Community College Collaboration (C3) Expansion
NC State recently announced a gift from the North Carolina GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) Foundation to expand the university’s Community College Collaboration (C3), a dual admission program between NC State and eight North Carolina community colleges neighboring Raleigh. The $1,064,000 investment will bolster the program to allow NC State to expand the yearly student admissions allotment from 120 to 150 students per year. It will also allow us to add Robeson Community College and Sampson Community College to the program, bringing us to ten regional community college partners. The support provided by the C3 program helps students from low- to moderate-income households transition more smoothly to a four-year degree at NC State.

Postdoc Receives NIH Award
A NC State Postdoctoral student was awarded the prestigious National Institute of Health (NIH) Directors Early Independence Award, originating from the agency’s High-Risk, High Reward Research program. Zach DeVries, a researcher in the entomology lab of Coby Schal, received this outstanding award last month. The award for this achievement will provide $250,000 per year for five years, and DeVries is one of only 13 individuals selected across the country for this award in 2019. DeVries will use this funding to expand upon his current research and previous findings that bed bug histamine is prevalent in homes infested by these bugs. This achievement epitomizes the caliber of students and researchers that NC State is empowering to pursue their passions and make impactful solutions to complex problems facing our world today.

Student Service
Twelve students from NC State’s College of Education Students Advocating for Youth (SAY) Village traveled to Charleston, South Carolina over their Fall Break last month to collaboratively serve the youth in underserved communities. By visiting at-risk youth, these service trips allow students in the College of Education to gain first-hand experience in non-traditional education settings and further their understanding for youth advocacy in underprivileged communities. Community service functions as a major cornerstone here at NC State, and I am proud to see that our student groups and living and learning villages understand the great importance of community service and are dedicated to making a change in the lives of others.

NSF Grant for Artificial Intelligence
Researchers from the College of Engineering and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences were recently awarded a $980,000 grant from the National Science Foundation to develop new artificial intelligence tools to help job seekers and employers manage the rapidly changing labor market. The project will help tackle the societal challenges of workforce retention and benefit local communities, four-year colleges, as well as school districts and manufacturers of all sizes within North Carolina and beyond.
**Design Faculty Success**
Multiple Professors of Practice with the College of Design won AIA NC Design Awards. Three received individual awards: Bill Askey received the emerging professional award; Erin Sterling Lewis received the William H. Deitrick Service Medal; and Katherine Peele, a recent professor in practice with the College of Design, received the F. Carter Williams Gold Medal. The late Steven D. Schuster, FAIA received the Legacy Award, which was then renamed in his honor. In the future, it will be the Steven D. Schuster Legacy Award.

Two firms with five of our Professors of Practice were recognized in the residential design awards category as well. The Kimball Residence project by situ studio received a merit award (AIA Professors of Practice: Matt Griffith, Zach Hoffman, and Erin Sterling Lewis). The Haymond Residence project by tonic design received an honor award (AIA Professors of Practice Vincent Petrarca and Katherine Hogan). Ultimately, more than 130 entries were submitted to 22 awards. This is just another demonstration of how our school of architecture is creating innovative spaces and artistic novelties, which are helping to develop a new community image.

**Research Initiatives**
As a leading research institution, NC State breaks ground and furthers its diverse and cutting-edge research initiatives everyday. Most recently, NC State researchers have made a breakthrough in aircraft wing technology. New research shows a combination of steel composite metal foam (CMF) and epoxy resin has more desirable characteristics compared to the leading-edge and current widespread use of aluminum. The CMF hybrid material is about the same weight as aluminum, but its durability, flight performance, safety, cost and fuel efficiency greatly outweigh that of aluminum. NASA is a key supporter of the CMF research project currently taking place on centennial campus.

The Chancellor’s Innovation Fund is also supporting groundbreaking research and scientific innovation. Michael Sano, from NC State and UNC’s Joint Biomedical Engineering program, has created a new alternative to the use of chemotherapy and radiation on inoperable tumors. His new method uses electrical pulses and mild heating to selectively kill the dangerous cells, all while only taking a mere seven minutes. The support that the CIF provides Sano will allow him to conduct testing that is needed in order to achieve FDA approval for this revolutionary new approach to fighting cancer.

**Athletics**
NC State men’s and women’s cross country teams are ranked in the top 10 on the most recent United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association National Coaches Poll. The Wolfpack men placed No. 10 and the women placed No. 9 overall nationally. This is the first time since 2015 that both NC State programs are ranked in the top 10, which is a testament to the hard work and passion our men’s and women’s teams put into their sport.