The University of North Carolina Wilmington has been engaged in a multi-year assessment of its efforts to prepare health professionals and to create stronger partnerships with health providers to serve North Carolina in general and the southeast region in particular. Central to these efforts has been the emergence of a health programs strategic plan which calls for the creation of an academic umbrella under which we are aligning health-related programs and the co-location of these programs in a health programs and services academic quad.

During the recent phase of planning UNCW’s efforts have closely paralleled the work of UNC Tomorrow and we have engaged the campus community in a series of discussions that culminated in the establishment of a Health and Human Services College with strong partnerships with practitioners and other UNC campuses. Two of the four facilities planned for the supporting health quad, the new Psychology Building and the new School of Nursing Building, have already been funded. A third facility, the Allied Health and Human Sciences Building, has received planning funding. The new College itself will begin operation in Fall 2009.

These facilities are critical to our ability to realize this broad response to producing more health care professionals, the important challenges put forth by UNC Tomorrow and to providing enhanced services to the region through a creative and coherent plan. UNCW—taking the lead in improving health and wellness in North Carolina.
UNCW HEALTH SCIENCES QUAD