STEWARDS OF PLACE  UNCG continues to be at the leading edge of identifying, facilitating, and capitalizing on the power that partnerships bring to addressing our community’s top priorities. Whether community is characterized by geography, history, or common interest, UNCG’s faculty, staff, and students are deeply invested in ensuring the success of the communities that define our place.

SCHOOL LEARNING SUCCESS ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

Guilford Service-Learning Coalition
Within the framework of the Guilford County School District’s Character Development through Service-Learning Initiative, the Guilford Service-Learning Coalition trains and embeds students from UNCG and other area colleges within area high schools and community organizations to facilitate service-learning experiences for high school students as they fulfill the requirements for the Service-Learning Diploma.

Piedmont Triad Leadership Academy
Transforming high-need schools requires a special skill set, one that isn’t easily found today. The Piedmont Triad Leadership Academy serves as an outstanding example of UNCG’s efforts to make N.C. primary education as strong as possible. Through the program, UNCG collaborates with area school systems to identify and train aspiring principals who will lead high-need schools.

Graduate STEM Fellows in K-12
GK-12 partners graduate student Fellows from Biology, Biochemistry and Geography with teachers and students in one of the three designated schools that are located along a Greenway. All form discovery teams to scientifically investigate the biological, chemical, physical, health-related, and socioenocomic effect of changing land use patterns in the region.

INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Nanomanufacturing Innovation Consortium
This year, JSNN launched the Nanomanufacturing Innovation Consortium, an industry-focused organization designed to connect JSNN’s research and facilities to manufacturers, which, in turn, will promote job creation and innovation. Engineered Biopharmaceuticals and Syngenta were the first companies to join.

Entrepreneurship in the Arts
The Southern Entrepreneurship in the Arts Conference (SEAC) fills a major void in helping visual, performing, and literary artists learn how to better create sustainable income through self-employment and creativity oriented businesses. In total, more than 750 artists, students, and community members have participated in the SEAC conference over the past three years.

Empowerment Fund
UNCG’s enterprising students aren’t just learning entrepreneurial skills for themselves. They’re sharing what they’ve learned to help empower vulnerable populations. For example, students of Dr. Channelle D. James, lecturer in the entrepreneurship program, participated in the Empowerment Fund Program with Greensboro’s Interactive Resource Center, where they help community members experiencing homelessness develop business plans and apply for micro loans.
ARTS, CuLTuRE, AnD DESigN

Inspiring Community Inclusion
In partnership with the ARC of Greensboro, UNCG Community and Therapeutic Recreation students are hosting an advocacy photography and theatre program that empowers individuals with and without disabilities to have a voice and share their ideas about access, participation, and community inclusion. Over 1000 community members have been reached through participant photographs and narratives in public exhibitions.

Unearthing History
Graduate students from UNCG’s public history program have played a key role in ensuring the community’s rich history doesn’t remain underground. Students partnered with the Terra Cotta Heritage Foundation to create “Past the Pipes: Stories of the Terra Cotta Community,” which is on display at the Terra Cotta Heritage Foundation museum. The students’ work has been honored with the National Council on Public History’s 2013 Graduate Student Project Award.

Improving Water Quality
As water quality is a key to public health, the need for cheaper, robust, and routine monitoring applications are needed to protect water sources from intentional or accidental contamination. UNCG innovators have spun off a company that will develop and sell a diagnostic tool that analyzes microbial communities in water samples.

HEALTHY PEOPLE, HEALThY COMMuniTiEs

Transforming Public Health Department Practices
Protecting and improving the public’s health in a time of scarce resources means challenging times for public health practitioners and policymakers. UNCG researchers are working with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to examine whether local health departments engage in evidence-based public health practices to address population health and health disparities, and will help state and local health departments to be the most effective and efficient in keeping people healthy and safe.

Athlete Wellness
The National Center for Drug Free Sport, the NCAA, the NFL and SoCON are partnering with UNCG and a UNCG spin-off company, Prevention Strategies, to provide drug prevention programming for student athletes from high school to college.

Crossing Cultures
Did you know Greensboro is a federally designated refugee resettlement site? UNCG’s Center for New North Carolinans oversees three community centers that work to lead immigrant and refugee families to self-sufficiency. The centers provide ESOL classes, employment readiness sessions, American cultural education, social and cultural orientation, and after school tutoring at a variety of times at each center throughout the year.

As stewards of place, we are called upon to capitalize on the resources placed in our stewardship by the citizens of North Carolina. These examples demonstrate the power that partnerships can bring when the unique strengths and assets of higher education are combined with those of community partners. The current environment demands that we do more with less – leveraging the best of what we have to offer is one way we can Do Something Bigger All Together.