

# One CaUSE

Community and University Social Engagement  
One Team. One Goal. One Community



**Elizabeth City State University Civic Action Plan**

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## Mission

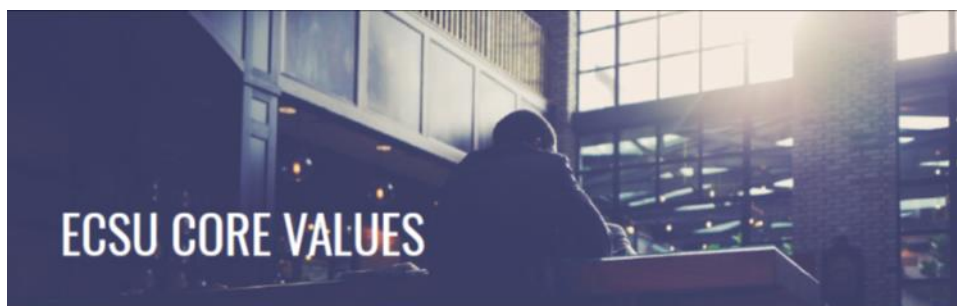
Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) seeks to enable student and employee civic engagement to transcend the encapsulated campus-life environment. This will be reflected throughout the university's core values, policies, procedures, practices, and overall interaction between individuals in a collective manner. The guiding principles to enacting the civic action plan are:

- Cultural Humility (looking inward)
- Empathy (looking through others' eyes)
- Systems Critique (looking at forces of inequality and oppression)

## Vision

Elizabeth City State University's students, rising alumni, and employees will embrace, recognize, and reward excellence in civic engagement that embodies the five commitments made in the Campus Compact's 30th Anniversary Action Statement. These commitments will be infused into existing curricular and co-curricular programs to foster a campus culture that translates them into practice, to provide more resources to support faculty, staff, and students who work to implement these commitments, and to enhance the University's capacity to track community engagement activities.

## Core Values



ACCOUNTABILITY	DIVERSITY	EXCELLENCE	PREPARING STUDENTS HOLISTICALLY
Being responsible for our actions	Respecting different viewpoints, experiences, and backgrounds	Demonstrating quality teaching, learning, and service to the community	Developing students personally, professionally, and socially

## **Approach: Utilizing existing civic engagement infrastructure, resources, and assets**

ECSU has an extensive portfolio of engagement activities. However, execution of the programs and activities has been siloed and not comprehensively coordinated across campus. The Civic Action Plan serves as the roadmap to guide the university toward implementing these programs and activities in a more inclusive and participatory manner.

## **Opportunities for Bold Action**

Like many Historically Black Colleges/Universities (HBCU), ECSU has suffered enrollment declines over the past several years. That trend shifted modestly in Fall 2017 with ECSU enrolling its largest freshmen class in five years and enrollment increase in seven.

With new leadership set to take over the helm, the mantra is *think big, think bold*. There are numerous opportunities for bold action in relation to civic engagement and outreach. Staff, faculty, and students appear ready to take the university to a new level by thinking idealistically on what types of resources the campus may provide to engage internal and external stakeholders. For example, students have driven the creation of the Vikings Care Food pantry on campus while staff and faculty have spearheaded the creation of the Viking Volunteer Corps. Alliances and collaborations with organizations such as the Association of Mexicans in North Carolina and Arts of the Albemarle are forging relationships to bridge understanding between cultures along with expanding arts and culture in the community.

Overall, the time for bold action is now. This is not limited to current programs and activities but is designed to create a dialogue that produces aspirational ideas that determine what kind of institution ECSU wants to be. Ultimately, ECSU sees elevating the relationship between the community and campus as the boldest action statement.

## **University & Community Baseline**

ECSU, a Historically Black College/University (HBCU) and constituent institution of the University of North Carolina system located in northeastern North Carolina, is roughly one hour from the Outer Banks and the Hampton Roads region of Virginia. The institution services approximately 1,400 students with 28 undergraduate and 4 graduate programs of study. ECSU offers degrees in aviation and natural sciences, business and economics, teaching and administration, visual and performing arts, mathematics and computer science, social and behavioral sciences and other select professional and pre-professional areas.

ECSU is the most affordable academic success university in North Carolina. Our intimate class sizes afford our student body a small, yet challenging learning

environment. We teach train and mold our students into an environment representative of today's global economy. ECSU continues to be a leading partner in enhancing educational and cultural opportunities and improving the economic strength in the region. A diverse and highly-qualified faculty educates and leads our students to become productive members of an increasingly interdependent society.

Today's student population is approximately 72% African American, 17% Caucasian and 11% other, including 3% Hispanic. Currently, 89% of the students are full-time, 52% reside on campus, and 48% commute. About 57% are female and 43% male.

Elizabeth City is located in Pasquotank County in northeastern North Carolina and has a population of 39,909 based on the 2016 U.S. Census Bureau Estimates. About 59% of the county's population is White/Caucasian, and 37% Black/African-American. The third largest population is Hispanic/Latino at almost 5%. This is one of the poorest regions in North Carolina where the median household income is \$45,750 with a 17.4% poverty level. Only 18% of persons have a Bachelor's degree or higher (2013 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)).

## **Planning Team**

The planning team consisted of a broad coalition of faculty and staff providing input and feedback throughout the process of developing the Civic Action Plan. They are:

Melanie Baker, University Program Associate  
Dr. Scott Bradshaw, Professor, Psychology  
Dr. Jennifer Brown, Assistant Professor, Physical Education & Health  
Dr. Mary-Lynn Chambers, Associate Professor/Interim Director of International Studies, Language, Literature & Communication  
Johnna Coleman-Yates, Dean of Student Success  
Dr. Margery Coulson-Clark, Professor, Social and Behavioral Sciences (Political Science/Public Administration)  
Felecia Dawson Brown, Assistant Director, Counseling & Testing Services  
Russ Haddad, Director of Community & Economic Engagement  
Dr. Geraldine Hill, Assistant Professor, Education & Psychology  
Cynthia Horne, Librarian and University Archivist  
Dr. Debjani Kanjilal, Associate Professor, Business & Economics (Business Administration)  
Dennis Leary, Director of Facilities Management  
Dr. Adam McKee, Assistant Professor, Language, Literature, & Communication  
Dr. Lloyd Mitchell, Associate Professor, Physical Education / Kinesiology  
Dr. Kingsley Nwala, Professor, Business & Economics (Business Administration)  
Dr. Kuldeep Rawat, Chairperson, Technology  
Dr. Charles Reed, Associate Professor, Social and Behavioral Sciences (History)  
Dr. Tarsha Rogers, Chairperson / Writing Specialist, University Studies  
Dr. Melissa Stuckey, Assistant Professor, Social and Behavioral Sciences  
Makitta Whitehurst-McLean, Director of Career Development

Dr. Derrick Wilkins, Associate Vice Chancellor, Academic Affairs  
Dr. Shelia Williams, Assistant Professor/Director of School Partnerships, Teacher Education/Student Teaching  
Dr. Margaret Young, Associate Professor, Natural Sciences

Additionally, a group of students also provided feedback on existing programs/activities as well as ideas for future programs/activities. They are:

Molly Scotece  
D’Vonnya Smith  
Jordan Tade  
Sherol Jackson

Jointly, these individuals brought a diversity of perspectives and professional experiences to the task of developing the Civic Action Plan. A core group was responsible for communicating and consulting with campus and community stakeholders, campus administrative groups, as well as content experts at every stage of the process of developing the Civic Action Plan. The Civic Action Plan was presented to both the Faculty and Staff Senates for their input and feedback. An open community forum was held inviting interested parties to provide feedback. In addition, a draft report was posted on the University website soliciting written feedback.

Administrative groups and governing bodies involved:

1. Academic Deans
2. Department Chairs and School Directors
3. Staff Senate
4. Faculty Senate
4. Student Government Association (SGA)
5. Student Activities Council
6. The Division of Student Affairs
7. The Division of Finance and Planning
8. The Division of University Advancement
9. Senior Staff in the Office of the Provost
10. Senior Staff in the Office of the Chancellor

Campus major stakeholders involved:

1. Dean, Division of Student Success
2. Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs
3. Sustainability & Resilience Advisory Board
4. Elizabeth City State Athletics
6. Dean and Faculty, Business & Economics Program
7. Dean and Faculty, Social Work Program
8. Dean and Faculty, Technology Program

Community resources and stakeholders involved:

1. InnovatEC
2. Habitat for Humanity

3. Food Bank of the Albemarle
4. Albemarle Hopeline
5. River City CDC YouthBuild
6. City of Elizabeth City
7. Pasquotank County
8. College of the Albemarle
9. Mid-Atlantic Christian University
10. Elizabeth City-Pasquotank County Public Schools

## Commitments & Encounters

*Commitment #1: We empower our students, faculty, staff, and community partners to co-create mutually respectful partnerships in pursuit of a just, equitable, and sustainable future for communities beyond the campus—nearby and around the world.*

<b><i>Student Professional Development</i></b>	<b>Fidelity Plan:</b> Students will participate in offered opportunities to develop strong, versatile professional skills and connections. The skills they develop will enhance their ability to present themselves and their ideas and skills to the professional and academic realms they enter as ECSU graduates.
<b><i>Career Development</i></b>	<i>The Elizabeth City State University Office of Career Development is a comprehensive Career Counseling and resource center that provides ongoing career counseling and career-related services to students and alumni in an ethical and professional manner.</i>
<b><i>General internships</i></b>	<i>The Office of Career Development provides various internship opportunities for students at Elizabeth City State University. Internships are provided through the Viking Employment Portal, Emails and mailings sent directly to the Center.</i>
<b><i>Career Expos and workshops</i></b>	<i>The Career Development Center sponsors 2 career fairs each academic year. In addition to the fairs, recruiters are invited to campus anytime to promote and recruit for internship, employment, and graduate school opportunities.</i>



<b>Career advising</b>	<i>The Center uses O-net assessments to determine where students career interest lie. This is also used to determine if students major are related to their career goals. The center partners with the First Year Experience Program to reach students with concerns, especially those who have not determined a major.</i>
<b>Soft skills development</b>	<i>Workshops are offered through the Career Development Center, the support employee request of our students.</i>
<b>Resume workshops</b>	<i>Resume writing workshops are provided to students either one-on-one, during in-class presentations, or residence hall presentations. Students also have access to the Resume Builder Function in the Viking Employment Portal. Government entities also partner with the center to provide virtual webinars that promote successful resume writing for employment opportunities.</i>
<b>Interviewing skills</b>	<i>Mock Interview prep is provided for students at Elizabeth City State University. Students can either set up an interview face-to-face or can use the module provided in the Viking Employment Portal. Hard Copy References are also available to students (free of charge) with various tips and techniques on various interview and professional dress.</i>
<b>On campus professional clubs</b>	<i>The Career Development Center currently advises the National Society of Leadership &amp; Success.</i>
<b>Job postings</b>	<i>All job postings are sent via email and through the Viking Employment Portal. Job postings that are mailed to the center are posted in the center with an email sent to students that information for organizations is available for pick up.</i>
<b>Business &amp; Economics Department internships</b>	<i>The internship course is required for graduation and also gives students relevant job experience while gaining college credit.</i>
<b>Social Work Department internships</b>	<i>Students enrolled in field education are placed at human services agencies to complete an internship. Students have the opportunity to get acclimated to the practice aspect of the profession and their assigned agency.</i>
<b>Financial Aid Work Study Program</b>	<i>Federal Work-Study is a form of financial aid awarded to students who demonstrate financial need and meet certain eligibility requirements. Eligibility is determined by the annual completion of the FAFSA, enrollment status, and Satisfactory</i>



<b>HistoriCorps</b>	<i>Academic Progress. Federal Work-Study provides opportunities for eligible students to work part-time to earn money to pay for their expenses.</i>
	<i>HistoriCorps is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that provides volunteers of all skill levels with a hands-on experience preserving historic structures on public lands across America. Volunteers work with HistoriCorps field staff to learn preservation skills and put those skills to work saving historic places that have fallen into disrepair. HistoriCorps works to ensure America's cultural and historical resources exist for generations to come.</i>
	<i>The purpose of C-CERT is to educate students, faculty, staff and friends of ECSU to be prepared to take care of themselves, family, friends, and neighbors in the event of a disaster of any type until trained emergency responders can arrive.</i>
	<i>The purpose of Change by Design is to have students apply design thinking to the problems of modern community life, provide the student with an experience solving a real-world problem, and to foster a more socially responsible approach to design.</i>
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<b>Designing for the Greater Good</b>	<i>The purpose of Designing for the Greater Good is to have students research a non-profit organization that they can partner with Elizabeth City State University in an effort to share information and spread awareness about the organization. As a graphic designer, their responsibilities are to design the branding and marketing that will show the uniting of the two organizations with visual media that will engage the ECSU students, faculty and staff.</i>
<b>Leadership Development</b>	<b>Fidelity Plan:</b> <b>Students will graduate with a greater leadership self-efficacy, the desire and ability to work collaboratively within diverse communities of people, as well as have the confidence and competence to put innovative ideas into action for positive change.</b>

<b>Honors Program</b>	<i>The mission of the Honors Program is to provide an enhanced and supportive learning environment for academically gifted undergraduate students. The mission will be accomplished through active involvement of faculty recognized for their excellence in teaching small Honors seminars, and opportunities for research. The Honors Program is designed to challenge students with high academic potential at an accelerated rate and to provide them with exposure to a wide variety of in-depth academic, social, cultural and international experiences.</i>
<b>Student Government Association</b>	<i>The mission statement of the Student Government Association (SGA) is “to serve ECSU by representing student opinion, addressing campus needs through targeted programs and maintenance of tradition, and providing opportunities for leadership development in order to enrich the quality of student life.”</i>
<b>Student Leadership Development</b>	<i>This program prepares ECSU Student Leaders with the learning experience designed to identify and foster individual leadership potential. The program is broken down into different series that combines leadership training, interviewing skills, effective communication, and service skills. This program is required for all clubs/organizations Presidents and Vice Presidents and is open to all students.</i>
<b>On campus professional clubs</b>	<i>The Career Development Center currently advises the National Society of Leadership &amp; Success.</i>
<b>TRIO Programs Upward Bound</b>	<i>TRIO is a set of federally-funded college opportunity programs that motivate and support students from disadvantaged backgrounds in their pursuit of a college degree. An estimated 790,000 low-income, first-generation students and students with disabilities — from sixth grade through college graduation — are served by over 2,800 programs nationally. TRIO programs provide academic tutoring, personal counseling, mentoring, financial guidance, and other supports necessary for educational access and retention. TRIO programs provide direct support services for students, and relevant training for directors and staff.</i>
<b>Campus-Community Emergency Response Team</b>	<i>The purpose of C-CERT is to educate students, faculty, staff and friends of ECSU to be prepared to take care of themselves, family, friends, and neighbors in the event of a disaster of any type until trained emergency responders can arrive.</i>

<b><i>Change by Design</i></b>	<i>The purpose of Change by Design is to have students apply design thinking to the problems of modern community life, provide the student with an experience solving a real-world problem, and to foster a more socially responsible approach to design.</i>
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*Commitment #2: We prepare our students for lives **of engaged citizenship, with the motivation and capacity to deliberate, act, and lead in pursuit of the public good.***

<b><i>Service &amp; Civic Engagement</i></b>	<b>Fidelity Plan:</b> <i>Students, faculty, staff, and community partners will engage in service that benefits the university and its surrounding community. ECSU's Student Viking Volunteer Corps, a student-led program offering a range of volunteer activities, will be fully utilized as a point of initiation and tracking of student-involved community engagement projects, including ECSU's signature academic service-learning programs and courses. The Student Viking Volunteer Program will also sponsor the Alternative Breaks Program, an immersive service experience designed to introduce students to new communities while working alongside local residents to address pressing social issues.</i>
<b><i>First-year community/service-learning projects</i></b>	<i>The mission of the ECSU University Studies Service Learning Project is to offer students authentic educational experiences combined with real-life applications. These experiences will afford life-enhancing opportunities to gain foundational</i>

	<i>knowledge and critical thinking skills while meeting the needs of the campus and the local community.</i>
<b>Honors Program service-learning projects</b>	<i>The mission of the ECSU Honors Program Service Learning Project is to offer students authentic educational experiences combined with real-life applications. These experiences will afford life-enhancing opportunities to gain foundational knowledge and critical thinking skills while meeting the needs of the campus and the local community.</i>
<b>Viking Volunteer Corps</b>	<i>One of Elizabeth City State University's core values is preparing our students holistically. That means developing students personally, professionally, and socially. The Viking Volunteer Corps is one of the ways ECSU is doing that. This community engagement program provides volunteer service opportunities for our students and employees to give back to the community. Opportunities are available for various nonprofits for on and off-campus events.</i>
	<i>Food Bank of the Albemarle</i>
	<i>Albemarle Hopeline</i>
	<i>Habitat for Humanity</i>
	<i>Local schools</i>
<b>Paint the Town Blue</b>	<i>A community and campus collaboration to elevate the presence of ECSU in the community.</i>
<b>Viking Bluesdays</b>	<i>A discount day for students, staff, faculty, and alumni in the community. Discounts offered at businesses displaying ECSU gear in their stores.</i>
<b>Viking Way</b>	<i>A collaborative effort between the city and university to elevate the presence along the corridor between campus and downtown. Iconic images of the city and campus, created by students, will be displayed on banners installed on utility poles along a stretch of Southern Avenue from the university library to the waterfront.</i>
<b>Black History Month</b>	<i>A series of events and activities celebrating black history and heritage. Events are open to the general public.</i>

<b>MLK, Jr. Day of Service</b>	<i>Annual march commemorating the memory of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. followed by a community forum. Students, staff, and faculty participate in volunteer opportunities in the community as well.</i>
<b>Rosenwald School Restoration</b>	<i>Restoration of the historic Rosenwald School, one of only two in the country that sits on a college campus. The purpose of the building is to relate the African-American experience in northeastern North Carolina through interpretation and research.</i>
<b>Principal's House Restoration</b>	<i>Restoration of the historic university building into a museum-like facility that houses ECSU artifacts that tell the story university's story in northeastern North Carolina. It will be open to the community.</i>
<b>Arts of the Albemarle River City Music Project</b>	<i>The mission of the River City Music Project is to generate civil and community engagement across our region through innovative performing and visual arts collaborations between the Arts of the Albemarle and ECSU.</i>
<b>Port Discover</b>	<i>A hands-on science center for northeastern North Carolina.</i>
<b>Tri-College Activities</b>	<i>Activities aimed at allowing student bodies from ECSU, College of the Albemarle and Mid-Atlantic Christian University to interact on a more regular basis.</i>
<b>Tri-College Rotaract Club</b>	<i>College-age Rotary Club with members from each institution of higher education.</i>
<b>College Week</b>	<i>A series of friendly competitions held between the three Elizabeth City higher education schools with a culminating party at the end of the week on the waterfront.</i>
<b>Vikings Care Food Pantry</b>	<i>A campus effort to combat food insecurity. A student/staff organized volunteer campus food pantry to serve students and employees.</i>
<b>Campus community garden</b>	<i>A student, faculty and staff project to grow and harvest produce that would be used in the university cafeteria and donated to the Food Bank of the Albemarle.</i>
<b>Pasquotank County Master Gardeners</b>	<i>The local affiliate of the NC State Extension Master Gardener program. Volunteers provide unbiased, research-based information on gardens, lawns, and landscapes for local beautification and planting projects that involve university students, faculty, and staff.</i>

<b>NCCU Virtual Justice Project</b>	<i>A series of ongoing workshops, forums and town halls originating from NC Central University Law Center offered to the community and ECSU students, staff and faculty.</i>
<b>River City YouthBuild</b>	<i>YouthBuild is a Pre-Apprenticeship program that provides economically disadvantaged youth ages 16 - 24 with education and employment skills through opportunities for meaningful work in their communities by helping to meet the housing needs of homeless individuals and members of low-income families.</i>
<b>League of Women Voters Voter Registration/Election Forums/Civic Engagement workshops</b>	<i>In conjunction with the League of Women Voters of NENC, ECSU would co-host a series of voter registration workshops and civic engagement forums.</i>
<b>Rise Against Hunger</b>	<i>An international hunger relief organization that distributes food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable, mobilizing the necessary resources through local community meal-packaging events to end hunger by 2030.</i>
<b>Continuing education</b>	<i>ECSU strives to serve as a community resource that helps residents in our 21-county region in northeast North Carolina to improve their lives. Engaging the community through a series of educational opportunities is one way that ECSU is promoting a culture of community service, outreach, and support. The Adult and Continuing Education Program at Elizabeth City State University offers non-credit courses designed to enhance the lives of the citizens of northeastern North Carolina. We also provide professional development opportunities for educators in northeastern North Carolina. The program offers courses that provide opportunities for lifelong learning, personal enrichment, career advancement, and the development of new skills. Continuing Education units may be earned upon the completion of specified Continuing Education course offerings.</i>
<b>HistoriCorps</b>	<i>HistoriCorps is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that provides volunteers of all skill levels with a hands-on experience preserving historic structures on public lands across America. Volunteers work with HistoriCorps field staff to learn preservation skills and put those skills to work saving historic places that have fallen into disrepair. HistoriCorps works to ensure America's cultural and historical resources exist for generations to come.</i>



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<b>North Carolina Mathematics &amp; Science Education Network Program</b>	<p><i>The mission of the North Carolina Mathematics and Science Education Network (NC-MSEN) Pre-College Program is to broaden the pool of students pursuing mathematics and science based majors and careers. The Pre-College Program actively recruits and prepares students of average to above average ability in grades 6-12 who may have not been sufficiently exposed to mathematics and science based courses and careers.</i></p> <p><i>The ECSU NC-MSEN Pre-College Program serves students from six counties in Northeastern North Carolina. Students participate in exciting activities in Mathematics, Science, and Technology through the Saturday Academy and a Summer Scholars Program.</i></p>

**Commitment #3: We embrace our responsibilities *as place-based institutions, contributing to the health and strength of our communities—economically, socially, environmentally, educationally, and politically.***

<b>Service &amp; Civic Engagement</b>	<b>Fidelity Plan:</b> <b>Students, faculty, staff, and community partners will engage in service that benefits the university and its surrounding community. ECSU's Student Viking Volunteer Corps, a</b>
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	<p>student-led program offering a range of volunteer activities, will be fully utilized as a point of initiation and tracking of student-involved community engagement projects, including ECSU's signature academic service-learning programs and courses. The Student Viking Volunteer Program will also sponsor the Alternative Breaks Program, an immersive service experience designed to introduce students to new communities while working alongside local residents to address pressing social issues.</p>
<b>First-year community/service-learning projects</b>	<p><i>The mission of the ECSU University Studies Service Learning Project is to offer students authentic educational experiences combined with real-life applications. These experiences will afford life-enhancing opportunities to gain foundational knowledge and critical thinking skills while meeting the needs of the campus and the local community.</i></p>
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<b>League of Women Voters Voter Registration/Election Forums/Civic Engagement workshops</b>	<i>In conjunction with the League of Women Voters of NENC, ECSU would co-host a series of voter registration workshops and civic engagement forums.</i>
<b>Rise Against Hunger</b>	<i>An international hunger relief organization that distributes food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable, mobilizing the necessary resources through local community meal-packaging events to end hunger by 2030.</i>
<b>Continuing education</b>	<i>ECSU strives to serve as a community resource that helps residents in our 21-county region in northeast North Carolina to improve their lives. Engaging the community through a series of educational opportunities is one way that ECSU is promoting a culture of community service, outreach, and support. The Adult and Continuing Education Program at Elizabeth City State University offers non-credit courses designed to enhance the lives of the citizens of northeastern North Carolina. We also provide professional development opportunities for educators in northeastern North Carolina. The program offers courses that provide opportunities for lifelong learning, personal enrichment, career advancement, and the development of new skills. Continuing</i>

	<i>Education units may be earned upon the completion of specified Continuing Education course offerings.</i>
<b><i>HistoriCorps</i></b>	<i>HistoriCorps is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that provides volunteers of all skill levels with a hands-on experience preserving historic structures on public lands across America. Volunteers work with HistoriCorps field staff to learn preservation skills and put those skills to work saving historic places that have fallen into disrepair. HistoriCorps works to ensure America's cultural and historical resources exist for generations to come.</i>
<b><i>Campus-Community Emergency Response Team</i></b>	<i>The purpose of C-CERT is to educate students, faculty, staff and friends of ECSU to be prepared to take care of themselves, family, friends, and neighbors in the event of a disaster of any type until trained emergency responders can arrive.</i>
<b><i>Change by Design</i></b>	<i>The purpose of Change by Design is to have students apply design thinking to the problems of modern community life, provide the student with an experience solving a real-world problem, and to foster a more socially responsible approach to design.</i>
<b><i>Designing for the Greater Good</i></b>	<i>The purpose of Designing for the Greater Good is to have students research a non-profit organization that they can partner with Elizabeth City State University in an effort to share information and spread awareness about the organization. As a graphic designer, their responsibilities are to design the branding and marketing that will show the uniting of the two organizations with visual media that will engage the ECSU students, faculty and staff.</i>
<b><i>North Carolina Mathematics &amp; Science Education Network Program</i></b>	<i>The mission of the North Carolina Mathematics and Science Education Network (NC-MSEN) Pre-College Program is to broaden the pool of students pursuing mathematics and science based majors and careers. The Pre-College Program actively recruits and prepares students of average to above average ability in grades 6-12 who may have not been sufficiently exposed to mathematics and science based courses and careers.</i>



	<i>The ECSU NC-MSEN Pre-College Program serves students from six counties in Northeastern North Carolina. Students participate in exciting activities in Mathematics, Science, and Technology through the Saturday Academy and a Summer Scholars Program.</i>
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<b><i>Global Engagement</i></b>	<b><i>Fidelity Plan:</i></b> <b><i>ECSU will be a hub for international activity, including development and coordination of student opportunities abroad, services for international students and scholars, facilitating faculty opportunities abroad, and programming directed towards the development of an internationalized campus.</i></b>
<b><i>Association of Mexicans in NC</i></b>	<i>AMEXCAN and ECSU have partnered to work collaboratively to achieve our mutual goal of improving Latino education and reducing Latino educational disparities in ENC by increasing outreach and accessibility to the Latino community.</i>
<b><i>Eastern Area Health Education Center</i></b>	<i>The mission of Eastern Area Health Education Center is to meet the region's health and health workforce needs by being an advanced, lifelong resource for healthcare providers. Eastern AHEC partners with ECSU, public school systems, and regional health care agencies to support and encourage adolescents to select careers in the health professions.</i>
<b><i>ECSU Ethos</i></b>	<i>A series of programs and activities that symbolize the purpose of attaining higher education from Elizabeth City State University.</i>
<b><i>New Student Convocation</i></b>	<i>The opening convocation for new students is a formal ceremony marking the start of your college career. The opening convocation signifies that each students' educational journey is supplemented with the support and help of others. New students are surrounded by ECSU faculty, staff, parents, relatives, and friends, marking the transition from the nurturing world of the family to the caring mentorship of ECSU's academic community. Each new student is given a pine cone as a symbol of the promise of an ECSU education.</i>



<b>Call to Honor</b>	<i>Similar to Pinning &amp; Candlelight ceremonies, this event takes place every fall for incoming freshman to make their commitment to the Viking Honor Pledge. The core values of accountability, diversity, excellence, and respect serve as the backbone of the Viking Honor Code. Each of the four class presidents lights a candle on stage to represent the four core values. Freshmen are joined by numerous alumni members and students to receive the symbolic honor coin and recite the Call to Honor.</i>
<b>Celebrate Week (Undergraduate Research Week)</b>	<i>During this week, students share their research findings with students, faculty, and staff. In addition to sharing their research through poster sessions, students also make presentations across campus.</i>
<b>Roots &amp; Reflection</b>	<i>Serves as a weekly reminder that the purpose of an ECSU education is to see each student as a whole person, whose mind, body and soul deserve respect. It is voluntary and open to people of different faith traditions. Students, faculty, and staff meet for reflection and informal worship. Roots &amp; Reflection is the perfect time to quiet your soul and rejuvenate your spirit. Held each Thursday from 9:50 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. in the Griffin and McLendon Halls Reflection Zone, and is open to the entire ECSU community.</i>
<b>Honors Convocation</b>	<i>Campus multi-denominational ministry</i>
	<i>Reflection zones</i>
<b>Health &amp; Wellness Fairs</b>	<i>This is a recognition ceremony for students who have received honors during the past academic year.</i>
<b>InnovatEC</b>	<i>Student Health Services presents an annual Health and Wellness Fair. Flu shots are available for students and employees. Free HIV testing and health screenings.</i>
<b>American &amp; International Week</b>	<i>The mission of InnovatEC is to create a cohesive, comprehensive network of partner organizations that enhance business activity, entrepreneurship, and innovation in Elizabeth City and northeastern North Carolina, by convening, signal-boosting and forging connections.</i>
	<i>For several years, the university has combined American Education Week, a long-standing national observance that celebrates public education and educators. During the same week, the university celebrates International Week, an observance designed to spotlight the virtues of a multi-cultural populace.</i>

<b>Public-private partnerships</b>	<i>Privately funded community economic development partnerships on and off campus.</i>
<b>Study Abroad Program</b>	<i>Each year ECSU's International Program runs a Study Abroad experience specifically for ECSU students. However, it is also open to the Elizabeth City community. ECSU's Study Abroad experience continues to grow in its diversity within the group and within our networking with other higher education institutions. Furthermore, the students who travel have the opportunity to receive a global education that develops greater community awareness. This educational experience prepares ECSU students to participate more effectively in community affairs, to become better stewards of the resources available, and to develop leadership and communication skills that will empower them to serve their community better.</i>
<b>Second Nature Climate Agreement</b>	<i>The Climate Commitment, a signature program of Boston-based nonprofit Second Nature, requires ECSU to set climate targets, report on progress publicly, and collaborate with the surrounding community, all while integrating sustainability across the curriculum.</i>
<b>Storm shelter</b>	<i>ECSU Vaughan Center serves as a designated ECSU storm shelter, and KE White serves as a local residential storm shelter. The KE White Center is open in accordance with ECSU's and UNC's Disaster Response Plan and in coordination with the regional disaster center currently managed by Pasquotank County. KE White is open to all area residents. Students can also choose to go there. Vaughan Center is open in accordance with ECSU's and UNC's Disaster Response Plan and designed to serve students primarily, however faculty and staff are encouraged to be available to volunteer and stay at the shelter to bring a 'sense of familiarity' to the shelter to ease concerns of students, some of whom are far away from home.</i>
<b>Rise Against Hunger</b>	<i>An international hunger relief organization that distributes food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable, mobilizing the necessary resources through local community meal-packaging events to end hunger by 2030.</i>

<b>HistoriCorps</b>	<i>HistoriCorps is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that provides volunteers of all skill levels with a hands-on experience preserving historic structures on public lands across America. Volunteers work with HistoriCorps field staff to learn preservation skills and put those skills to work saving historic places that have fallen into disrepair. HistoriCorps works to ensure America's cultural and historical resources exist for generations to come.</i>
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**Commitment #4: We harness the capacity of our institution—*through research, teaching, partnerships, and institutional practice—to challenge the prevailing social and economic inequalities that threaten our democratic future.***

<b>Global Engagement</b>	<b>Fidelity Plan:</b> <i>Elizabeth City State University will encourage and support campus- and community-engagement activities that challenge 'comfort zones' and facilitate diversified awareness of interactions and ideologies.</i>
<b>Association of Mexicans in NC</b>	<i>AMEXCAN and ECSU have partnered to work collaboratively to achieve our mutual goal of improving Latino education and reducing Latino educational disparities in ENC by increasing outreach and accessibility to the Latino community.</i>
<b>Eastern Area Health Education Center</b>	<i>The mission of Eastern Area Health Education Center is to meet the region's health and health workforce needs by being an advanced, lifelong resource for healthcare providers. Eastern AHEC partners with ECSU, public school systems, and regional health care agencies to support and encourage adolescents to select careers in the health professions.</i>
<b>ECSU Ethos</b>	<i>A series of programs and activities that symbolize the purpose of attaining higher education from Elizabeth City State University.</i>

<b>New Student Convocation</b>	<i>The opening convocation for new students is a formal ceremony marking the start of your college career. The opening convocation signifies that each students' educational journey is supplemented with the support and help of others. New students are surrounded by ECSU faculty, staff, parents, relatives, and friends, marking the transition from the nurturing world of the family to the caring mentorship of ECSU's academic community. Each new student is given a pine cone as a symbol of the promise of an ECSU education.</i>
<b>Call to Honor</b>	<i>Similar to Pinning &amp; Candlelight ceremonies, this event takes place every fall for incoming freshman to make their commitment to the Viking Honor Pledge. The core values of accountability, diversity, excellence, and respect serve as the backbone of the Viking Honor Code. Each of the four class presidents lights a candle on stage to represent the four core values. Freshmen are joined by numerous alumni members and students to receive the symbolic honor coin and recite the Call to Honor.</i>
<b>Celebrate Week (Undergraduate Research Week)</b>	<i>During this week, students share their research findings with students, faculty, and staff. In addition to sharing their research through poster sessions, students also make presentations across campus.</i>
<b>Roots &amp; Reflection</b>	<i>Serves as a weekly reminder that the purpose of an ECSU education is to see each student as a whole person, whose mind, body and soul deserve respect. It is voluntary and open to people of different faith traditions. Students, faculty, and staff meet for reflection and informal worship. Roots &amp; Reflection is the perfect time to quiet your soul and rejuvenate your spirit. Held each Thursday from 9:50 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. in the Griffin and McLendon Halls Reflection Zone, and is open to the entire ECSU community.</i>
<b>Honors Convocation</b>	<b>Campus multi-denominational ministry</b>
	<b>Reflection zones</b>
	<i>This is a recognition ceremony for students who have received honors during the past academic year.</i>
<b>Health &amp; Wellness Fairs</b>	<i>Student Health Services presents an annual Health and Wellness Fair. Flu shots are available for students and employees. Free HIV testing and health screenings.</i>

<b><i>InnovatEC</i></b>	<i>The mission of InnovatEC is to create a cohesive, comprehensive network of partner organizations that enhance business activity, entrepreneurship, and innovation in Elizabeth City and northeastern North Carolina, by convening, signal-boosting and forging connections.</i>
<b><i>American &amp; International Week</i></b>	<i>For several years, the university has combined American Education Week, a long-standing national observance that celebrates public education and educators. During the same week, the university celebrates International Week, an observance designed to spotlight the virtues of a multi-cultural populace.</i>
<b><i>Public-private partnerships</i></b>	<i>Privately funded community economic development partnerships on and off campus.</i>
<b><i>Study Abroad Program</i></b>	<i>Each year ECSU's International Program runs a Study Abroad experience specifically for ECSU students. However, it is also open to the Elizabeth City community. ECSU's Study Abroad experience continues to grow in its diversity within the group and within our networking with other higher education institutions. Furthermore, the students who travel have the opportunity to receive a global education that develops greater community awareness. This educational experience prepares ECSU students to participate more effectively in community affairs, to become better stewards of the resources available, and to develop leadership and communication skills that will empower them to serve their community better.</i>
<b><i>Second Nature Climate Agreement</i></b>	<i>The Climate Commitment, a signature program of Boston-based nonprofit Second Nature, requires ECSU to set climate targets, report on progress publicly, and collaborate with the surrounding community, all while integrating sustainability across the curriculum.</i>
<b><i>Storm shelter</i></b>	<i>ECSU Vaughan Center serves as a designated ECSU storm shelter, and KE White serves as a local residential storm shelter. The KE White Center is open in accordance with ECSU's and UNC's Disaster Response Plan and in coordination with the regional disaster center currently managed by Pasquotank County. KE White is open to all area residents. Students can also choose to go there. Vaughan Center is open in accordance with ECSU's and UNC's Disaster Response Plan and designed to serve</i>

<p><b><i>Rise Against Hunger</i></b></p>	<p>students primarily, however faculty and staff are encouraged to be available to volunteer and stay at the shelter to bring a 'sense of familiarity' to the shelter to ease concerns of students, some of whom are far away from home.</p>
<p><b><i>HistoriCorps</i></b></p>	<p>An international hunger relief organization that distributes food and life-changing aid to the world's most vulnerable, mobilizing the necessary resources through local community meal-packaging events to end hunger by 2030.</p> <p>HistoriCorps is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that provides volunteers of all skill levels with a hands-on experience preserving historic structures on public lands across America. Volunteers work with HistoriCorps field staff to learn preservation skills and put those skills to work saving historic places that have fallen into disrepair. HistoriCorps works to ensure America's cultural and historical resources exist for generations to come.</p>
<p><b><i>Undergraduate Research</i></b></p>	<p><b><i>Fidelity Plan:</i></b>  <b><i>Elizabeth City State University has an established undergraduate research program to provide students the opportunity to join the faculty in scholarly activities. Scholarship by faculty members can enrich their interactions with students who are participating in this process. It enhances the faculty member's connection to their own discipline and energizes their other instructional activities. Participation in undergraduate research is also effective for improving student learning, especially those projects which are collaborative, investigative, project-based, inquiry-based, open-minded and exploratory.</i></b></p>
<p><b><i>Undergraduate Research Week</i></b></p>	<p>During this week, students share their research findings with students, faculty, and staff. In addition to sharing their research through poster sessions, students also make presentations across campus.</p>



<b>Wellness Promotion Degree Program</b>	To provide an environment in which students can pursue excellence through a program of professional coursework, practical experience, and professional interactions that will provide a foundation for careers in Physical Education, Health and Wellness, Aquatics and Fitness, and Sports Management.
<b>HistoriCorps</b>	HistoriCorps is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that provides volunteers of all skill levels with a hands-on experience preserving historic structures on public lands across America. Volunteers work with HistoriCorps field staff to learn preservation skills and put those skills to work saving historic places that have fallen into disrepair. HistoriCorps works to ensure America's cultural and historical resources exist for generations to come.
<b>Change by Design</b>	The purpose of Change by Design is to have students apply design thinking to the problems of modern community life, provide the student with an experience solving a real-world problem, and to foster a more socially responsible approach to design.
<b>Designing for the Greater Good</b>	The purpose of Designing for the Greater Good is to have students research a non-profit organization that they can partner with Elizabeth City State University in an effort to share information and spread awareness about the organization. As a graphic designer, their responsibilities are to design the branding and marketing that will show the uniting of the two organizations with visual media that will engage the ECSU students, faculty and staff.

**Commitment #5: We foster an environment that consistently affirms the centrality of the public purposes of higher education by setting high expectations for members of the campus community to contribute to their achievement.**

<b>Undergraduate Research</b>	<b>Fidelity Plan:</b> <b>Elizabeth City State University has an established undergraduate research program to provide students the opportunity to join the faculty in scholarly activities. Scholarship by faculty members can enrich their interactions with students who are</b>
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	<i>participating in this process. It enhances the faculty member's connection to their own discipline and energizes their other instructional activities. Participation in undergraduate research is also effective for improving student learning, especially those projects which are collaborative, investigative, project-based, inquiry-based, open-minded and exploratory.</i>
<b>Undergraduate Research Week</b>	<i>During this week, students share their research findings with students, faculty, and staff. In addition to sharing their research through poster sessions, students also make presentations across campus.</i>
<b>Wellness Promotion Degree Program</b>	<i>To provide an environment in which students can pursue excellence through a program of professional coursework, practical experience, and professional interactions that will provide a foundation for careers in Physical Education, Health and Wellness, Aquatics and Fitness, and Sports Management.</i>
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<b>Change by Design</b>	<i>The purpose of Change by Design is to have students apply design thinking to the problems of modern community life, provide the student with an experience solving a real-world problem, and to foster a more socially responsible approach to design.</i>

## Aspirational Ideas & Encounters

**Hugh Cale Global Education Institute:** Inclusion, Diversity and Global Engagement at Elizabeth City State University are about striving for academic excellence as well as learning to be a responsible member of pluralistic and intersecting communities. We want to provide students with an education and experiences that prepare them for an increasingly interlinked world.

North Carolina Representative Hugh Cale championed the enabling legislation in 1891 that allowed for the establishment of the Elizabeth City Normal School, now Elizabeth City State University. The facility would be the location for the ECSU Institute of Civic Engagement at Elizabeth City State University. It would also be the hub for international activity, including development and coordination of student opportunities abroad, services for international students and scholars, facilitating faculty opportunities abroad, and programming directed towards the development of an internationalized campus.

<b><i>Student Professional Development</i></b>	<b><i>Fidelity Plan:</i></b> <b><i>Students will participate in offered opportunities to develop strong, versatile professional skills and connections. The skills they develop will enhance their ability to present themselves and their ideas and skills to the professional and academic realms they enter as ECSU graduates.</i></b>
<b><i>Arts of the Albemarle River City Music Project</i></b>	<i>The mission of the River City Music Project is to generate civil and community engagement across our region through innovative performing and visual arts collaborations between the Arts of the Albemarle and ECSU.</i>
<b><i>Economic impact studies</i></b>	<i>Students and faculty study economic impact of organizations and events on campus and in the local community.</i>
<b><i>Public opinion polling</i></b>	<i>Students and faculty provide public opinion polling through the university's Social Work Program for the community.</i>
<b><i>Port Discover</i></b>	<i>A hands-on science center for northeastern North Carolina.</i>
<b><i>SBTDC</i></b>	<i>In partnership with ECSU, the SBTDC provides counseling for individuals looking to start their own businesses through offering free workshops, individual counseling, feasibility assessments, business planning, marketing &amp; research. For those already in business, SBTDC offers management counseling, marketing, sources of financing, operations, human resources, and individual market analysis.</i>

<b><i>Eastern Women's Business Center</i></b>	<i>Eastern Women's Business Center and ECSU have partnered to assist women in the region become successful entrepreneurs. The center provides individual technical assistance, business coaching, workshops and group training sessions, and small business lending.</i>
<b><i>Externships</i></b>	<i>Establish partnerships with local companies and organizations for externship opportunities for students in all curricular major programs.</i>
<b><i>Leadership Development</i></b>	<b><i>Fidelity Plan:</i></b> <b><i>Students will graduate with a greater leadership self-efficacy, the desire and ability to work collaboratively within diverse communities of people, as well as have the confidence and competence to put innovative ideas into action for positive change.</i></b>
<b><i>Leadership NENC</i></b>	<i>The purpose of is to develop a pipeline of leaders in northeast North Carolina who will lead the region into a better tomorrow by establishing a regional leadership program that enlists professionals from across northeast North Carolina that feeds into the state's Leadership North Carolina program. Leadership NENC would align its programming to that of Leadership NC, but with a focus on the region rather than the state. Once participants graduate from Leadership NENC, they would be eligible to apply to Leadership NC.</i>
<b><i>Arts of the Albemarle River City Music Project</i></b>	<i>The mission of the River City Music Project is to generate civil and community engagement across our region through innovative performing and visual arts collaborations between the Arts of the Albemarle and ECSU.</i>
<b><i>Port Discover</i></b>	<i>A hands-on science center for northeastern North Carolina.</i>

<b><i>Service &amp; Civic Engagement</i></b>	<b><i>Fidelity Plan:</i></b> <b><i>Students, faculty, staff, and community partners will engage in service that benefits the university and its surrounding community. ECSU's Student Viking Volunteer Corps, a student-led program offering a range of volunteer activities, will be fully utilized as a point of initiation and tracking of student-involved community engagement projects, including ECSU's signature academic service-learning programs and courses. The Student Viking Volunteer Program will also sponsor the Alternative Breaks Program, an immersive service experience designed to introduce students to new communities while working alongside local residents to address pressing social issues.</i></b>
<b><i>Tri-College Activities</i></b>	<i>Activities aimed at allowing student bodies from ECSU, College of the Albemarle and Mid-Atlantic Christian University to interact on a more regular basis.</i>
<b><i>Higher Education Consortium of Elizabeth City</i></b>	<i>The Higher Education Consortium of Elizabeth City (HECEC) would be an association of public and private accredited colleges and universities in Elizabeth City, North Carolina. HECEC is committed to working collaboratively to further the missions of member institutions.</i>
<b><i>NC 10% Campaign</i></b>	<i>A collaborative statewide initiative led by the Center for Environmental Farming Systems (CEFS) and North Carolina Cooperative Extension promoting locally-grown/caught food, farmers, and fishers, as well as the businesses and people who prepare, distribute, and sell food grown in North Carolina. The campaign encourages NC individuals, businesses, organizations, and institutions to spend at least 10% of their food dollars on NC-grown foods.</i>
<b><i>Academic discipline service-learning curriculums</i></b>	<i>The mission of the ECSU Academic Studies Service Learning Project is to offer students authentic educational experiences combined with real-life applications. These experiences will afford life-enhancing opportunities to gain foundational knowledge and critical thinking skills while meeting the needs of the campus and the local community.</i>

<b>Storm Center</b>	<i>ECSU Vaughan Center serves as a designated ECSU storm shelter, and KE White serves as a local residential storm shelter. The KE White Center is open in accordance with ECSU's and UNC's Disaster Response Plan and in coordination with the regional disaster center currently managed by Pasquotank County. KE White is open to all area residents. Students can also choose to go there. Vaughan Center is open in accordance with ECSU's and UNC's Disaster Response Plan and designed to serve students primarily, however faculty and staff are encouraged to be available to volunteer and stay at the shelter to bring a 'sense of familiarity' to the shelter to ease concerns of students, some of whom are far away from home.</i>
<b>Tree Campus USA</b>	<i>Tree Campus USA designation commits the university to doing a tree inventory and creating a tree plan that outlines procedures for planting and maintaining trees on campus. The designation would align us with the city's Tree City USA designation and open the door for collaborative efforts within the community.</i>
<b>Global Engagement</b>	<b><i>Fidelity Plan:</i></b> <b><i>Elizabeth City State University will encourage and support campus- and community-engagement activities that challenge 'comfort zones' and facilitate diversified awareness of interactions and ideologies.</i></b>
<b>ECSU Ethos</b>	<i>A series of programs and activities that symbolize the purpose of attaining higher education from Elizabeth City State University.</i>
<b>Buds &amp; Blooms</b>	<i>At the end of the New Student Convocation Ceremony, all students receive a tree seed to symbolize the beginning of their college careers. Upon graduation, each graduate is given a seedling to celebrate the growth they have achieved.</i>
<b>Socrates Café</b>	<i>This weekly community event brings ECSU faculty, staff, and students together for a time of friendship and fellowship. It offers conversation and dialogue in a relaxed atmosphere.</i>



<b><i>Holiday Tree Lighting/Luminary Ceremony</i></b>	<i>The ECSU community gathers each year to share hot chocolate and cider, sing Christmas carols and other seasonal songs, light the Menorah in celebration of Hanukkah, and stroll through luminaries around the central campus quad. Campus buildings and trees are lit with holiday lights. Students, faculty, staff, and members of the ECSU community join together for this joyous celebration.</i>
<b><i>Holiday @ Chancellor's House</i></b>	<i>Right before winter break, all students are invited to the President's house to celebrate the holiday season with hors-d'oeuvres and desserts. Students also have the opportunity to take a holiday picture with the Chancellor that is sent to their home over winter break.</i>
<b><i>Family Weekend</i></b>	<i>This weekend is for family and friends of ECSU students to return to campus to visit and participate in numerous scheduled events.</i>
<b><i>"Viking Pride"</i></b>	<i>Commencement tradition when graduates join with the Chancellor in hailing ECSU by loudly proclaiming "Viking Pride!" at the end of the keynote speech.</i>
<b><i>American Indian Programs</i></b>	<i>The implementation of an American Indian Programs Office will position the university to develop an American Indians In Aerospace (IN AIR) Program; develop a Faculty AI Student STEM mentoring program with faculty and student stipends; tribal supported initiatives for faculty and students in tribal history research; tribal contracts for business and economic development research proposals in gaming operations implementation feasibility, geographic placement studies, and income generation analysis; travel grants for faculty and students, including very highly paid competitive session for students, to present at national STEM conferences hosted by the American Indian Science and Engineering Society and the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science; and domestic and international research travel grant opportunities to study remote indigenous cultures such as those in the Circumpolar regions, Pacific Islands, or Australian continent.</i>
<b><i>Global Citizenship Program</i></b>	<i>Affirm our place among colleges and universities known for academic excellence and exceptional student Achievement through engaging students' minds and inspire them to act as leaders and global citizens.</i>

<p><b>Undergraduate Research</b></p>	<p><b>Fidelity Plan:</b>  <i>Elizabeth City State University has an established undergraduate research program to provide students the opportunity to join the faculty in scholarly activities. Scholarship by faculty members can enrich their interactions with students who are participating in this process. It enhances the faculty member's connection to their own discipline and energizes their other instructional activities. Participation in undergraduate research is also effective for improving student learning, especially those projects which are collaborative, investigative, project-based, inquiry-based, open-minded and exploratory.</i></p>
<p><b>Sustainability Degree Program</b></p>	<p><i>The goal of the B.S. in Sustainability Studies program is to successfully prepare students for the exploding career options in the green job market as well as to provide a competitive academic framework for advanced studies and graduate programs. The program utilizes the integrated natural and social sciences platform to ensure a diverse yet cohesive engagement in sustainability problem-solving. This goal supports the mission of Elizabeth City State University (ECSU) by utilizing an interdisciplinary approach to promote economic, social, and environmental progress for the people of northeastern North Carolina, the state, and the nation.</i></p>
<p><b>American Indian Programs</b></p>	<p><i>The implementation of an American Indian Programs Office will position the university to develop an American Indians In Aerospace (IN AIR) Program; develop a Faculty AI Student STEM mentoring program with faculty and student stipends; tribal supported initiatives for faculty and students in tribal history research; tribal contracts for business and economic development research proposals in gaming operations implementation feasibility, geographic placement studies, and income generation analysis; travel grants for faculty and students, including very highly paid competitive session for students, to present at national STEM conferences hosted by the American Indian Science and Engineering Society and the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in</i></p>

<b><i>TEDxECSU</i></b>	<i>Science; and domestic and international research travel grant opportunities to study remote indigenous cultures such as those in the Circumpolar regions, Pacific Islands, or Australian continent.</i>
	<i>Themed series of “talks” modeled after TEDx events across the country. Organized, planned and promoted by ECSU students, faculty and staff.</i>
<b><i>Tree Campus USA</i></b>	<i>Tree Campus USA designation commits the university to doing a tree inventory and creating a tree plan that outlines procedures for planting and maintaining trees on campus. The designation would align us with the city’s Tree City USA designation and open the door for collaborative efforts within the community.</i>
<b><i>Arts of the Albemarle River City Music Project</i></b>	<i>The mission of the River City Music Project is to generate civil and community engagement across our region through innovative performing and visual arts collaborations between the Arts of the Albemarle and ECSU.</i>
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<b><i>Port Discover</i></b>	<i>A hands-on science center for northeastern North Carolina.</i>

## Implementation

Once the Civic Action Plan is finalized and approved by the University Chancellor Karrie Dixon in Summer 2018, the core planning team will publicly present the plan to the campus community. Planning team staff members have advocated for the adoption of the Civic Action Plan outcomes into the next iteration of NC Higher Expectations Strategic Plan and will serve as subject matter experts for the development of strategies. They will also monitor progress through NC Higher Expectations Strategic Plan annual progress reports.

In fall 2018 an implementation team comprised of faculty, staff, and students will be created and be responsible for the implementation of the plan. The implementation team will also consider and may utilize other progress report mechanisms to monitor achievement of Civic Action Plan outcomes. Administrative groups, major stakeholders, and community partners will be updated on progress by the implementation/planning team three times per year.

## Assessment

Through CampusConnect, a platform powered by Galaxy Digital, Elizabeth City State utilizes a single tool for student, faculty, and community engagement. The branded platform centralizes campus engagement enabling ECSU to easily track volunteer hours from courses, student organizations, campus clubs and community partners. It also empowers faculty who can coordinate student assignments and track progress in a designated faculty portal. Additionally, ECSU can community its impact by generating real-time reports on program progress, data analysis, and evaluating trends.

## *Foundations of Excellence*

Elizabeth City State University has created a plan through the guidance of the John N. Gardner Institute designed to improve the institution's impact on first-year students. Specifically, there is alignment with the Roles & Purposes and Diversity Dimensions within the plan that dovetail into the Civic Action Plan.

## *Student Success Center*

The Elizabeth City State University Division of Student Success and Student Success Center is designed to enhance the student-centric, university-wide student success culture at ECSU; enhance the holistic student experience at ECSU from admissions to graduation; to enhance university-wide collaboration, communication, and access for students, parents, faculty, and staff; focus on continuous improvement and providing seamless services and support for incoming and returning students; and leverage existing services and programs and integrate new program initiatives into the student success mission at ECSU.

In conjunction, CampusConnect, Foundation of Excellence Plan and Student Success Center provides mechanisms for measuring and tracking service-learning projects as well as academic progress influenced by civic engagement programs and activities.

## Communication

We plan to share ideas, experiences, lessons learned, and best practices about civic engagement work at Elizabeth City State University through different outlets and venues:



ECSU students, staff, and faculty regularly attend the CSNAP Conference, Civic Engagement Institute and Pathways to Achieving Civic Engagement (PACE) Conference. ECSU recently rejoined North Carolina Campus Compact and participated in state, regional, and national Campus Compact meetings and workshops.

2

Throughout the Civic Action Plan implementation process Elizabeth City State University faculty, staff and administrators will request stories and interviews in local media outlets, including WRVS (the on-campus NPR member station) and W18BB-DTV (the on-campus television station), local television networks, local radio outlets as well as The Daily Advance (the local daily newspaper). Both WRVS and The Daily Advance feature local news and stories. The focus of these interviews and stories will vary and may include introducing the Hugh Cate Global Education Center to the broader community, launching Elizabeth City State University's Civic Action Plan, and highlighting specific programs, projects, and campus-community partnerships that are developed as part of Civic Action Plan implementation. Social media and online platforms, including [www.ecsu.edu](http://www.ecsu.edu), will also be utilized.

Staff and administrators will request stories and interviews in student media outlets, including WRVS (student radio station), W18BB-DTV (student news and television station, and The Newsroom (student digital newspaper).

3

Elizabeth City State University faculty and staff intend to author short pieces for the American Democracy Project (an initiative of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities) blog to share information and perspectives about the development and implementation of the Civic Action Plan, as well as overviews of specific curricular and co-curricular programs and projects that contribute to the plan.

4

Elizabeth City State University faculty and staff involved in civic engagement work hope to contribute to a variety of institutional publications at the University. Elizabeth City State University's Marketing and Communications department publishes print and online versions of the ECSU Research Magazine, a research-focused publication, and ECSU Magazine, a magazine for alumni and friends of the University. Elizabeth City State's Media Relations department publishes The Newsroom, the University online news hub as well as institution-wide social media accounts including Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Snapchat.

5

Faculty and staff plan to invite community partners to an event during 2018-19 at which the Civic Action Plan introduced and discussed. Subsequently, community partners will be updated several times a year via an e-newsletter about Civic Action Plan implementation and about new projects, partnerships, and initiatives.

All of the above avenues of sharing Elizabeth City State's institutional commitment to civic engagement, its Civic Action Plan, and examples of and data concerning civic engagement activities involving students, staff, and faculty will be important in making Elizabeth City State University part of a broader conversation about the place of civic engagement in and public purpose of higher education. Within the Elizabeth City State community of students, staff, faculty, and alums, communication initiatives can help

foster an institutional culture that values and rewards civic engagement and facilitates gift development for civic engagement efforts. Locally, communication efforts can help facilitate campus-community partnerships by providing potential partners with information, new ideas for collaboration, and innovative partnership models. Nationally, communication efforts can make Elizabeth City State University an active participant in the collective efforts by staff, students, and faculty at colleges and universities around the country to advance the five commitments of the 30th Anniversary Action Statement.

## Appendix

### Engagement Streams – A Matrix of Proven Practices

Primary Purpose	Name of Engagement Stream	Key Features	Important When...	Examples of Issues	Organizer's Strategy	Appropriate D&D Processes	Key Design Questions for Organizers
To encourage people and groups to learn more about themselves, their community, or an issue, and possibly discover innovative solutions	Exploration	Suspending assumptions, creating a space that encourages a different kind of conversation, using ritual and symbolism to encourage openness, emphasis on listening	A group or community seems stuck or muddled and needs to reflect on their circumstance in depth and gain collective insight.	Strengthening democracy, understanding a community of practice	To encourage new insights and connections to emerge by creating a space for people to share their thoughts, feelings and perspectives.	Conversation Café, Intergroup Dialogue in the classroom, Wisdom Council, Wisdom Circles, Socrates Café, World Café, Open Space, Appreciative Inquiry, Bohm Dialogue	How can we ensure that people feel safe expressing what inspires and touches them? What kind of techniques or rituals will stimulate listening and sharing, without making people uncomfortable?
To resolve conflicts, to foster personal healing and growth, and to improve relations among groups	Conflict Transformation	Creating a safe space, hearing from everyone, building trust, sharing personal stories and views	Relationships among participants are poor or not yet established yet need to be. Issue can only be resolved when people change their behavior or attitude, expand their perspective, or take time to reflect and heal.	Political polarization, Jewish-Muslim relations, race relations, value-based conflicts, healing after crises or trauma	To create a safe space for people with different views to talk about their personal experiences and feel heard. Often, to set the groundwork for deliberation and action.	Sustained Dialogue, Intergroup Dialogue in communities, Victim-Offender Mediation, PCP dialogue, Compassionate Listening	How can the issue be framed so that all sides are brought to – and feel welcomed at – the table? What are people's needs relating to this issue, and how can divergent needs (healing, action, respect) be met effectively? If a conflict exists, how onerous and intractable is it? If not, if at all, will you transition people to "what's next"?
To influence public decisions and public policy and improve public knowledge	Decision Making	Naming and framing the issue fairly, weighing all options, considering different positions (i.e. deliberation), revealing public values, brainstorming solutions	The issue is within government's (or any single entity's) sphere of influence.	Budgeting, land use, health care, social security	To involve a representative group of citizens in thorough discussions about complicated policy issues. Ideally, the process is linked to policy making.	National Issues Forums, Citizens Jury, Deliberative Polling, 21st Century Town Meeting, Charrettes, Citizen Choicework, Consensus Conference	How can we best represent the public (random selection, stakeholder representation, recruiting a critical mass)? Should/can public officials participate in the process side-by-side with citizens? What kinds of materials need to be developed or obtained? How can we ensure that this process influences policy?
To empower people and groups to solve complicated problems and take responsibility for the solution	Collaborative Action	Using dialogue and deliberation to generate ideas for community action, developing and implementing action plans collaboratively	The issue/dispute requires intervention across multiple public and private entities, and anytime community action is important.	Regional sprawl, institutional racism, youth violence, responding to crises	To encourage integrated efforts among diverse stakeholders, sectors, organizations, etc. involved in the issue.	Study Circles, Future Search, Appreciative Inquiry	Who needs to be at the table? What kind of power dynamics exist already? What group/leader/institution is most resistant to change? What group tends not to be at the table, although they're affected?

The Engagement Streams Framework (2005) was developed by Sandy Heierbacher and members of the National Coalition for Dialogue & Deliberation (NCDD). Visit [www.ncdd.org/streams](http://www.ncdd.org/streams) for various downloadable formats of this resource, and see NCDD's website, at [www.ncdd.org](http://www.ncdd.org), for many more resources and tips.



## Process Distinctions

Processes	Focuses significantly on...				Size of Group	Type of Session (excluding prep sessions)	Participant Selection
	Exploration	Conflict Transformation	Decision Making	Collaborative Action			
<b>21st Century Town Meeting</b>			X		Hundreds to thousands in 1 room at small tables	All-day meeting	Open; recruit for representativeness
<b>Appreciative Inquiry Summit</b>	X			X	From 20 to 2,000	4 to 6-day summit	Internal and external stakeholders
<b>Bohm Dialogue</b>	X		x		Small group	No set length or number of meetings	Open or invitation
<b>Charrettes</b>			X	x	A small team of professionals and a much larger group of stakeholders	Intense work sessions last 1-3 days typically; some last 1-2 weeks	Participants represent a range of organized groups, but others with a stake in the issue are encouraged to attend
<b>Citizen Choicework</b>			X		Multiple small groups	1 session, ranging from 2 hours to all day	Open; recruit for representativeness
<b>Citizens Jury</b>			X		Small group	5-day meeting	Random selection
<b>Compassionate Listening</b>	x	X			2 to 200 people; usually fewer than 30	Varies between 30 min and 3 days, depending on how many people are involved	Open to whoever is drawn; often listeners are brought in to hear the stories of oppressed or oppressors
<b>Consensus Conference</b>			X		Large group	2 weekends for participants to prepare, 2-4 day conference	Random selection
<b>Conversation Café</b>	X	x			Single or multiple small groups	1 90-minute session	Open; publicize to encourage representativeness
<b>Deliberative Polling</b>			X		Up to several hundred people in small groups in 1 room	Weekend-long meeting	Random selection
<b>Future Search</b>		x	x	X	60 to 80 people	3 days	All inclusive (attempts to bring in all involved)

The Engagement Streams Framework (in Excel, PDF, and comic!) can always be downloaded from [www.ncdd.org/streams](http://www.ncdd.org/streams).

Processes	Focuses significantly on...				Size of Group	Type of Session (excluding prep sessions)	Participant Selection
	Exploration	Conflict Transformation	Decision Making	Collaborative Action			
<b>Intergroup Dialogue</b>	X	X		x	Single or multiple small groups	Regular weekly meetings of 2-3 hours	Open; recruit for representativeness
<b>National Issues Forums</b>			X		Up to hundreds in 1 room at small tables	1 two-hour meeting	Open; recruit for representativeness
<b>Open Space Technology</b>	X			x	Up to hundreds in 1 room, then break up in interest groups multiple times	3 days	Varies
<b>Public Conversations Project dialogue</b>		X			Small group	Multiple 2-hour sessions	Involves all sides of an existing conflict
<b>Socrates Café</b>	X				3 to 30 people	1-2 hours	Whoever is in the class or at the meeting, or whoever responds to the flyers or articles
<b>Study Circles</b>	x		x	X	Up to hundreds meeting in separate small groups; all come together later for Action Forum	4 to 6 2-hour sessions	Open; recruit for representativeness
<b>Sustained Dialogue</b>		X	x	x	Small group	Numerous 2- to 3-hour sessions	Open; recruit for representativeness among conflicting groups
<b>Victim Offender Mediation</b>		X			Small group	Multiple 2- to 3-hour sessions	All inclusive (attempts to bring in all involved)
<b>Wisdom Circle</b>	X				Small group (3-12 people)	One or more sessions lasting 1-3 hours; ongoing sessions are ideal	Usually used with an existing group
<b>Wisdom Council</b>	X		x	x	10-12 people initially (and sometimes periodically), then entire community	Several-day session with group of 12, followed by informal large-scale dialogue	Initial 10-12 are randomly selected from community; broader segment is open to everyone
<b>World Café</b>	X				Up to hundreds in 1 room at tables of four	Single event ranging from 90 minutes to 3 days	Often held at events, involving all attendees; otherwise, invitations boost representativeness

The Engagement Streams Framework (in Excel, PDF, and comic!) can always be downloaded from [www.ncdd.org/streams](http://www.ncdd.org/streams).

## Identifying a Shared Public Concern



## Identifying an Issue of Shared Public Concern

Identify a public issue that matters to you and your community.	Who are the key partners to include in this work?	What method(s) are the best fit for what you're trying to do?

## Encounters Diagram

