

Program strengths that illustrate the value of strategic capital investment in the proposed Nursing and STEM Building

Nursing

- **High job placement rates** for UNCG Nursing graduates exceed regional and national rates in both the traditional BSN program (100%, compared to 64% in the south/56% nationally) and the MSN program (98%, compared to 76% in the south/74% nationally). Based on a strong partnership, **Cone Health has indicated capacity to hire ALL of UNCG's new graduate RN's each year.**
- The School of Nursing was designated as a **Center of Excellence by the National League of Nursing (NLN)**, one of only six nursing schools in the nation to earn the honor for three consecutive terms, and its **programs have ranked above or alongside Yale and Duke**, including #26 position nationally in the "Top 50 Best Value MSN Programs", top 100 placements in both online and traditional MSN programs, as well as a #10 ranking for the Adult/Gerontological Nurse Practitioner program.
- UNCG's **Veterans Access Program** creates an **accelerated track to BSN credentialing for medically trained military veterans** by recognizing credit for their high-level training in the field, and in 2014 was one of only 15 sites in the nation and the only school in North Carolina to receive a Federal HRSA grant for its implementation.
- UNCG's School of Nursing produces **9% of state BSN graduates, 18% of state MSN graduates and 32% of state doctoral graduates** to address North Carolina's current and future demand, with particular focus in specialized areas such as adult/gerontological practice and community health needs.

Sciences:

- **Biology represents the largest number of STEM majors** and **second largest major overall at UNCG**, while also serving many other health-related and STEM majors within the university.
- As **program numbers have doubled** over the last decade, Biology is at **161% of lab utilization** in existing teaching lab space and has no space for additional faculty.
- Faculty in the Departments of Biology and Chemistry are actively engaged in **prestigious external research awards and partnerships with industry exploring novel drug leads and scientific innovations and applications for major medical issues** such as MRSA, cancer and flu-related complications. Their work provides a value-added clinical experience for students at both the undergraduate and graduate levels.
- UNCG's Biology and Chemistry programs employ **innovative student-centered teaching practices (undergraduate research, collaborative learning)** that produce students who are better prepared for the workplace immediately upon graduation and foster higher retention and graduation rates. These high-impact teaching methods are invaluable to students and employers, but require high levels of faculty-student engagement and modern classrooms and labs.

Health and Human Sciences:

- Health profession education at UNCG's School of Health and Human Sciences (HHS) fuels the pipeline of healthcare workforce needs across the State in high-impact high-need fields such as speech-language pathology, genetic counseling, gerontology, social work, therapeutic recreation, public health education and nutrition.
- Faculty in HHS are actively engaged in many prestigious external research awards from HRSA, NIH, Department of Defense, Division of Child Services, and foundations such as Templeton and Cone Health. Of all the schools on campus, HHS faculty bring the most research dollars to UNCG.
- HHS graduate outcomes are strong, with an **almost 100% graduation and placement rate** in its professional schools. The **graduate speech-language pathology program is ranked among the top 15 percent of programs in the nation**, and the second highest ranked in the State. On average over the past three years, **every student who has entered the program has graduated, passed the licensing exam and found employment** in the field.
- HHS faculty expertise spans an array of specialized areas (child language, autism, traumatic brain injury, genetics) fostering comprehensive and collaborative exploration of complex problems. The interprofessional collaborative education and research model emphasized in HHS programs is **more similar to actual clinical practice leading to better student preparation and better health outcomes for their clients and patients.**