

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA ASHEVILLE  
FACULTY SENATE

Senate Document Number      SD0822F  
Date of Senate Approval      12/8/2022

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Statement of Faculty Senate Action:

**IDC 1: Update to the University Mission Statement**

**Effective Date:** TBD upon approval by the Board of Governors.

**Summary:** This document proposes an updated University Mission Statement for consideration by the Board of Governors.

**Rationale:** Early in 2022, the Board of Governors invited campuses to revise their mission statements. This summer, the Board of Governors approved a new mission statement for UNC Asheville; however, that mission did not go through a proper shared governance process as outlined by system guidelines [400.2.3\[R\]](#). Additionally, the university is currently undergoing review for accreditation, and SACSCOC guidelines call for an up-to-date and accurate mission statement ([SACSCOC Resource Manual](#)). This document proposes an updated mission statement for consideration by the Board of Governors. This updated version has been drafted with consultation from IDC, Faculty Senate, Staff Council, and the broader university community.

**Current Mission Statement:**

The University of North Carolina Asheville is North Carolina’s designated public liberal arts and sciences university and one of the 17 excellent, diverse, and accessible institutions of the UNC System. UNC Asheville’s relationship-driven education prepares students for lives of leadership and service with an emphasis on critical thinking, clear and thoughtful expression, applied research, community engagement, free and open inquiry, and undergraduate and graduate programs that address the most pressing issues of our time. Through small class sizes, close collaboration, and high-impact experiences, we are preparing the next generation of leaders and productive citizens to serve North Carolina and the nation.

**Revised Mission Statement:**

As the UNC System’s designated public liberal arts and sciences university, ~~UNC the University of North Carolina~~, Asheville provides a distinctive learning experience that prepares students to thoughtfully engage with the most pressing issues of the state, nation, and world. Situated among the mountains of western North Carolina, UNC Asheville offers bachelor’s and master’s degree programs that highlight place-based engagement, innovative research, sustainability, and student success. UNC Asheville’s unique core curriculum and small classes encourage interpersonal growth, critical thinking, free and open inquiry, diversity and inclusion, and experiential learning. Through this student-centered approach, the ~~faculty and~~ staff of UNC Asheville prepare students not only to adapt and ~~to~~ contribute productively to western and greater North Carolina, but also to be thoughtful global citizens and to live prosperous and fulfilling lives.

| Approved by the Faculty Senate [~~date~~ Thursday, December 8, 2022]

Approved by the Staff Council [*date*]

Approved by the Chancellor [*date*]

Approved by the Student Government [*date*]

Approved by the Board of Trustees [*date*]

Approved by the Board of Governors [*date*]