

**NC STATE UNIVERSITY**  
Wilson College of Textiles

North Carolina  
Textile Foundation

# CAMPAIGN IMPACT REPORT

2016 TO 2022



**NC STATE** THINK AND DO  
THE EXTRAORDINARY





As the only college in the United States devoted entirely to textiles, the Wilson College of Textiles at NC State University is uniquely poised to educate new leaders, support the industry and advance research within this expansive field.

During NC State's Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign, generous donor support and dedicated leadership moved the Wilson College of Textiles forward to success.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Message from the Dean	4
By the Numbers	6
About the Campaign // Five Priority Areas	8
Extraordinary Opportunity	10
Extraordinary Places	16
Extraordinary Purpose	18
Extraordinary Experience	20
Extraordinary Leadership	22
Day of Giving Success	25
Looking Forward with the NCTF	26

They say that a picture is worth a thousand words. What about a video? Use this QR code to see our college's campaign success in action.





A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN OF  
THE WILSON COLLEGE OF TEXTILES

For 122 years, NC State has built a legacy of preparing the next generation of industry leaders by offering them a world-class textiles education. In turn, graduates of the Wilson College of Textiles are prepared to tackle our society’s most pressing challenges.

During NC State’s five-year Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign, the Wilson College of Textiles experienced unprecedented growth. This was made possible thanks to support from individuals like you. Together, we raised more than \$65 million. Your contributions are a shining example of the strength and passion of our Wilson College family. You have set the stage for an even more impactful Wilson for Life journey.

Every gift that was given continues to make an impact on the fabric of our college’s history. You made it possible for our textiles students to do the extraordinary — they’re keeping our armed forces and first responders safe by developing protective fibers, filtering the air we breathe and the water we drink, conducting stem cell research, creating sustainable and inclusive fashion and making their mark on the textile industry in a significant way.

Your support has also empowered the Wilson College to do even more. In the face of a global pandemic, our college has continued to provide life-changing student scholarships, hire the best and brightest staff and faculty, invest in groundbreaking research and forge collaborative partnerships with industry leaders and local entrepreneurs.

You’ve helped us achieve a remarkable finish to an extraordinary campaign. I and everyone in the Wilson College will always be so grateful for your extraordinary support!



David Hinks, Ph.D.  
Dean  
Cone Mills Distinguished Professor of Textile Chemistry  
Wilson College of Textiles



Wilson College of  
Textiles alumna  
Kathleen Kelly '14  
designed the Pack  
Plaid tartan, which was  
officially registered in  
the Scottish Registry  
of Deeds in 2017.



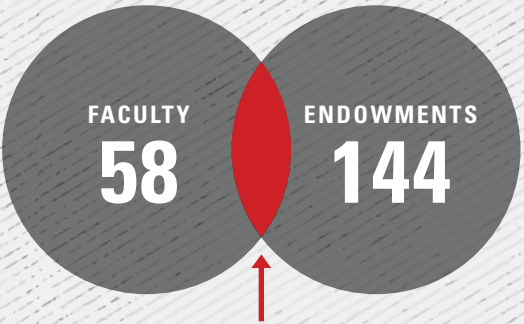
“WE’RE THE PREEMINENT  
EDUCATIONAL  
INSTITUTION FOR  
TEXTILES IN THE WORLD.  
DONOR SUPPORT HAS  
MADE THAT POSSIBLE.”

— DAVID HINKS, PH.D.

DEAN OF THE WILSON COLLEGE OF TEXTILES  
CONE MILLS DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF TEXTILE CHEMISTRY



BY THE NUMBERS // WILSON COLLEGE OF TEXTILES



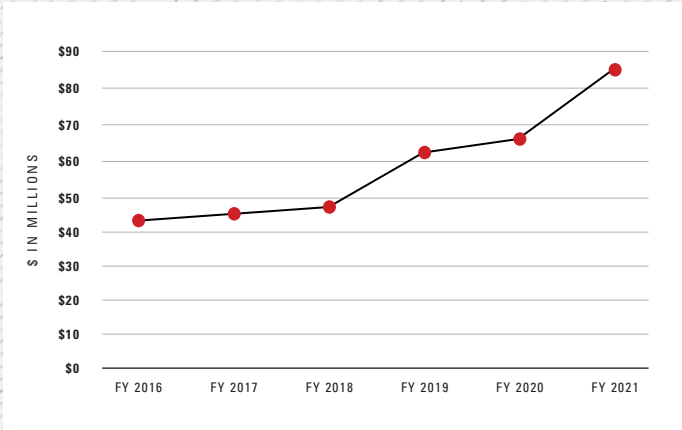
ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS

During the campaign, the college grew its total endowments to 144 endowments. This includes **12 endowed professorships**, two of which were established during the campaign.



900+ SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

A gift to the Wilson College of Textiles provides our students with transformational opportunities. During the campaign, the college awarded scholarships to **more than 900 students**.



ENDOWMENT GROWTH DURING THE CAMPAIGN

The North Carolina Textile Foundation serves as the philanthropic arm of the Wilson College of Textiles. During the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign, the North Carolina Textile Foundation's endowment grew significantly.

From fiscal year 2016 to fiscal year 2021, the foundation's endowment more than doubled from **\$41,510,452 to \$85,382,888**.

**\$65.5+M**

RAISED DURING THE CAMPAIGN

During the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign, the North Carolina Textile Foundation raised **\$65,734,664** for the Wilson College of Textiles.

**3,000+**

DONORS GAVE TO THE COLLEGE

Supporters of the Wilson College of Textiles — **3,216 donors** — rallied together to support students, staff, faculty and innovation in research and education.

**180%**

INCREASE IN DOLLARS

Between fiscal years 2014 and 2019, there was a 180% increase in dollars concurrent with a more than double increase in donors.

**170+**

FUNDS WERE SUPPORTED

During the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign, 172 funds within the Wilson College of Textiles received donor support.

**2,400+**

ALUMNI GAVE TO THE COLLEGE

Between fiscal years 2016 and 2021, an outpouring of donor support for the Wilson College came from 2,439 NC State alumni.

**7,800+**

GIFTS AND NEW COMMITMENTS

The generosity of donors has had an incredible impact on the Wilson College of Textiles through 7,886 gifts and new commitments.

2016



OCTOBER 1, 2016

The college kicked off the public phase of the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign with 250 donors.

The new Peter R. Lord Tutoring Center was celebrated during its dedication ceremony.

DECEMBER 7, 2016



NOVEMBER 8, 2017

A group of 12 young professionals came together to form the Dean's Young Alumni Leadership Council.

The VF Corporation announced a multi-year, collaborative partnership that supports the college.

JANUARY 11, 2018



SEPTEMBER 20, 2018

The college's first need-based scholarship, the Textile Pioneer Scholarship, was created.

A transformative \$28 million gift from the Wilson family named the Wilson College of Textiles.

NOVEMBER 2, 2018



AUGUST 18, 2020

The Textiles Diversity and Inclusion Fund was created to expand targeted diversity programming.

The college increased its donor base tenfold and closed the campaign with 3,216 donors.

DECEMBER 31, 2021



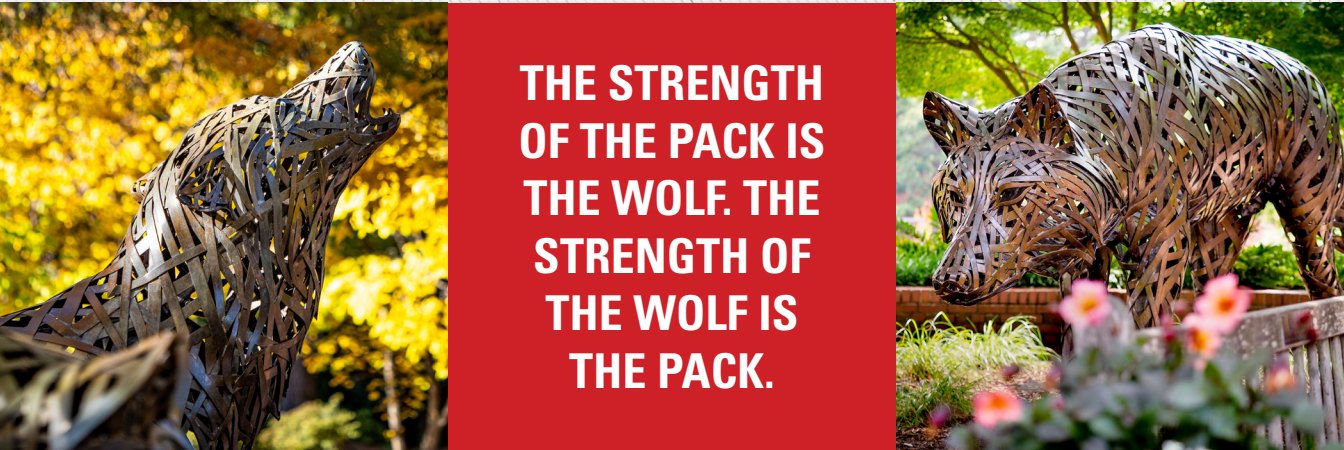
2021



ABOUT THE CAMPAIGN

NC State University’s **Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign**, which came to a close on Dec. 31, 2021, was by far the largest in the university’s history. During the five-year campaign, NC State raised more than \$2.1 billion for scholarships, faculty support, facilities and programs. Only 12 other public universities in the United States have closed fundraising campaigns at the \$2 billion or higher level.

Donor support during the campaign, which totaled \$2,103,932,120, will help drive NC State’s land-grant mission of creating economic, societal and intellectual prosperity for all. The funding raised will be used to both reaffirm the university’s commitment to broad educational opportunity and power its cutting-edge, hands-on innovation as North Carolina’s leading science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) university.

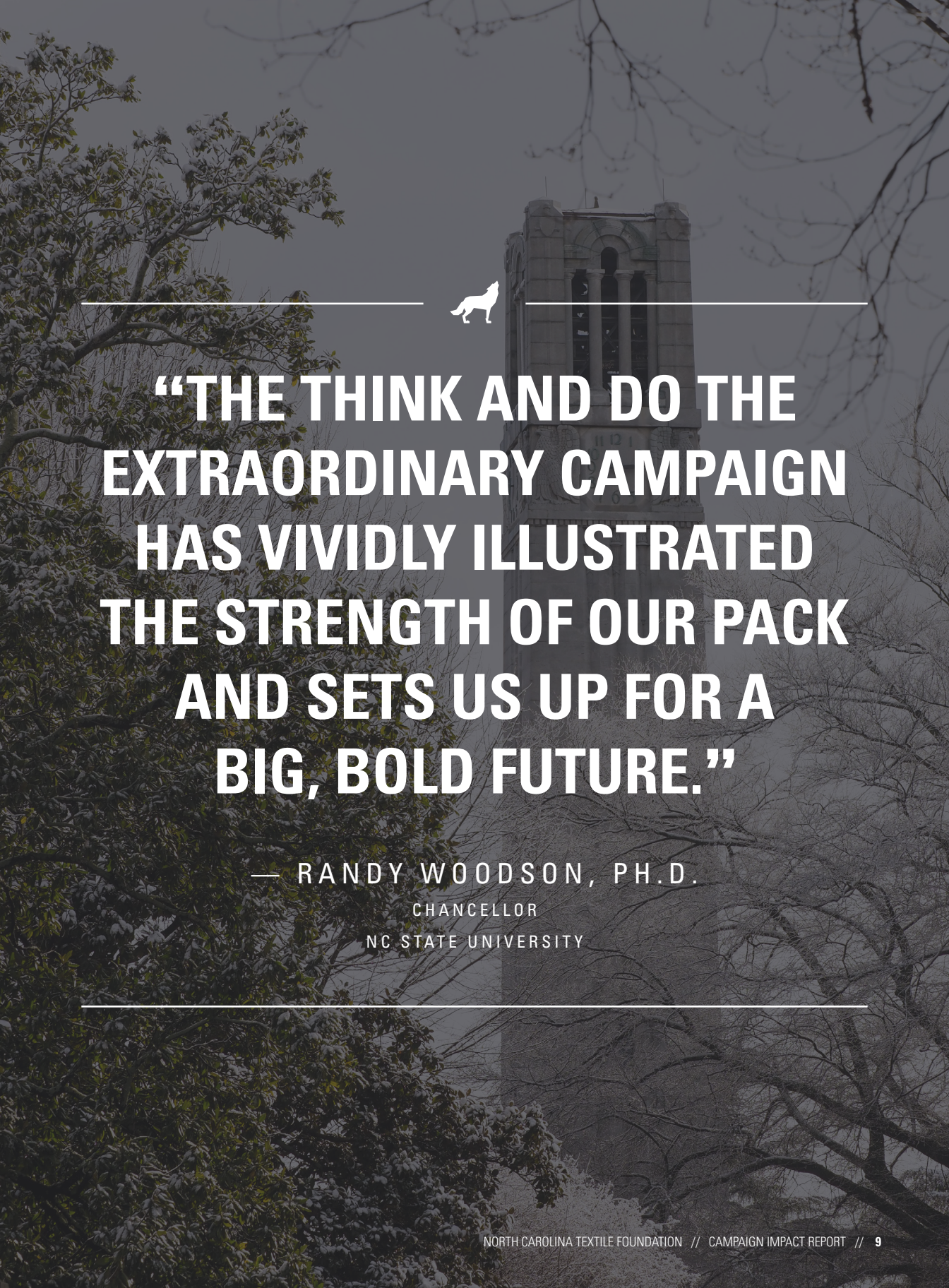


FIVE PRIORITIES FOR CAMPAIGN IMPACT

During the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign, the Wilson College of Textiles joined the university in focusing on five priority areas.

- PRIORITY ONE // Extraordinary Opportunity
- PRIORITY TWO // Extraordinary Places
- PRIORITY THREE // Extraordinary Purpose
- PRIORITY FOUR // Extraordinary Experience
- PRIORITY FIVE // Extraordinary Leadership

In addition to emphasizing those five areas while fundraising for the campaign, the Wilson College of Textiles focused on bringing its vision — of creating a compassionate world in which textiles enhance sustainability and quality of life for all — to fruition.



“THE THINK AND DO THE  
EXTRAORDINARY CAMPAIGN  
HAS VIVIDLY ILLUSTRATED  
THE STRENGTH OF OUR PACK  
AND SETS US UP FOR A  
BIG, BOLD FUTURE.”

— RANDY WOODSON, PH.D.  
CHANCELLOR  
NC STATE UNIVERSITY



## I. EXTRAORDINARY OPPORTUNITY

# NC STATE



*The story of the Wilson College of Textiles is interwoven with that of NC State, North Carolina, the country and the globe.*

*During the university's largest fundraising campaign in its history, support from donors empowered us to think and do the extraordinary.*



*The Wilson College of Textiles is the world's premier institution for textile education, research and service. We owe our success to the generous support of alumni and friends.*

**T**he investment made in the Wilson College of Textiles during the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign will change how the college tackles critical issues 20, 30 and even 100 years into the future.

Generous donor support has created an extraordinary legacy of textile innovation.

### A TRANSFORMATIVE GIFT NAMES THE WILSON COLLEGE OF TEXTILES

With three generations of textiles alumni, the Wilson family is proud to call NC State — and more specifically the College of Textiles — home. The college has become interwoven into the very fabric of their family.

In the fall of 2018, the university received a

\$28 million gift from alumnus Frederick “Fred” Eugene Wilson Jr. ‘61 and the Wilson family. This **transformative gift named the Wilson College of Textiles** in perpetuity. It is the largest gift ever made to the college in its 119-year history and makes the college the second named school at NC State.

As an unrestricted gift, the Wilson family’s support will be channeled toward the college’s strategic priorities and greatest needs, from student scholarships and fellowships, to faculty funding and cutting-edge equipment.



*In 2018, the Wilson family made the largest gift in the college's 119-year history.*

The Wilson family’s High Point-based company, Piedmont Chemical Industries, was founded in 1938 by the late Frederick Eugene Wilson Sr. to support

the local textile industry and has continued to grow and evolve. His son, Fred Wilson Jr. ‘61, serves as chairman of the board for the firm. His children and fellow Textiles graduates, Frederick “Rick” Eugene Wilson III ‘87 and Elizabeth Creswell “Cres” Wilson Calabrese ‘89, and grandson, Frederick “Rede” Eugene Wilson IV ‘16, all work for the family-owned and -operated company.

The Wilsons said their gift honors NC State’s positive impact on their family and their business’ success and underscores their confidence in a renewed U.S. textile industry.

“We are tremendously grateful to Fred Wilson and the Wilson family for their investment in our students, our faculty and our land-grant mission,” says Chancellor Randy Woodson. “We’re proud to have the support of a family with deep North



Carolina roots and long ties to the college and to the textiles industry.”

With their invaluable support, the Wilson College of Textiles will continue to be a vital, vibrant leader in textile education, discovery and practical application of innovation for years to come.



THE IMPACT OF THE CENTENNIAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The **Centennial Scholarship Program** was established to honor the Wilson College of Textiles’ 100th anniversary in 1999. As a top scholarship awarded by the North Carolina Textile Foundation, the Centennial Scholarship Program provides funding to outstanding incoming first-year students on the basis of academic achievement in high school, proven and potential leadership qualities, involvement in extracurricular activities and unique life experiences.

Collectively, Centennial Scholars are active leaders, problem-solvers and global citizens engaged in community service who graduate from the Wilson College prepared to change the world. In addition to providing a minimum of \$15,000 per year for four years, the scholarship also gives students \$7,500 in enrichment funding to be used for study abroad, leadership programs, career explorations or other approved enrichment activities.

Through Centennial enrichment activities, our scholars become culturally and globally aware, preparing them to better participate and thrive in the industry and global economy.

Incoming cohorts of Centennial Scholars begin each year with an annual off-campus summer activity designed to foster leadership and team building.



Up to 10 new Centennial Scholarships are awarded annually with the highest valued at \$95,500 over four years.

“It means so much that there are people in the Wilson College of Textiles who believe in me and my ability so much that they are willing to invest in my future so that I can become a force of good in this world.”

EELYA SEFAT, POLYMER AND COLOR CHEMISTRY  
CLASS OF 2023 CENTENNIAL SCHOLAR



More than 150 Centennial Scholars have graduated from the Wilson College. Without this significant support, many would not have been able to attend college — let alone pursue a career in textiles.

Year after year, Centennial Scholars remark on the life-changing effect of the scholarship program.

91%



MAJORITY OF UNDERGRADS  
CALL NORTH CAROLINA HOME

The majority of undergraduate students enrolled in the college — 700 of 767 — are from the state of North Carolina.

100+

SCHOLARSHIPS  
AWARDED BY THE  
NCTF ANNUALLY

Each year, the NC Textile Foundation administers more than 100 scholarships to students in the Wilson College of Textiles.

75

CENTENNIAL AND  
TEXTILE PIONEER  
SCHOLARSHIPS



were awarded during the Think and Do the Extraordinary campaign.



Three students make up the 2025 class of Textile Pioneer Scholars (left to right): Olivia Jernigan, from Wilson, NC; Jordan Everett, from Fayetteville, NC; and Khiara Dargan, from Jacksonville, NC.

LEADING THE WAY AS TEXTILE PIONEERS

Reflecting the same trailblazing spirit that has continually reinvigorated the textiles industry, the Wilson College launched its first need-based scholarship in 2018 to recruit next-generation talent to NC State.

With a specific focus on rural counties and first-generation university attendees, the **Textile Pioneer Scholarship Program** aims to support the continuum of higher education — from access and admission to graduation and job placement — for students from North Carolina counties facing the greatest economic challenges and barriers to higher education.

The scholarship program is in direct alignment with NC State’s land-grant mission to provide access to students while adding to the Pack’s geographical diversity. Generous donor support empowers the Textile Pioneer Scholarships to award eligible first-year students \$14,000 annually over four years and an additional \$4,000 in enrichment funds to support personal and professional growth.



The Textile Pioneer Scholarship Program aims to identify and recruit qualified students from economically challenged Tier 1 and 2 counties.

In 2021, **Glen Raven, Inc.**, an innovative, global textile company based near Burlington, North Carolina, donated \$250,000 to support the college’s Textile Pioneer Scholarship Program as well as the Dean’s Textile Innovation Fund. Offering substantial support to future textile leaders was an easy decision, according to Glen Raven CEO Leib Oehmig, a current North Carolina Textile Foundation board member. The company employs more than 700 people in North Carolina.

“We want to attract the best and brightest to our industry and to Glen Raven,” Oehmig says. “We can think of no better investment than in those deserving students from diverse, underserved geographic and socioeconomic backgrounds.”



**MISSION** // The Wilson College of Textiles exists to advance the success of our students and the textile industry in North Carolina, the United States and around the world, through teaching innovation, research excellence, strong partnerships and service.

**VISION** // A compassionate world in which textiles enhance sustainability and quality of life for all.

**CORE VALUES** // Compassion — Equity — Collaboration — Innovation — Sustainability

**DEAN’S NONDISCRETIONARY FUND PROPELS THE COLLEGE’S MISSION, VISION AND CORE VALUES**

The **Dean’s Textiles Innovation Fund** was created to empower the dean of the Wilson College of Textiles to provide financial assistance to areas with the most critical need — as quickly as possible.

From helping students who are facing emergency hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to providing faculty with the support needed to present their research at international conferences, the Dean’s Textiles Innovation Fund has helped meet the college’s most immediate needs.

Areas of priority include student, staff and faculty development; tutoring support for all students in the Wilson College of Textiles; hosting educational seminars; travel to top industry conferences; the retention of talented faculty; and innovative new programs and facilities.

With donor support, the Dean’s Textiles Innovation Fund has continued to propel the college forward and align with the college’s mission, vision and core values.

**Donor Support Keeps Students on Track During COVID-19 Crisis**

The way that alumni and other supporters responded to the critical challenges that students were facing due to the COVID-19 crisis was extraordinary. During fiscal year 2020, the college raised nearly \$6 million — the second-largest fundraising year in the college’s history. The **Textiles Student Emergency Fund** and the **Dean’s Textiles Innovation Fund** were used to quickly provide emergency support to students in need and to prevent interruptions in vital academic programs.



**MULTI-YEAR SUPPORT FROM THE VF CORPORATION ENSURES STUDENT SUCCESS IN THE WILSON COLLEGE OF TEXTILES**

The VF Foundation, which is the private grantmaking organization funded by the VF Corporation, has generously supported the Wilson College of Textiles since 2017.

In 2018, the **VF Corporation and NC State announced a collaborative, strategic partnership** to support student development at NC State and advance apparel and textiles innovation within VF.

“VF is proud to partner with NC State University, one of the world’s top universities and home to the only college in the United States devoted entirely to textiles,” says Steve Rendle, chairman, president and CEO of VF. “Through our shared expertise in research and consumer insights, we aim to stimulate apparel innovation while also developing a consistent pipeline of exceptional leaders for our company.”

This innovative partnership has made the following possible:

- Undergraduate and graduate education and training activities for students, including internships, student projects and competitions
- Industry-leading research that has elevated apparel and textile products and experiences
- Executive education opportunities for VF associates
- A VF presence on Centennial Campus, NC State’s nationally recognized research campus

Under this new multi-year agreement, the partnership is further strengthened by NC State’s Poole College of Management, which brings expertise in business analytics and supply chain management. To date, the VF Foundation has granted more than \$50 million in funding and reached more than four million people in communities across the United States and around the world.





## II. EXTRAORDINARY PLACES

As a global leader in textile innovation, the Wilson College of Textiles is home to world-class facilities that support a culture of creativity and curiosity amongst students, staff and faculty.

During the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign, the Wilson College of Textiles was able to expand its physical footprint and leverage the college's research and educational prowess.

### AIDING IN STUDENT SUCCESS AND BUILDING COMMUNITY

Thanks to donor support, students in the Wilson College of Textiles have access to excellent resources to use on their journey to achieve academic success while also helping them connect with their peers.

The new **Peter R. Lord Tutoring Center**, which is funded jointly by the Office of Academic, Career and Student Services and the Dean's Office, is free for all Wilson College students. The center's visitors have gained better study habits, stronger relationships with their peers and improved confidence. The tutoring center, which was dedicated in 2016, is a truly unique resource at NC State that is helping future textile professionals thrive in the classroom.

Private support also made the **Graduate Student Commons** possible. This shared space helps build a sense of community among graduate students by offering them a location to gather, study and connect.

Creativity abounds in the college thanks to the 2,600-square-foot digital print, cut and sew facility, named the **Digital Textile Printing Lab**, which opened in 2015. The completion of the lab was made possible through a grant from the U.S. Manufacturing Innovation Fund, created by Walmart, the Walmart Foundation and the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

### HONORING A TEXTILE LEGEND IN THE ATRIUM

The longtime CEO and board chair of Parkdale Mills, W. Duke Kimbrell '49, was a proud alumnus and major benefactor of the Wilson College of Textiles.

The 4,617-square-foot **W. Duke Kimbrell Atrium** was named to honor his establishment of the \$3 million W. Duke Kimbrell Endowed Scholarship for textile students at his beloved alma mater. Throughout his career and before his passing in 2014, Kimbrell was an energetic advocate for the college among legislators, community leaders and industry giants.

His support was instrumental in securing public and private investments for the Centennial Campus facility and attracting equipment donations.



*The college possesses more than 150,000 square feet of learning space.*



#### PETER R. LORD TUTORING CENTER

The tutoring space goes above and beyond to improve students' development.



#### GRADUATE STUDENT COMMONS

This unique, shared space offers graduate students a place to connect.



**“THE GENEROSITY OF OUR DONORS HAS GIVEN US THE FREEDOM TO NOT ONLY IMPROVE THE SPACES AND FACILITIES WE HAVE NOW BUT TO ALSO PLAN FOR THE FUTURE.”**

— SHAWN DUNNING '96 B.S., TEXTILE MATERIALS SCIENCE  
ASSISTANT DEAN FOR FINANCE AND OPERATIONS, 2018-2022



#### DIGITAL TEXTILE PRINTING LAB

Learning abounds in this 2,600-square-foot digital print, cut and sew facility.



#### W. DUKE KIMBRELL ATRIUM

The atrium is the college's largest gathering space at 4,617 square feet.



### III. EXTRAORDINARY PURPOSE

Textiles today are thriving, creative, global and life-saving. Our college's award-winning faculty excel at innovative teaching and conduct life-changing research.

Professorship gifts and research support, which are two of the most important long-term investments donors can make in the college, empower faculty and students to tackle the industry's most pressing challenges.

#### HONORING OUTSTANDING PROFESSORS

During the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign, donor support added two new named professorships to the college bringing the college's total to 12 endowed faculty positions.

The new professorships, the **Samuel S. Walker Distinguished Professorship in Textile Innovation** and the **Steve E. and Frosene M. Zeis Distinguished Professorship in Technical Textiles**, will recognize the outstanding service of two faculty members to the Wilson College of Textiles and the broader textile industry.

The Samuel S. Walker Distinguished Professorship in Textile Innovation was established by Dudley Walker '52 to honor his father, Samuel Walker '19, and his entrepreneurial spirit. In 1928, Samuel Walker founded the Virginia Underwear Corporation and under his leadership, the company soared. In 1964, after his father's passing, Dudley merged the family's two companies into one powerhouse: the Bassett-Walker Knitting Company.

The Steve E. and Frosene M. Zeis Distinguished Professorship in Technical Textiles was established by graduate Steve Zeis '62 and his wife Frosene to champion innovative textile research. In 2006, the Zeis family established the Zeis Textiles Extension (ZTE) department, which offers programs for entrepreneurs and start-up companies as well as multinational corporations. To date, ZTE has taught more than 600 courses to over 12,000 students.



#### Faculty From All Backgrounds

Our 134 staff and faculty members hail from five continents and span diverse research areas from textile design and management to engineering and chemistry.



#### World-Class Research Facilities

Our extensive facilities offer capabilities in testing, analysis, fabrication and product development. These facilities become an extension of the college's capabilities.



#### Senior Design Learning Lab

A state-of-the-art 4,000-square-foot education space prepares students by offering individual team workspaces, a prototyping space, a material library and various testing equipment.



#### Location = Key To Success

The Wilson College of Textiles is located on Centennial Campus, a national research hub for education, innovation and public-private partnership.



Senior Design is a year-long course that pairs teams of textile engineering and textile technology students with sponsors, ranging from startups to industry giants, to adjust testing methods, create processes, develop products and more.

#### SENIOR DESIGN SPARKS INNOVATION

Supported by sponsors like NASA, Nike, The North Face, Hanesbrands Inc. and Firestone, the college's **Senior Design** program perfectly embodies the university's "Think and Do" motto. The year-long course pairs industry sponsors with graduating textile engineering and textile technology students. The program delivers a real-world experience that prepares our students to solve open-ended problems that they will face upon entering the workforce.

Over the course of two semesters, each student team works through the entire design process. During the first semester, teams work with their sponsor to identify the scope of their project, gather background information, assess competing products or processes and create a design of experiments and tests that justify any prototyping or design decisions. At the start of the second semester, teams enter an iterative cycle of fabricating, testing and refining prototypes using resources from the Wilson College of Textiles and their respective sponsors.

By the end of the year, each team presents a thorough analysis to their instructors and sponsors.



More than 50 companies, ranging from startups to industry giants, have sponsored Senior Design projects.

“Our researchers in the Wilson College of Textiles are addressing the major challenges of the textile and apparel industries in the state, nation and world.”

XIANGWU ZHANG, PH.D.  
ASSOCIATE DEAN FOR RESEARCH  
SAMUEL S. WALKER DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR IN TEXTILE INNOVATION





IV. EXTRAORDINARY EXPERIENCE

Student success is part of the fabric of the Wilson College of Textiles. The development of graduates who are innovative and adaptable and can lead with high integrity, a foundation of relevant and interdisciplinary applied technical knowledge, and strong communication and leadership skills is fundamental to our college’s achievement. Gifts from supporters ignite creativity, discovery and innovation among the next generation of textile leaders.

STUDENTS CAN THINK AND DO WHILE ABROAD

To successfully navigate their way in the world, students need to have a solid understanding that all major issues facing the world today are global issues. Funds created through donor support allow students to do just that.

The **Global Engagement Awards Fund**, established by internationally recognized business leader and humanitarian Mohamed Mansour ‘68, provides extraordinary opportunities for Wilson College of Textiles students to broaden their perspectives, gain new skills, apply classroom learning and prepare to become active, engaged members of the international community.

Additionally, the **Michael McDonald Study Abroad Endowment**, created by Michael McDonald ‘10, makes studying abroad not only possible but also affordable. This fund allowed him to pay forward the invaluable support that he received during his time on campus and beyond.



*Wilson College-specific study abroad programs connect textiles students to countries across the globe, including Italy, Australia and Hong Kong.*

“This experience has not only changed my vision of myself today but, more importantly, who I hope to become. It has shaped my goals for the future and offered unimaginable opportunities for both personal and professional growth.”

NOEL BUITRAGO ‘21 B.S., TEXTILE ENGINEERING  
RECIPIENT OF A 2019 GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT AWARD // STUDIED ABROAD IN SEGOVIA, SPAIN



COLLEGE-SPECIFIC STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM LOCATIONS



STEPPING INTO THE TEXTILE INDUSTRY

For many young people, the college’s **Summer Textile Exploration Program (STEP)** and **Polymer Camp** pre-college programs are their first introduction to the wonders of textiles.

STEP consists of five one-week sessions for rising high school seniors interested in learning about the textile industry, fashion, engineering, polymer science and business marketing. Students participate in sessions and learn about five areas they can explore within the Wilson College of Textiles, including: Apparel Design, Textile Engineering, Business Management, Textile Design and Polymer Chemistry.

In 2019, STEP expanded to include even more young learners thanks to a \$100,000 gift from the Cone Mills Charitable Foundation to establish the **Cone Mills Pioneers STEP Fund**. That generous support allowed the college to host STEP sessions for high school students from North Carolina’s most economically challenged Tier 1 and Tier 2 counties.

Typically held in July, Polymer Camp is a two-day workshop hosted by staff, faculty and students in the Department of Textile Engineering, Chemistry and Science. It’s designed for high school students who are interested in physical sciences and engineering. Participants engage in hands-on learning and interactive sessions, including a screen printing course where they make their own NC State t-shirts.

Time and again, these two pre-college programs are credited for sparking many students’ passion for textiles and lifelong connection with the Wilson College of Textiles.



826 Students

Participated in the Summer Textile Exploration Program (STEP) and Polymer Camp during the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign.



During Polymer Camp, which typically takes place in July, participants engage in hands-on learning and interactive sessions, including a screen-printing course where they make their own NC State and Wilson College of Textiles t-shirts.



V. EXTRAORDINARY LEADERSHIP

The Wolfpack’s strength is not only in its numbers but also in its commitment to one another. With more than 10,500 living alumni and countless friends and partners throughout the world, the Wilson College of Textiles’ extended family is strong and active.

Whether looking to engage with fellow graduates, connect with current students or support the Wilson College, alumni and friends strengthened their connection to the college during the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign in powerful ways.

DISTINGUISHED FOUNDATION BOARD SERVES TO ADVANCE THE WILSON COLLEGE

Created to advance the Wilson College of Textiles through engagement, partnership and philanthropy, the North Carolina Textile Foundation makes the college’s groundbreaking work possible.

Incorporated as a nonprofit charitable and educational corporation, the North Carolina Textile Foundation (NCTF) is governed by the **NCTF Board of Directors**. This independent board of 16 directors works closely with the dean of the college to provide invaluable guidance, philanthropic connections and access to local, national and international partners in the field.

Early leaders included W. J. “Nick” Carter, president of Carter Fabrics Corporation; David Clark, president of Clark Publishing Company; Herman Cone, president of Cone Mills; and J. Spencer Love, president of Burlington Mills.

Other textile executives soon joined the effort, and the foundation was incorporated in 1942. Its initial goal was to raise \$500,000 to supplement the teaching salaries allotted by the state and to help recruit a new dean of the college. By 1945, the NCTF had raised more than \$700,000. By July 1948, the foundation had raised \$1 million.



Thriving Alumni Network

After leaving NC State and the Wilson College of Textiles, our 10,500+ alumni continue to advance the textile industry near and far.



Alumni Highlighted

In 2021, the Dean’s Young Alumni Leadership Council (DYALC) awarded its two inaugural Distinguished Young Alumni Awards.



Expert Foundation Board

The NC Textile Foundation’s Board of Directors boasts a board of 16 remarkable alumni and leaders in the textiles industry in North Carolina and beyond.



Critical Link to Impact

The North Carolina Textile Foundation raised over \$65 million during the campaign to make the college’s industry-leading work possible.

The foundation’s board of directors provide their expert insight to the dean and serve as passionate stewards of the foundation.

During the five-year-long Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign, four individuals rose to the occasion and served as president of the NCTF Board of Directors: Ellen Rohde, Charles Heilig ’92, Rick Elmore ’92 and Brendan Sullivan.



ELLEN ROHDE  
2016 - 2017



CHARLES HEILIG '92  
2017 - 2019



RICK ELMORE '92  
2019 - 2021



BRENDAN SULLIVAN  
2021 - 2023

The foundation board’s contributions during the campaign include 100% board participation on each of the university’s Day of Giving events. Additionally, board support empowered the foundation to consistently reach its highest fundraising numbers in fiscal year 2017, with gifts totaling \$4 million; in fiscal year 2018, with gifts totaling \$4.2 million; and in fiscal year 2019, with gifts totaling \$32 million.

LEADING AS YOUNG ALUMNI OF THE WILSON COLLEGE OF TEXTILES

Established in 2017 with 12 inaugural members, the **Dean’s Young Alumni Leadership Council (DYALC)** is a group of alumni under the age of 40 who provide guidance to the dean and the North Carolina Textile Foundation in the areas of alumni engagement and fundraising.

Founders Chad Seastrunk ’04, ’05 and Mike Ferguson ’04 led as the organization’s first co-presidents.



The Dean’s Young Alumni Leadership Council (DYALC) is a group of Wilson College of Textiles alumni under the age of 40 who promote and support the college, foster relationships and ensure the continued engagement of young alumni.



"I was inspired by our recent alumni's positive energy and interest in staying engaged with our college," says Dean David Hinks.

"We realized that alumni that have been in the workplace a relatively short time would have a very important perspective on how their college could be improved to support future young alumni like them."

The DYALC rolled out two integral programs in the final year of the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign: the **Blend Mentorship Program** and the **Distinguished Young Alumni Award Program**.

The Blend Mentorship Program started as a four-month-long pilot program with 11 graduate students and seven young alumni. It has since grown to include more than 60 students and 50 young alumni. The name of the program, Blend, signifies the melding of two or more types of fibers into a single fabric.

The new Distinguished Young Alumni Award Program recognizes Wilson College of Textiles alumni under the age of 40 for their professional achievement, reflection of the college's core values, service to the industry in addition to community and public service, and entrepreneurship.



*The Dean's Young Alumni Leadership Council is comprised of alumni from the 15 most recently graduated classes.*

## DAY OF GIVING SUCCESS

**N**C State Day of Giving is an annual, day-long fundraising event that typically takes place in the spring. For 24 hours, the Wolfpack comes together to help NC State achieve more: creating greater opportunities, providing broader educational access, fostering bolder visions and conducting more innovative research.

For supporters of the Wilson College of Textiles, **Day of Giving** is the perfect opportunity to join together to raise funds for critical areas, such as life-changing student scholarships, groundbreaking research and collaborative partnerships.

25

### SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS SUPPORTED

During the first three Day of Giving events, 25 scholarship and fellowship funds were supported.

46

### NORTH CAROLINA COUNTIES

NC State supporters span the entire state. Gifts in support of the college came in from 46 counties.



1,608

### DAY OF GIVING GIFTS

Since the inaugural Day of Giving, a total of 1,608 gifts were made in support of the Wilson College.

34

### STATES REPRESENTED

The college received funds from supporters from 34 states and five countries.



#### WILSON FOR LIFE

*Whether alumni are looking to engage with fellow graduates, connect with current students or support the Wilson College of Textiles, there are a variety of ways to stay involved as lifelong members of the Wilson College family.*

## Strengthening the commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion

During NC State's 2020 Day of Giving, the newly-created **Textiles Diversity and Inclusion Fund** received \$26,300 in support from 97 gifts. The fund supports the college's **Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee**, which was renamed in 2021 and tasked with facilitating an atmosphere that increases intercultural, interracial and interdisciplinary awareness. They do this by offering diversity training, hosting a diversity book club and bringing experts to campus.





LOOKING FORWARD WITH THE NORTH CAROLINA TEXTILE FOUNDATION

As I reflect on the journey we have shared over these past five years, it's difficult to fully comprehend the magnitude of what we have accomplished together. I couldn't have asked for a better companion on this path than you and all of the donors who have transformed the Wilson College of Textiles. Your commitment has been unwavering.

On behalf of the college's advancement team and NC State, I want to thank you for your philanthropic investment in the next generation of textile leaders, researchers and entrepreneurs.

I am privileged to serve along with a great team and our extraordinary NCTF Board of Directors to fulfill our mission to advance the Wilson College of Textiles through engagement, partnership and philanthropy. We keep our core values — integrity, trust, diversity, inclusivity, collaboration and authenticity — in mind to inform our work.

After reaching such a high level of success during the Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign, we are even more motivated and driven to continue to build off of the philanthropic momentum you have provided. Together, we will continue to achieve more and ensure that we are meeting the needs of our students and the leaders of tomorrow.

We will continue to seek support and investment into our foundation's endowment and close the funding gaps of our Centennial Scholarship and Textile Pioneer Scholarship funds. Philanthropy will continue to be critical for the future success of NC State and our college, and we hope you will continue to see the value in supporting our future endeavors.

As you read through this impact summary, please know that you are an integral part of this story. The many ways that you have contributed are not lost on us.

Together, we can continue planning for an even brighter future for the Wilson College of Textiles.



Michael Ward  
Executive Director  
North Carolina Textile Foundation



“YOUR GENEROSITY,  
ESPECIALLY DURING  
THESE CHALLENGING  
TIMES, HAS EMPOWERED  
US TO ALWAYS PUT OUR  
STUDENTS FIRST.”

— MICHAEL WARD

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NORTH CAROLINA TEXTILE FOUNDATION  
BOARD MEMBER, SOUTHERN TEXTILE ASSOCIATION



NC STATE UNIVERSITY  
THINK AND DO  
THE  
**EXTRAORDINARY**



The Campaign for NC State

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**NC STATE** UNIVERSITY  
Wilson College of Textiles

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North Carolina   
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