Endowed Chairs and Professorships

NC State unites the world’s best faculty and researchers with government and industry partners to think and do the extraordinary. Our faculty create dynamic new approaches to teaching and learning, fuel industries and breakthroughs and guide our students to impactful futures.

Chairs and Professorships at NC State

NC State is home to more than 2,000 outstanding teaching, research and extension faculty: extraordinary scholars and educators who create dynamic new approaches to teaching and learning, fuel industries and breakthroughs, and guide our students to extraordinary futures. Twenty-five are members of prestigious National Academies. Many more have won national and international awards and professional recognition for excellence.

Recruiting and retaining exceptional faculty to lead academic programs is a priority for all universities. Endowed faculty positions are essential in this process. Endowed positions signal the commitment of the university to an academic discipline at the highest level. They attract leading scholars who, in turn, attract top faculty and students. For faculty, endowed positions affirm the value placed on the excellence of one’s work and demonstrate to other faculty that extraordinary work is rewarded by the university community.

The market for outstanding faculty is intensely competitive. Compared with peer research institutions, NC State has significantly fewer endowed chairs and distinguished professorships. Increasing the number of endowed faculty positions will enable NC State to recruit new faculty and retain excellent scholars already at our university. In addition to valuable salary support, endowments for faculty positions also provide vital discretionary funds that these scholars can use toward their research, conference travel and other professional needs.

Growing our extraordinary faculty through a substantial increase in endowed professorships is a key priority for The Think and Do the Extraordinary Campaign, the most ambitious fundraising effort in NC State history.
Why Endowments Matter
Endowments provide donors with opportunities to create living legacies. When you create an endowment, you touch the lives of future generations. Your gift is immediately invested and, when fully funded, produces annual income to support the endowment’s purpose for years to come. As endowments grow over time, they are able to provide even greater amounts of support.

While cash gifts for current use are vitally important, endowments are the bedrock of all great universities. They provide certain, steady support in perpetuity. Funds invested in NC State endowments help to offset continued reductions in government support and enable us to plan for the future with greater predictability than otherwise possible.

Faculty Endowments at NC State
It is often said that the quality of a university may be measured by its number of endowed chairs and professorships. Increasing the number of endowed faculty positions is a foremost priority of Think and Do the Extraordinary: The Campaign for NC State.

By helping to increase the number of endowed faculty positions at NC State, you can play a major role in advancing the stature of the university. Donors who endow a faculty position will forever be associated with the prestige of the position and the extraordinary work of its holders.

There is no better legacy to NC State than a gift of endowment.

Opportunities For Your Support

Endowed Chair
Your gift of $2.5 million or more will provide salary and operational support enhancements to attract or retain extraordinary scholars to the college of your choice.

Endowed Distinguished Professorship
Your gift of $1 million or more will provide salary supplements and other resources to attract and retain highly respected scholars to the program of your choice. Many gifts qualify for state matching funds. The North Carolina General Assembly currently offers a generous gift-matching program available to donors who establish a distinguished professorship.

Endowed Faculty Award
Your gift of $100,000 or more will provide supplemental support to faculty for their teaching, research or extension responsibilities.

Endowed faculty positions are a wonderful way to honor your family or recognize someone special. Endowment gifts may be pledged over a number of years and may be funded through cash gifts as well as planned or deferred gifts.