

# **Growing, Together**

As the new academic year begins, we are pleased to share information about endowment performance and the impact of a few of those funds. Thanks to your generosity and commitment to UNC, endowment gifts have continued to enhance the student experience by providing dependable scholarships, faculty support, and funds to create important cocurricular experiences that help prepare our students to launch and excel in their careers. I hope you enjoy learning about a few of those such gifts in this report.

The collective support of the Bear Network is critical to what makes UNC so special. People like you use philanthropy to ensure that students can attend school and learn from talented faculty. In addition to philanthropy, members of our community help foster opportunities for career experiences and employ and mentor UNC graduates through internships and post-graduation job opportunities. This abundance of support helps students to succeed long after they cross the stage at graduation.

As we move into phase III of our *Rowing, Not Drifting 2030* strategic plan, we are leaning into the practices and programs across campus that prepare our students for postgraduate success. Internships, work-based learning opportunities and industry-oriented networking events have a tremendous impact on student outcomes after graduation. These practices enable students to thrive in their careers and, in turn, serve their communities.

Your investment in UNC through the Foundation is an important part of moving toward our 2030 goals and doing so together, with purpose. Thank you for your investment in UNC and the outcomes made possible by your philanthropy.



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Allie Steg Haskett, '03 Vice President for University Advancement

# **Bear Country Careers**



#### Computer Sciences/ Software Engineering

Top job titles of UNC Computer Science and Software Engineering alumni:

Software Engineer

Data Analyst
Information Technology
Specialist

**Web Developer** 



#### NHS Student Research

**Top employers** of NHS alumni who received a donor-funded scholarship:

**UC Health** 

Greeley-Evans School
District 6

UNC

**Banner Health** 

Children's Hospital of Colorado



# **\$10,000/year more**

UNC's **Geography alumni are employed** in jobs that earn an average of \$10,000/year more than the average salary of 2015-2022

Geography alumni in the U.S.

Based on salary data from NACE's First Destination Survey.



#### **Student-Athletes**

3.19 average GPA of

UNC's studentathletes The **top majors** for UNC's student-athletes:



Sport and Exercise Science



**Business** 







### **Champions For Life Academy**

Student-athletes work hard in the classroom and at practice to be at the top of their game academically and athletically. Between classes, homework, practice, travel and competition, there isn't a lot of time left in the day. For many student-athletes, adding a job or professional work experience is unattainable.

The Champions 4 Life Academy (C4L) was created to ensure all UNC student-athletes graduate well-equipped to enter the workforce. Through C4L, student-athletes have multiple opportunities during the school year to engage with employers, network and develop skills that will serve them long after they graduate. Hosting guest speakers, seminars, job interview preparation and more, student-athletes gain a holistic understanding of how to navigate life after college.

An annual C4L experience, the Alumni and Career Networking event, joins junior and senior student-athletes with employers for an etiquette dinner and networking. Students gain valuable experience dining with potential employers, setting them up for success when they land interviews as they transition to the workforce. After dinner is finished, students can rotate tables and learn from even more employers, sampling a wider range of career paths throughout the event and sharpening their interview skills.





#### **NHS Student Research Fund**

College of Natural and Health Sciences students' work is put on display during Research Week at the annual NHS Research Celebration. The student posters presented are the highest quality research in the department that year, chosen by their program's faculty. The celebration serves as a valuable experience for students to display posters and talk about their research to interested guests, an important skill they will undoubtedly need for their careers.

Engaging in research is crucial for students to grow in their field, gain confidence and kick-start their careers. For some students, the materials needed for their research are expensive, becoming a barrier to the quality of research they can perform. The NHS Student Research Fund helps to ease the cost of materials, affording students the opportunity to present at conferences around the country.

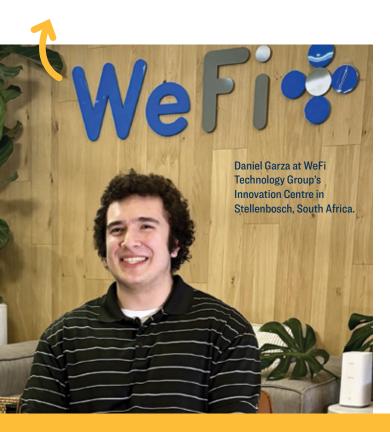
The caliber of undergraduate research being performed on campus is high. A testament to this is the achievement of one undergraduate Physics student who, with the aid of funding, was able to present her research at a prestigious conference. Her work was not only well-received but also earned her an award in her category, highlighting the quality and impact of her undergraduate research. The support provided by this fund allows many talented UNC students the unique opportunity to present their remarkable research; an opportunity that would otherwise be out of their reach.

# The Nicholas Feinstein Technology Internship Scholarship

This summer, Daniel Garza was the first recipient of the Nicholas Feinstein Technology Internship Scholarship, giving him the opportunity to gain hands-on experience working in software engineering at WeFi Technology Group's Innovation Centre in Stellenbosch, South Africa. For two months Garza immersed himself in the company's culture and processes while conducting research and development on the project he was assigned.

Hoping to gain skills and experience that would aid his pursuit of becoming a software engineer, the real-world experience Garza gained from his time at WeFi was invaluable. Through thoughtful mentorship while tackling his project, he built upon the foundational understanding he received in the classroom, working through each problem he came across.

The unique opportunity posed by this scholarship and internship empowered Daniel, and future recipients, to learn from industry professionals while embarking on a life-changing experience in a new country. Garza returned home with valuable hands-on training and exposure to the workforce that will serve him well as he navigates his classes and career.





## The Field Studies Fund

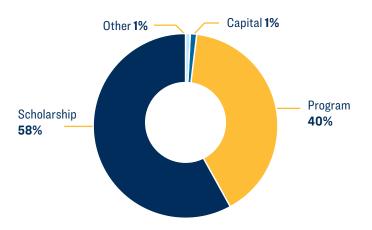
In an effort to equip our students with crucial hands-on career experiences, this academic year, the Department of Geography, GIS, and Sustainability (GGS) utilized the Field Studies Fund to secure transportation of students to conferences, course-related field trips for gaining field skills and visits to professional organizations to learn firsthand about careers in geography and sustainability.

This fund has enabled students to participate in multiple high-impact, experiential programs led by Karen Barton, Ph.D., and other GGS faculty members including:

- An alternative spring break trip to the Mississippi River, where students spent five days working on a garbage barge, picking up trash floating in the river.
- Participation in the Arctic Frontiers conference held in Tromsø, Norway.
- A one-week excursion to Rocky Mountain National Park to learn about careers in park management and protected areas.
- Student attendance and participation in the GIS in the Rockies Conference.
- A course field trip to St. Vrain Creek to study river hazards.
- Visits to professional organizations, including Maxar, Northern Water and Weld County Emergency Operations Center, as part of various classes.

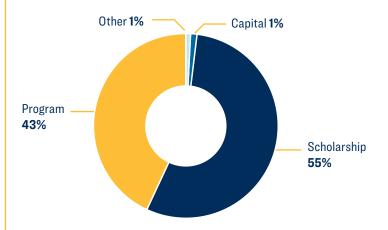
These experiences provide our students with invaluable hands-on learning opportunities and insights into the real-world applications of geography and sustainability principles and wouldn't be possible without generous donations to the Field Studies Fund.

# FY 2024 Endowment Market Value **by Purpose** (\$119.3 million)



	2023-24	2022-23
Scholarship	\$69,370,997	\$65,020,921
Program	\$47,554,425	\$44,541,319
Capital	\$1,331,812	\$1,276,183
Other	\$1,122,422	\$1,066,892
TOTAL MARKET VALUE	\$119,379,656	\$111,905,314

# **FY 2024 Endowment Payout** by Purpose (\$3.9 million)



	2023-24	2022-23
Scholarship	\$2,176,076	\$2,306,247
Program	\$1,704,235	\$1,867,010
Capital	\$44,650	\$44,425
Other	\$41,225	\$40,600
TOTAL DISTRIBUTION	\$3,966,186	\$4,258,282

#### **Portfolio Performance**

Pooled Investment Portfolio 60% Equities/40% Bonds (MSCI ACWI /Barclays U.S. Agg)

One-Year 9.57% 12.49%

Three-Year 4.09% 2.15%

Five-Year 7.86% 6.52%

#### **Investment Performance**

The mission of the University of Northern Colorado Foundation is to provide support and steward donations for UNC. An important element of this mission is investment management, through which support to the University is augmented and ensured for future years. Operating as a fiduciary, the Foundation seeks to both grow and protect funds over the long term. For fiscal year 2023-24 the Foundation's long-term focused investment pool generated a net gain of approximately 9.6%.



of all UNC students received financial aid in FY 2023-24



\$7,626,369 Total dollar amount of donor-funded scholarships awarded in FY 2023-24



2,085 donor-funded scholarships were awarded in FY 2023-24



of undergraduate degreeseeking students identify as the first in their family to attend college







