Fulbright Honors
NC State was recognized as a Fulbright Top Producing Institution with eight Fulbright Scholars for the 2017-2018 academic year. In addition, Distinguished Professor of Architecture Patrick Rand is the recipient of a Fulbright Distinguished Chair Award. Recipients of this award are eminent scholars in their field who have an impressive record of teaching and publication. Rand will use the award to research and teach at Aalto University in Helsinki, Finland from January to May 2019. Toxicology professor Dave Dorman was named a Fulbright Specialist.

Lidman Awarded Sloan Fellowship
Tye Lidman, assistant professor of mathematics, received the 2018 Sloan Research Fellowship. Sloan Fellowships are awarded to researchers from the United States and Canada whose achievements place them among the very best scientific minds working today. Lidman studies topology to gain a better understanding of the nature of shape, measuring the knottedness of objects in three and four dimensions. His work can aid in DNA analysis by predicting how enzymes can alter shape.

Faculty Receive National Science Foundation Early Career Development Awards
Five NC State faculty members received the National Science Foundation’s (NSF) Early Career Development Award. This award is designed to honor scientists and engineers who have the potential to serve as academic role models in research and education, and whose work can lead to advances in the mission of their organization. It is the most prestigious honor offered by the NSF for early-career researchers. NC State’s 2018 recipients include:

- Eric Chi, assistant professor of statistics
- Landon Grace, assistant professor of mechanical and aerospace engineering
- Alexander Kemper, assistant professor of physics
- Divine Kumah, assistant professor of physics, and
- Kathryn Stolee, assistant professor of computer science

Winners Selected at 13th Annual Graduate Research Symposium
More than 200 NC State graduate students who presented their research projects this week at the 13th Annual Graduate Student Research Symposium, and 24 were recognized as the best presenters in their disciplines. The research symposium provides students the opportunity to present their research posters. Judges in each discipline evaluate students on the quality of their research, quality of information on the poster, oral communication, and creativity.

“Green” Catalysis Technique Increases Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Efficiency
Jan Genzer, a professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering at NC State, is working to develop a fast and efficient means of manufacturing pharmaceuticals. Current practices use palladium-driven catalytic process that are either fast or efficient, but Genzer and her team have developed a green chemistry method that combines aspects of both processes, thus improving efficiency without significantly increasing processing time. Additionally, this “pseudo-homogeneous” catalysis technique uses non-toxic solvents, making it cost- and time-effective with little environmental impact.
NC State Researchers Create Amphibious Aircraft
A team of researchers from NC State have developed the first unmanned, fixed-wing aircraft that can travel both through the air and under the water and is capable of transitioning between the two repeatedly. NC State faculty Matthew Bryant, Kara Peters, Ashok Gopalarthnam and Larry Silverberg developed the EagleRay XAV with funding provided by a Teledyne Scientific research contract. The project also afforded Ph.D. and undergraduate engineering students opportunities to work on the aircraft. It has potential for applications to track and observe wildlife.

Industrial Systems & Engineering Improve Food Bank Effectiveness
Julie Ivy, a professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering, and a team of researchers from NC State have developed two computer models designed to improve the ability of food banks to feed as many people as possible, as equitably as possible, while reducing food waste. The first uses historical data to establish ranges of how much capacity each county has, in conjunction with each county’s needs, to determine how food supplies should be distributed. The second takes into account each county’s need and ability to distribute food in a timely way in order to feed as many people as possible across counties before the food goes bad.

NC State Recognized among “Best Employers for Diversity”
Forbes Magazine ranked NC State on its list of the “best employers for diversity in America.” The rankings were based on data of an organization’s diversity, including gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, age and disability. The data came from an August 2017 survey of 30,000 United States employees at organizations with 1,000 or more workers. NC State is in the top 100 of the 250 organizations to make the list. NC State is one of only 14 universities in the top 100 and the only university in North Carolina.

College of Sciences Foundation Gift
The College of Sciences received a $4.5 million bequest, one of the largest gift commitments ever for the COS. It will endow a $2.5 million distinguished faculty chair, a $1.5 million undergraduate scholarship fund, and a $500,000 graduate fellowship, all in the Department of Mathematics. The gift will provide the distinguished faculty chair recipient with funds to advance their research, take on graduate students, subsidize travel to conferences, and facilitate participation in scholarly and research activities. The scholarship fund will provide approximately six full-tuition scholarships for recruiting top undergraduates in applied math, while the fellowship will help recruit talented graduate students.

NC State Athletics Achieves New Heights
• The NC State Men’s Swimming & Diving team won the ACC Men’s Swimming and Diving Championship for the fourth year in a row, winning gold in four of the six events and breaking American, conference, school, pool and meet records in the process.
• NC State Women’s Basketball made it to the NCAA Sweet Sixteen, and Coach Wes Moore is the second women’s coach in NC State’s history to take a team to the Sweet Sixteen, with Kay Yow being the first.
• Mike Macchiavello won the 197-pound title at the NCAA Wrestling Championships. He is the program’s seventh individual national champion.