Wellness

Recreation and Wellness continued to expand their outreach to students and integrate holistic development:

- The fitness program noted strong engagement with 18,143 participations in group fitness classes, offering 1,352 classes and an average of 13.4 participants per class
- Intramural Sports continued the focus on inclusivity by expanding the league offerings for Unified Sports to include flag football and volleyball
- Self-perceived benefits of participation were reported through surveys. More than 75% of respondents agreed they benefited in their fitness level, teamwork skills, desire to remain active after graduation, and communication skills

The department also distributed a survey to 7,000 participants in the building with 595 completers. A few points to highlight from the survey:

- 90.4% agreed or strongly agreed RecWell improved my cardiovascular health
- 93.3% agreed or strongly agreed RecWell improved my physical strength
- 76.5% agreed or strongly agreed RecWell improved my decisions regarding healthy eating habits
- 74.3% agreed or strongly agreed RecWell improved my sense of belonging at UNCG
- 72.8% agreed or strongly agreed RecWell decreased my levels of anxiety
- 72.7% agreed or strongly agreed RecWell improved my ability to cope with stressful/difficult situations

The Center for Student Well-Being launched “Daily Dose of Wellness” via Instagram in October 2019. The page has grown by 108 followers to 232 total.

RecWell also evaluates the impact of student employment for its 223 student employees. In their end-of-year survey, the student staff self-reported positive benefits of their employment. The highest skills were Appreciation for Diversity and Inclusion and Understanding my own Strengths and Communication, to which 94.1% of the respondents agreed they developed these skills.

The Leonard J. Kaplan Center for Wellness had 223,677 participations by students.

- 11,240 unique students who accessed the facility
- This represents a 70.3% engagement rate of all fee-paying students (15,986)

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

Courtney Smith
Fashion major, May 2020

“Although I am a fashion major, I was given the opportunity to work as a fitness assistant — monitoring the facility, encouraging patrons through their workout, and building relationships with students, faculty and staff. After a year of working at the Kaplan Center, I was awarded the fitness assistant Rookie of the Year Award. This was very unexpected, and it solidified my decision to change my career path from fashion to campus recreation. As I continued to expand my knowledge, I was hired as an intramural official and found my true passion within the Competitive Sports atmosphere.”

“Through employment in campus recreation, I have made friendships I know will last a lifetime, gained confidence and skills I never knew I had, and thrived while being surrounded by peers and mentors who want to better themselves and make a positive impact on others.”
Student Health Services

In the midst of a very challenging year, Student Health Services still managed to celebrate numerous accomplishments. One enormous endeavor involved shifting all Counseling Center services to online platforms to continue to serving our students when they returned to their homes during COVID-19. This involved researching HIPAA-compliant applications for tele-mental health, training and equipping staff, and shifting an existing patient population to an entirely new methodology for providing mental health services. Support groups, workshops, and individual counseling continued without a hitch thanks to a dedicated staff committed to making the transition successful.

Another significant step forward was the development of telemedicine services for primary medical care. Long discussed but never implemented prior to the pandemic, telemedicine services will continue to be a critical component of SHS’ service offerings, allowing students to be treated by medical professionals from the comfort of their homes. This protects both the students from being exposed unnecessarily to potential disease as well as the SHS staff and allows for the preservation of critical PPE supplies (personal protective equipment).

Another priority for the department was to diversify the students served by the Counseling Center, namely LatinX students. Three specific strategies the Counseling Center implemented was to provide two outreach programs to two Languages, Literatures, and Cultures courses to target Latino/a students who enroll in these courses in high numbers (recommended by three Latino/a faculty staff). The CC also engaged in a panel forum for Latino/a students focused on LatinX Mental Health. Finally, outreach was made to the SALSA student group. For Student Health Services, meetings were held with campus partners which revealed that the LatinX population in general does not have a basic understanding of health insurance. The project was put on hold due to the scope and complexity of the issues at this time. However, SOAR materials, which contain basic insurance information, is being translated into Spanish as a supplement.

To deepen support for graduate students, the Counseling Center provided the following support: three workshops for graduate students in the Fall semester and a self-care workshop in the spring semester.

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT
Deymaris Zambrana-Soler
Communication Studies & Sociology major, May 2021

“I have greatly benefited from offices like the Student Health Services and the Counseling Center. Transitioning to college was challenging in terms of completely being independent. From scheduling my own appointments, to learning how to use pharmacy services, it was all very new to me. Fortunately, the SHS and its staff make the services very easy to use and with an enjoyable experience. When rough patches came along and needed help to talk through my problems, the Counseling Center was always very accessible and helpful; it made me very confident to be on my own.”

Angelique Townsend
Psychology major, Sociology minor, December 2019

“When I was going through a crisis, the Counseling Center, the Dean of Students office, and several of my professors all reached out to me to make sure I was ok. I felt very valued and it helped me not feel alone during my situation, something I needed during those difficult times.”

5,548 unique students participated in 11,448 visits to the health center

2,056 students participated in 9,421 visits to the counseling center
Your gift impacts student lives. Donors provide critical support to students in need and also foster creativity for professionals to develop innovative programming. Donors supported a number of key initiatives this year including BASE (Build a Spartan Experience) Camp 2019, 17 annual scholarships, fraternity and sorority life leadership programs, food insecurity efforts, SpartanConnect outreach, and First G at the G programming. Your donations helped ensure that students had their basic needs - which is critical for student retention and student engagement.

“Your gift impacts student lives. Student Affairs donors provide critical support to students in need and also foster creativity for professionals to develop innovative programming. Donors supported a number of key initiatives this year including BASE (Build a Spartan Experience) Camp 2019, 17 annual scholarships, fraternity and sorority life leadership programs, food insecurity efforts, SpartanConnect outreach, and First G at the G programming. Your donations helped ensure that students had their basic needs - which is critical for student retention and student engagement. This scholarship will help a huge amount...I want to be great one day and I won’t let anything stand in my way. I want to be able to open my own marketing firm one day that helps small businesses get off the ground. My skill of speaking fluent Chinese will help me differ from others because I can do international business with China. I want to be able to accomplish everything I have planned and I need to have my degree for that. Every single penny matters so I can reach my goal of success. Thank you so much for this opportunity. I am forever grateful.”
SAFE (Student Assistance Fund For Emergencies) FUND RECIPIENTS

“I cannot tell you how grateful I am for you all allowing me to receive your assistance. These times have been exceptionally hard for me... When I read in the letter that you were able to provide me (and many others) with this emergency funding because of donations, I was really touched. When I am able to get my life back on track, financially, I would love to give back to this emergency savings foundation in order to help future students who may experience something like I have... Again, I can't thank you enough. I am just getting started with this occupational therapy career, so this sudden change in income has shaken my household, but I will not let it stop me from moving forward with my goal to help others. I will never forget how you aided me in my time of need.”

“I am really grateful for the SAFE emergency fund as a student who was working before the pandemic but not eligible for any other assistance. This really saved me from fearing loss of housing or credit score going down from late payment. It made me feel supported by my university and its alumni and I know it did for many other students too! After learning that this was initiated as a gift from the class of 1967 it made me hope to be able to give back to my school in a similar fashion in the future. My semester went significantly better because of it, my sister who was staying with me and I were able to stay sheltered and fed and focused on our schoolwork.” - Senior student from Greensboro majoring in Sociology

Your gifts help students realize their potential. To support our Division’s mission and impact the lives of students, visit sa.uncg.edu/give.