

UNC Tomorrow Project: UNCW Student Affairs

How does UNCW identify and address specific regional and state needs?

What regional and statewide challenges are campuses currently responding to?

The Division of Student Affairs holds *Social Responsibility* as one of its main core values. We create safe, caring, respectful, and productive learning environments. We also help students work with others to develop the social skills, emotional competencies, and qualities of character they need to succeed and become contributing members of their communities.

The Division of Student Affairs shall provide programs and services that promote student learning.

Goal I: Enhance the student learning experience.

Objective 6: Provide programs, services and activities that increase students' capacities for engaging in community and civic affairs.

Goal III: Strengthen the division's regional engagement and outreach activities.

Objective 1: Involve students in community service and civic learning experiences.

Objective 2: Connect theory and practice through service-based learning programs that enrich academic coursework and serve the region.

Objective 5: Provide service to and collaborate with our P-16 educational partners in public schools, community colleges and other universities.

Students are engaged in community service programming, service-learning, and volunteer activities. For the 2005-2006 academic year, students completed 31,040 hours for an economic impact of \$559,962. Students are actively involved in 14 student-led service organizations through the Campus Activities and Involvement Center.

Each year, over 2,000 UNCW students complete internships for academic credit, working with a learning contract developed by each student, their faculty advisor and their on-site supervisor. These meaningful experiences connect students with area for-profit, not-for-profit and governmental organizations.

Community Issues addressed by students and how they responded include the following examples coordinated through UNCW's Center for Leadership Education & Service:

- Blood Shortage
- Homelessness
- Hurricane Recovery
- Poverty
- Youth-At-Risk
- Literacy
- Blood Drives
- Habitat for Humanity, Good Shepard Ministries, St. Mary's Tilestone Outreach
- Volunteers of America, American Red Cross
- Food Drives, Clothing Drives, Fundraisers
- Adopt-A-Family, Angel Tree, Woodlot, Salvation Army
- Teens on Campus – Gang Task Force
- UNCW Kids Tutoring

- **Substance Abuse**
 UNCW's CROSSROADS Substance Abuse Prevention & Education Program has been engaged with New Hanover County to address substance abuse prevention among teens since 1999. At that time, UNCW was approached by New Hanover County Schools to find a way to implement our innovative substance abuse programs for college students on the high school campuses. The cornerstone of the CROSSROADS Cooperative High School Drug Prevention Program in New Hanover County is the mentoring relationship between UNCW students, called College Mentors, and peer educators in all of the local high schools.
 CROSSROADS Cooperative High School Drug Prevention Program is being tested in four states this year: Kansas, Nebraska, South Carolina, and the North Carolina counties of New Hanover, Brunswick, Sampson, and Columbus. CROSSROADS uses college students to mentor high school students who act as peer educators in their high schools. The high school peer educators conduct classroom sessions, drug information booths, and social norms campaigns, as well as act as a drug-free role model for their schools.
 We have trained approximately 240 peer educators in North and South Carolina this academic year (approximately 40% minority), in addition to over 250 in Kansas and Nebraska (Approximately 10% minority).
- **Career Exploration**
 UNCW's Career Services coordinates a range of programs and services that help college and high school students explore their career options, as well as interact with professionals in a wide variety of career settings.
 Job Fairs- Large job fairs sponsored each fall and spring semester for all academic majors with 65 to 95 regional employers represented who are seeking interns and full-time employees. Also host an education job fair each fall and spring for potential P-12 teachers to connect with North Carolina school district representatives, and an annual nursing job fair. Also host a part-time job fair each semester, connecting students with Wilmington-area employers.
 Employer Services: Provide a variety of free recruitment services to local and regional employers, including online job listing service, on-campus information sessions, presentation opportunities in classrooms and student organization meetings, and on-campus recruiting schedules. Facilitate our Employer Advisory Board, meeting twice each year. Also provide free job listing service for local individuals seeking personal attendants, computer support, childcare, manual labor, etc.
 High School Outreach: Conduct career exploration activities in local high school classes, in addition to special programs for at-risk students.

How do campuses currently identify regional and statewide challenges?

Collaborative project planning with area social service agencies, P-12 schools and employers.

Advisory boards of representative constituents.

Research of local, regional and national trend data.

Formal surveys of constituent groups and of target audiences.

Surveys are conducted to evaluate program impact, learning outcomes and suggestions for quality improvement, as well as future programs and services.

General questions.

Student Affairs has established six distinct learning outcomes for our work with students, and incorporate those into the strategic plan of each department. Each of the following outcomes has specific supporting objectives.

- Informed Reasoning
- Effective Communication
- Personal Responsibility
- Pluralistic Maturity
- Well-Being
- Community and Civic Engagement

Each of these student learning outcomes are being evaluated as part of a national assessment study.

Continually monitor the skill needs of employers and graduate programs, incorporating those messages into programs, services and publications. Utilize local, regional and national surveys, as well as conducting our own surveys on specific data needs (i.e. current surveys of employers regarding their technology skills needs of tech graduates and non-tech graduates).