**Our Mission**
The University of North Carolina Wilmington, the state’s coastal university, is dedicated to the integration of teaching and mentoring with research and service. Our commitment to student engagement, creative inquiry, critical thinking, thoughtful expression and responsible citizenship is expressed in our baccalaureate and master’s programs, as well as doctoral programs in areas of expertise that serve state needs. Our culture reflects our values of diversity and globalization, ethics and integrity, and excellence and innovation.

**History**
- **1947**: Wilmington College founded
- **1961**: College Road campus opened
- **1963**: Granted four-year status
- **1969**: Became the 6th university in the UNC System
- **1977**: Offered first graduate programs
- **1985**: Became a comprehensive level university
- **2017-18**: Celebrated 70th anniversary

**Sources:**
UNCW Undergraduate Catalogue
UNCW Archives Randall Library

**Excellence**
- 6th best among public universities and 15th overall
  - U.S. News and World Report list of Best Regional Universities (South); 9th on the list of “Best Colleges for Veterans in the South”
- 7th best online bachelor’s program nationally
  - U.S. News
- 2019 Best Colleges: Region by Region
  - The Princeton Review
- Among the “best and most interesting” colleges and universities
  - Fiske Guide to Colleges 2019
Jose V. Sartarelli is the sixth chancellor and ninth leader of the University North Carolina Wilmington. He brings more than 35 years of professional leadership experience to UNCW. Chancellor Sartarelli is committed to attracting the best students, faculty and staff by supporting the university’s success in applied learning, community engagement and academic research.

Under his leadership, UNCW is focused on diversity and globalization, ethics and integrity, and excellence and innovation. During Chancellor Sartarelli’s tenure, the university has developed and begun to implement its 2016-2021 Strategic Plan; set records for annual enrollment, graduation and philanthropic giving; focused on a master plan to guide campus growth; increased community, military and international partnerships; enhanced online educational offerings; and added several new academic programs. UNCW consistently earns recognition in national rankings. According to U.S. News and World Report, UNCW ranks 6th among the Best Public Regional Universities in the South and 7th nationally for the Best Online Bachelor’s Programs. For the first time in the school’s history, more than 16,700 students are enrolled.

A native of Brazil, he received a bachelor of business administration in marketing (1973) from the São Paulo School of Business Administration (Fundação Getulio Vargas). He attended Michigan State University as a Fulbright Scholar, earning an MBA in marketing (1975) and a doctorate in business administration (1979).

The chancellor took office July 1, 2015. He came to UNCW from West Virginia University, where he served as the Milan Puskar Dean of the College of Business and Economics for five years. At WVU, Chancellor Sartarelli served as WVU’s chief global officer and led a business college that was ranked by Businessweek as one of the top 100 undergraduate business programs in the nation. Before transitioning into higher education, he spent three decades in marketing and management in international business.