HOW DO WE CREATE AN EDUCATION SYSTEM that offers equitable and high-quality opportunities to all children? This is what’s called a “wicked problem” — a term used to describe the greatest social and cultural dilemmas facing society today. The School of Education (SOE) is devoted to tackling this incredibly complex issue and breaking down barriers to prepare the next generation of pioneering professionals.

The SOE is a center of excellence, offering more than 20 outstanding undergraduate and graduate degree programs. Along with rigorous in-class preparation, a cornerstone of our program is extensive experiential learning through internships, collaboratives, field placements, faculty-mentored research, and student innovation projects. These opportunities prepare students with the intellectual skills and cultural awareness to excel across a variety of multicultural environments.

The SOE faculty are internationally recognized researchers dedicated to promoting a more equitable and just society through developing solutions to the greatest challenges facing education. Each year, we lead dozens of research projects and community-based initiatives supported by federal, state, and private grants.

Through Light the Way, you can elevate our students, faculty, and programs. You can provide the resources to support the most promising future teachers. You can invest in their high-impact experiential learning. And you can power the innovation that will help us solve the wicked problem of educational inequity and positively impact schools right here in North Carolina and across the nation.

#1 in the Piedmont Triad for producing education professionals

Counseling and Educational Development (CED)’s Student Counseling specialty area has been ranked No. 4 in the nation by U.S. News & World Report

Library and Information Science is the No. 1 online program at UNC Greensboro

300,000 volunteer hours our students and faculty spend each year in service to our community partners

1 of-a-kind Professions in Deafness program, which prepares graduates to address the unique needs of deaf/hard of hearing persons

Ranked a Top Graduate School in the Nation by U.S. News & World Report
Priorties

Leading Innovation.

Create Equitable Access
One of the greatest challenges to providing an equitable education for all children in North Carolina is a pervasive shortage of highly qualified teachers who are representative of the state’s racial, ethnic, and linguistic diversity. A primary factor limiting prospective teachers from entering the SOE is the cost and associated debt of earning a college degree. We hope to light the way in overcoming these barriers by providing broader access for a diverse pool of future teachers, particularly those who are underrepresented in the teacher workforce. You can advance this goal by establishing an endowed scholarship to ensure that students who want to become teachers can graduate with minimal tuition debt. Our short-term goal is to double our scholarship endowment to $24 million. Our long-term, multi-campaign goal is $54 million, which would fully fund the Teacher Access Program— an initiative that would provide tuition assistance to every prospective teacher who needs it. Your generosity will help address the critical teacher shortage in the state and expand the teacher workforce to one that is representative of North Carolina’s student population.

Prepare Exceptional Educators
The professional environment facing new graduates is highly complex and more demanding than ever. One thing is clear: to develop an outstanding workforce of education professionals prepared to be successful from their first day on the job, we must provide outlets for them to hone their skills in authentic professional environments. The campaign provides an ideal opportunity to strengthen those outlets, giving our students superior preparation that will equip them to better serve their communities. Your gift will light the way by supporting high-impact learning experiences for students starting their freshmen year, including expanded early-program internships, study abroad, student engagement in research and innovation projects, faculty-mentoring programs, service-based learning, and travel for presenting research at professional conferences. Your generosity will help create real-world, engaged learning opportunities that prepare future educators to make an extraordinary impact in their communities.

Advance Innovation in Education
Developing an educational system that provides equitable, high-quality experiences for all children means we cannot keep doing what we have always done. While university faculty are highly engaged in developing novel solutions to the multifaceted challenges facing our schools and school districts, too often these ideas never make it beyond professional journals and conferences. At the SOE, we actively work to bridge the gap between scholarship and practice through the Impact Through Innovation (ITI) initiative and the Institute for Partnerships in Education (I-PIE). ITI works directly with SOE students and faculty in developing promising new ideas into applicable solutions to enhance education and the socio-emotional well-being of children, families, and communities. I-PIE then serves as the bridge between the SOE and our communities by developing the relationships to build long-term partnerships between the SOE and education-related agencies across the state and beyond. Your support through the campaign can help underwrite these efforts. You can elevate the impact of these initiatives with gifts to fund the programs or their individual components.

“We are committed to doing our part to solve the wicked problem of educational inequity by reimagining this country’s education system so it offers equitable and high-quality opportunities to all children. Through the campaign, you are our partners in this effort. Together, we will bring cutting-edge research into classrooms and communities, translating it into practice through partnerships and innovations.”

— Dr. Randy Penfield, Dean

Transforming Learning,
JOIN US IN LIGHTING THE WAY

FROM NEAR AND FAR, from small farm towns to the biggest cities, from all backgrounds and all circumstances, our students find their way here and find their future here. By delivering an education of the highest quality and ambition, UNC Greensboro transforms students, transforms knowledge, and transforms the region.

UNCG is now primed to be counted among the best universities in the state. We are poised and prepared to take our next giant steps. The strategic plan and priorities are in place. Committed leadership is in place. An extraordinary faculty and outstanding student body are in place. Community volunteers are motivated. We are ready. Bold is better.

Together, we will light the fuse and light the way for UNCG by raising $200 million to strengthen student access, academic excellence, and the tremendous impact of our programs.