

Durham Tech 2022-2023 Annual Report (text-only version)

(Three Durham Tech students smiling together outside.)

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Letter from President JB Buxton

Community Members:

At Durham Tech, 2023 was a year of strengthening partnerships and creating new opportunities for the College's students and employees.

Durham Tech knows how fortunate we are to have strong support from our elected leaders, area employers, and community members who believe in our mission and stand shoulder-to-shoulder with us in ensuring higher education access and success, greater social mobility and improved quality of life.

The College is in the process of planning construction of two new buildings on Main Campus — one for Life Sciences and one for Health Sciences. We also are expanding the Orange County Campus. This fall, we opened a new site in Chapel Hill on Franklin Street in the Innovate Carolina Junction, our seventh campus location. These projects are possible through the support of our local city and county governments, voters who supported the Durham Tech bond referendum in the fall of 2022, and industry partners like Novo Nordisk.

We have built new partnerships and strengthened existing ones to create more opportunities for people in our community, better meet the needs of employers, and continue to serve as a primary engine for driving economic growth in the region.

We entered into a partnership this year with the Duke University Health System to address the nursing shortage with innovative approaches to increase the numbers of nursing graduates from Durham Tech. We expanded our existing Eagle Connect program to ensure more Durham Tech students transfer to and graduate from N.C. Central University. Durham Public Schools and the College have joined forces in a partnership that is unique in the state. Within the next five years, 25% of DPS students will graduate with an associate degree or workforce credential in addition to their high school diploma. As part of this effort, Durham Tech faculty are going into local high schools to teach courses and reach more students.

One of the College's core beliefs is that anyone who seeks to attain greater knowledge should have that pathway available. Our faculty and staff continue to find ways to remove barriers that may block students and potential students from achieving their aspirations. The College, for example, recognized housing instability was an issue many students face and has worked with community partners and stakeholders to move forward with a plan to build 124 units of affordable housing on the eastern edge of the Durham Main Campus. Thanks to support from the Durham City Council and County Commissioners, that plan is moving forward.

The 2022-2023 school year was a good year for innovation and forward-thinking ideas. The College is committed to helping students meet their personal and professional goals and to serving as a force for progress in the Durham and Orange communities. We take great pride in our role in the economic vitality and quality of life in Durham and Orange counties and we appreciate the support you provide to the College and our students.

Best,

(Signature)

J.B. Buxton

President, Durham Tech

2022-23 Board of Trustees

Appointed by the Governor

Walter Newton

Barker French

Gracie Johnson-Lopez

Pilar Rocha-Goldberg

Appointed by the Durham County Commissioners

Jenna Bryant

Geoff Durham

Dr. Tara Fikes – Chair

Brenda Howerton

Appointed by the Orange County Commissioners

Janet Hader

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Appointed by the Durham Public Schools Board of Education

Dr. Pat Ashley – Vice Chair

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Rev. Michael Delano Page

Charles Wilson

Durham Tech President

J.B. Buxton

Student Trustee

Gabrielle “Elle” Hargrave

Durham Tech at a Glance – College Profile

CLASS OFFERINGS (CU)

Class Offerings (CU)	Percent
Hybrid	22%
Online	53%
In-Class	25%

AVERAGE CLASS SIZE (CU)

23 students

STUDENT RESIDENCY

County	Percent
Durham	49%
Orange	15%
Wake	15%
Other	21%

STUDENT AGE

Age	CU	CE
17 and Under	13%	<1%
18-24	46%	16%
25-44	33%	53%
45-64	8%	28%
65 and Over	<1%	3%

STUDENT HEADCOUNT (UNDUPLICATED)

Pathway/Program	CU	CE
Building Engineering and Skilled Trades	9%	19%
Business & Entrepreneurship	8%	17%
Center for the Global Learner	-----	8%
Creative & Liberal Arts	34%	3%
Health and Wellness	17%	11%
Human Services & Public Safety	4%	39%
Information Technology	5%	<1%
Science & Math	15%	3%
Special/Visiting	8%	-----
Total Student Count	5,050	3,158
Basic Skills/Adult High School	-----	1,181
Center for Workforce Engagement	-----	1,065

STUDENT RACE/ETHNICITY

Student Race/Ethnicity	CU	CE
American Indian/Alaska Native	1%	1%
Asian or Pacific Islander	6%	5%
Black, Non-Hispanic	34%	24%
Hispanic/Latinx	22%	12%
White	30%	33%
Other/Unknown/Multiple	8%	26%

STUDENT GENDER

CU	CE
63% female 36% male 1% undisclosed	44% female 56% male

FINANCIAL AID (FA)

Source of Funds	Dollar Amount
Federal FA	\$9,224,943
Pell	\$5,235,969
Direct Student Loans	\$2,285,960
HEERF	\$1,442,750
SEOG	\$132,805
Federal Work Study	\$127,459
State FA	\$945,278
Local FA	\$1,421,553
Total FA	\$11,591,774

STUDENTS RECEIVING FINANCIAL AID (CU)

Source of Funds	Percent
Emergency Relief (HEERF)	21%
Pell Grant	33%
Federal Loans / Other Grants	14%
NC Grant / Scholarships	22%
Durham & Orange County Promise Grants	6%
Durham Tech Scholarships	4%
External Scholarships	<1%

COLLEGE BUDGET

Source of Funds	Dollar Amount
State	\$37,460,951
Durham County	\$9,743,434
Orange County	\$1,204,405
Federal Grants	\$13,067,078
Private/State & Local Grants	\$3,522,024
Student Fees & Other	\$3,148,009
Total Source of Funds	\$68,145,901

FINANCIAL AID BY COUNTY

County	Percent
Durham	53%
Orange	18%
Wake	13%

- 6,832 Grants, Scholarships, & Awards Dispersed
- 61% Students Received Financial Aid* *Students could receive multiple forms of financial aid.

PART-TIME EMPLOYEES

Type	Count
Faculty (adjunct)	587
Staff (part-time)	76
Faculty (full-time)	106
Staff (full-time)	238

EMPLOYEE RACE/ETHNICITY

Race/Ethnicity	Part-Time	Full-Time
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1%	1%
Asian or Pacific Islander	3%	3%
Black, Non-Hispanic	27%	42%
Hispanic/Latinx	4%	5%
White	63%	49%
Other/Multiple	2%	1%

FACULTY & STAFF GENDER

Part-Time	Full-Time
52% female	68% female
48% male	32% male

A Gift for the Future of Life Sciences

Novo Nordisk Supports Durham Tech's Life Sciences Programs & New Training Center with \$6 Million Gift

In January 2023, Novo Nordisk made the largest corporate donation in the College's history to benefit students from middle school through college.

Novo Nordisk, a leading global healthcare company that produces innovative medicines to treat diabetes and rare blood disorders, announced a \$6 million gift to Durham Tech to support the College's life sciences program and a new 35,000-square-foot Life Sciences Training Center.

Novo Nordisk, with three manufacturing facilities across Durham and Clayton, is celebrating its 30 years in the Triangle. This donation is part of Novo Nordisk's decades-long effort to support the growth of the local biotechnology sector. With nearly 1,800 employees across the region, ensuring a strong, resilient workforce for the future is a top priority for Novo Nordisk, as the company has plans to continue expanding its biomanufacturing operations.

With the support of Novo Nordisk, Durham Tech is:

Establishing a Biotechnology Associate of Applied Science degree program (for current college students).

Creating onsite training for biotechnology career transition programs to upskill/reskill existing employees and other related workforce training partnerships.

Ensuring students are properly trained in using biotechnology equipment.

Providing outreach and awareness for area middle and high school students.

(Text over photo of Novo Nordisk Leadership: Building a Strong, Resilient Workforce with \$6 Million)

(Photo: North Carolina Representative Zack Hawkins, Novo Nordisk Vice President Dale Pulczynski, Novo Nordisk Government and Public Affairs Lead Shaylah Nunn Jones, Durham Tech President J.B. Buxton, Durham Tech Vice President and Chief Academic Officer Dr. Kara Battle, NCCCS Interim President Dr. Bill Carver, North Carolina Senator Mike Woodard)

Durham Tech & Duke University Health System Partner to Create Nursing Talent Pipeline

In June, Durham Tech, Duke University Health System, and the Duke Office of Durham and Community Affairs announced they have joined forces to address the national nursing labor shortage crisis impacting North Carolina.

Duke nurses will serve as faculty at Durham Tech, participating in clinical instruction. The health system will also provide funding and share simulation and nurse aide training resources with the college.

This agreement comes at a critical time. Nationally, 22 percent of nurses are predicted to leave bedside care. A Mercer Report study also found that North Carolina is one of 21 states that will fall short of filling the demand for qualified registered nurses by at least 1,000 nurses by 2026. The state currently has a shortage of 13,112 registered nurses.

Duke nurses will prepare students by teaching advanced classes, providing mentorship, and sharing feedback and support. This in turn will lead to retention of registered nurses at Duke by granting them more opportunities to instruct at the bedside and recruit more nursing students to DUHS.

“This is a significant reciprocal partnership,” said Vice President of the Duke Office of Durham and Community Affairs Dr. Stelfanie Williams. “It amplifies and maximizes the impact that each of our organizations can have alone, keeping at its heart, the needs of our communities.”

(Text over photo: Growing Talent for the Front Line)

(Duke Vice President for Durham and Community Affairs Dr. Stelfanie Williams, Chief Executive Officer of Duke University Health System Craig Albanese, Durham Tech President J.B. Buxton, and Duke University President Vincent Price.)

(Durham Tech and Durham Public Schools representatives pose for a photo in commemoration of their new partnership.)

DPS & Durham Tech Announce Partnership to Ensure 1 in 4 DPS Students Graduate with Associate Degree or Workforce Credential

Durham Public Schools and Durham Tech announced in May a major new partnership with the goal of ensuring that 25 percent of Durham Public Schools students will complete a Durham Tech workforce credential or associate degree by the time they graduate high school. DPS and Durham Tech have committed to putting in place key strategies and supports to ensure that at least 500 students each year graduate with an associate degree in addition to their high school diploma, or a credential that will enable them to enter the workforce immediately. This goal is unparalleled in the state.

“This reflects a commitment to meet specific goals over the next five years, to remove barriers and create more equitable educational attainment for all students,” Superintendent Dr. Pascal Mubenga said.

Durham Tech President J.B. Buxton said the partnership will be transformative for education in Durham. “We are being intentional in our approach to ensure that obstacles are removed and pathways are created for all students to have the option to graduate high school with a workforce credential or an associate degree,” he said. “Our strategies to achieve our goal of 25 percent include teaching college courses in the high schools, working with families to map out pathways to workforce credentials and college degrees, and addressing the costs of books and transportation. We must provide easy-to-understand information about our programs and ensure all high school students understand that postsecondary education is possible and a pathway to opportunity for them.”

One of the key strategies of the partnership includes placing Durham Tech instructors in 11th-grade high school classrooms. The initiative launched at Riverside in August 2023; other high schools will follow in the rollout.

\$112 Million Bond Referendum

Funding New Training Centers in Healthcare & Life Sciences at Durham Tech

Durham County voters overwhelmingly supported a \$112.7 million bond referendum in the 2022 November election, which will fund the construction of two state-of-the-art facilities for healthcare and life sciences training.

With booming career opportunities in healthcare and life sciences, Durham Tech is well-positioned to train local talent and provide a diverse workforce pipeline to area companies. Durham Tech leadership has worked with industry partners to plan and design the new facilities.

“I want to thank Durham voters and residents for your support and confidence. Your investment in Durham Tech is an investment in the people of this community,” Durham Tech President J.B. Buxton said. “With the passage of the bond, we will be able to construct the facilities needed to prepare people to access great jobs and careers with family-sustaining wages in our region. Your vote helps us deliver on the promise of connecting residents to great jobs and connecting companies to great, diverse talent.”

Buxton also expressed his appreciation to the Durham County Commissioners and staff for their support of Durham Tech, noting that the projects will impact individuals’ lives, families’ well-being, and the economic development of the region.

Here’s the Breakdown...

\$74 million for an 86,000-square-foot building to expand and consolidate healthcare-related training programs, including a pedestrian connector across East Lawson Street from the Educational Resources Center.

\$35.2 million for a 35,280-square-foot building to house life sciences industry training and education.

\$3.5 million to purchase parcels for the future expansion of the Durham Tech Main Campus.

(Two students analyzing a clear liquid in a test tube)

(Text over photo: Healthcare & Life Sciences Continue to Grow at Durham Tech)

Affordable Housing for Our Students & Community

Durham Tech has committed to building a 124-unit affordable housing development on land owned by the College at 902 S. Briggs Ave.

Located just a quarter mile from the Main Campus, the development is intended to serve both eligible students at Durham Tech and members of the broader Durham community earning between 30% and 70% of Area Median Income. With support from the City of Durham and Durham County, Durham Tech and its development partners submitted a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) application in May of 2023.

As our community takes action to address the affordable housing crisis in Durham and our students continue to struggle to find and maintain housing, Durham Tech sees the development of stable and affordable housing for current and future students as a unique opportunity to address both the community's call-to-action and the ever-present imperative to meet students' basic needs.

(Graphic depicting the map locations of Durham Technical Community College [Main Campus], East Durham Farmer's Market, Food Bank of CENC, R.N. Harris Elementary School, 902 Briggs Avenue Apartments, Briggs Avenue Community Garden, Child Care Services Association, and NCWorks Career Center)

(Photo of the Frontier RTP 600 Building near the Hub RTP development)

Durham Tech Opens New Location at Research Triangle Park, Launches Center for Workforce Engagement

In late 2022, Durham Tech in partnership with Research Triangle Foundation of North Carolina announced the opening of a new campus location focused on customized industry training in Research Triangle Park.

Located at the Frontier RTP 600 Building near the Hub RTP development, the site houses the leadership of the College's Center for Workforce Engagement and training space for the College's work with industry partners.

This partnership with the Research Triangle Foundation positions Durham Tech in the center of RTP, with the Park's 375 established companies and a growing network of 150 emerging startups.

Durham Tech's Center for Workforce Engagement is led by Executive Director Jerry Jones, who spearheaded the creation of the Center after joining the College in January 2022. In addition to working with new and emerging businesses on customized training needs through Corporate Services, the Center also includes Career Services, Human Resources Development, Work-Based Education and Apprenticeships, and the Small Business Center.

Durham Tech & UNC Announce New Partnership

Durham Tech and UNC-Chapel Hill celebrated a new partnership in fall 2023 at the grand opening of the Innovate Carolina Junction. This office and training space was made possible with the support of the Orange County Commissioners.

Durham Tech President J.B. Buxton announced that the College had opened an office at the Junction's 136 East Rosemary Street location in Chapel Hill to provide space for its small-business and corporate services, along with academic programming.

"Many people are aware that the College serves as a gateway to great universities and a pathway to prosperous careers through short-term workforce credentials and degree programs," Buxton said. "Fewer people are aware of

the small-business services available and the customized training we do to support new and expanding industry – this last year we worked on 13 major projects training 1,800 individuals in these companies.”

The College and University also signed a partnership agreement that includes:

A formalized, ongoing commitment between Durham Tech’s Clinical Trials Research Associate Program and the UNC Research Office to develop a talent pipeline for Durham Tech students to work as interns in UNC clinical research labs and then fill critical clinical research jobs at UNC Lineberger Cancer Center, the medical school, UNC Health, and units beyond Chapel Hill after graduating; and

The establishment of a standing UNC-Durham Tech work group reporting to the chancellor and the president to explore new opportunities to work together to meet workforce demands in areas such as clinical research, IT, autonomous and process technologies, machine learning, and data analytics.

(Photo of the team behind the establishment of the Innovate Carolina Junction)

Seeing Real Impact

Community Health Lab Making A Difference In Underserved Communities

Durham Tech invited community partners and stakeholders to tour the Community Health Lab and learn more about its significant impact on the well-being of area residents in July 2023.

The lab serves members of underserved communities who face obstacles to receiving health care because of financial barriers or lack of access. It also provides a clinical training site for students, giving them hands-on experience delivering care to individuals from a variety of backgrounds and building the emotional intelligence skills to be empathetic practitioners.

Student Deb Cava, who has worked on the Community Health Lab, said she has found the mobile unit’s mission deeply meaningful. Patients have a high degree of trust with the lab workers, allowing them into their homes to receive health care.

“This is a community that needs us to go to them, so it’s very rewarding and very humbling,” she said.

Services the lab provides include vision screenings, comprehensive eye exams, and prescription eyewear, which is fitted, manufactured, and dispensed by Durham Tech’s Opticianry program. The Community Health Lab team also conducts home health visits, sport physicals for middle and high school students, and provide basic health screenings such as blood pressure readings, glucose level checks, and EKGs.

The Community Health Lab also recently became a Teen Mental Health First Aid site.

(Photo: Durham Tech Mobile Health Lab Coordinator Whitney Young, Durham Tech Health and Wellness Dean Melissa Ockert, Blue Cross Blue Shield Senior Program Manager Sophie McMillian, Blue Cross Blue Shield Senior Program Manager Melissa Biediger, Durham Tech Vice President and Chief Institutional Advancement Officer Roxanne Miller, and Durham Tech President J.B. Buxton pose with the mobile unit during an event providing community tours to promote the van’s services.)

IN THREE YEARS...

- 1,170 Eye Exams

- 1,446 Pairs of Glasses Provided
- 1,700 Children & Adults Served
- 216 Students Trained in Health Care
- 202 Children & Adults Trained in Mental Health First Aid

Work-Based Education Connects Durham Tech Students to Employers, Focuses Growth on Apprenticeships

Dr. Micara Lewis-Sessoms has led efforts in Work-Based Education at Durham Tech since 2007.

The idea behind Work-Based Education is to connect students with employers while enrolled at the College so they could gain invaluable work experience before graduating and ensure their chosen career path was a good fit for them.

Today, Lewis-Sessoms serves as Director of Work-Based Education and Apprenticeships, allowing students to engage with employers through registered apprenticeships, internships, job shadowing, and on-the-job training. Lewis-Sessoms' time with Durham Tech began when she was asked to be an adjunct instructor in 1999 for the School-Age Education program.

In 2007, Durham Public Schools decided to bring all training for instructional assistants in-house so the program at Durham Tech tracked out, but one element that withstood the transition was the Co-Op Education course, which allowed students to gain 160 hours of work experience in the field.

At the same time, the College asked Lewis-Sessoms to lead its efforts to use the Co-Op model in its Career and Technical programs and changed the name to Work-Based Learning.

Today, Work-Based Learning courses are offered in 17 programs at Durham Tech.

"It can change their legacy." - Dr. Micara Lewis-Sessoms

(Photo of Dr. Micara Lewis-Sessoms)

(A student using machinery in class)

(A student and a teacher discussing the appropriate use of a circuitry board)

Durham Tech Partners with Corning to Offer Paid Internships, Tuition Assistance, Full-Time Employment Through Technician Pipeline Program

Durham Tech and Corning Incorporated have partnered to offer eligible students an opportunity to participate in their Technician Pipeline Program (TPP) – a two-year paid internship that offers tuition assistance and job placement at Corning upon completion.

Corning is a worldwide leading innovator in materials science and operates a life sciences and pharmaceutical technologies facility in Durham. The TPP program was introduced in 2008 to optimize partnership opportunities between scientists and technicians in Corning's Technology Community and increase the number of under-represented minorities and women in technician roles by establishing a comprehensive, fully customized talent pipeline.

Edwin Ventura was the first Durham Tech student selected to participate in the program.

“When I found out Corning was exposing students to the industry while they attend college, I got really excited. It’s been a great experience so far and I’m learning so much,” he said. “It means a lot to me and my family to have a job secured during and after the program.”

1 of 9 Community Colleges Across the Country to Participate.

Student Excellence

Academic Excellence Award Recipient

Rufus King

This award recognizes outstanding academic achievements at the community college level. One student from each of the 58 North Carolina community colleges is awarded the honor.

Rufus King was enrolled in the Carolina Student Transfer Excellence Program (C-STEP) program and graduated with an Associate of Science degree in May 2023. He transferred to UNC-Chapel Hill, where he is now working toward his Bachelor of Science in psychology.

His ultimate career goal is to earn a doctorate degree in psychology and run a medium-scale outdoor adventure organization with a focus on nature connection-based therapy.

Governor Robert W. Scott Leadership Nominee

Bertha Mena

Bertha Mena’s participation in the Journey – Durham Tech Student Leadership Program while she was pursuing her associate degree was a watershed moment for Mena.

“I know how hard these parents work semester after semester being a parent, a student, a worker, and so much more,” Mena said. “As a member of the Student Parent Success Network, I have met so many devoted, responsible, and kind humans.”

Mena received her degree at Durham Tech in business administration. She works for Durham Public Schools’ Career and Technical Education Department.

Dallas Herring Award & Christine Kelly-Kleese & Tony Kleese Resilience Award Recipient

Borna Zareiesfandabadi

Borna Zareiesfandabadi, the nominee for the 2023 Dallas Herring Achievement Award, was born and raised in the Baha’i religion in Iran. Because of religious persecution in Iran, none of Zareiesfandabadi’s family could attend college.

Zareiesfandabadi immigrated to the U.S. at 19, and started college at Durham Tech. They planned to major in creative writing but to fulfill their science requirement, they took General Biology I. In that class, Zareiesfandabadi realized a long-lost passion for science and changed majors to earn an associate degree in science.

Zareiesfandabadi is now a quantitative biology major at UNC – Chapel Hill, and is assisting a Duke student pursuing a doctorate with a project about lemur-mediated seed dispersal.

10 Durham Tech Students Selected as Goodnight Scholars, Most Among Community Colleges Statewide

In spring 2023, 10 Durham Tech students received the Goodnight Scholarship at North Carolina State University, more than any other community college in the state. The Goodnight Scholarship for students studying in a STEM or STEM education field is worth \$23,000 per year for up to three years.

The students awarded the scholarship were: Adrian Sanchez-Perez (mechanical engineering), Anastasiia Steksova (chemical engineering), Fedora Parra (genetics and statistics), Jennifer Daniels (biology), Kaitlyn Barnard (computer science), Karla Reyes Rodriguez (biology), Nicolas Jimenez (chemical engineering), Oscar Mauleon Corominas (computer science), Zachary Jenkins (electrical engineering), and Trevaughn Cox (civil engineering). The Goodnight Scholars Program also recognized Amir Elbadaoui, as a finalist for this prestigious award.

The Goodnight program offers students opportunities to grow through leadership, service, study abroad, cultural, and community activities.

(photo of NC State University campus)

Durham Tech Director Receives the National Association of Dental Laboratories Educator of the Year Award

Erin Popov, Dental Laboratory Technology program director/instructor at Durham Tech, received the 2023 National Association of Dental Laboratories (NADL) Educator of the Year award.

The NADL Educator of the Year award recognizes one educator annually who has made outstanding contributions to NADL and the dental laboratory profession. An industry member nominated Popov.

(photo of Erin Popov)

(Durham Tech's High Altitude Balloon [HAB] team, Sonic Boom, at the NC Space Grant Community College High Altitude Ballooning Team Challenge and Competition)

(text over photo: Reaching for the Stars)

High Altitude Balloon Competition Team Reaches 110,000 Feet with Their Payload

Durham Tech's High Altitude Balloon (HAB) team, Sonic Boom, successfully launched their payload on April 13 as part of the NC Space Grant Community College High Altitude Ballooning Team Challenge and Competition. The team was composed of Joshua Mook, Kaitlyn Barnard, Liam Horn, and Michael Gridley, and led by Engineering Director Dr. Flavio Giovanetti de Albuquerque and Electronics Engineering Technology Program Director Laurent Bert-Roussel.

In the state competition, Durham Tech's High Altitude Balloon Competition Team came in second overall out of nine community colleges.

The team's mission was to design a device to carry a payload that measured humidity, temperature, and acceleration data and captured real-time footage during the flight. Although some of their data went missing due to the extreme environmental conditions, their total flight time was 24 hours. They lost their altimeter during the flight, but, after computing air density and temperature data, coupled with some high-altitude pictures, they estimated the final altitude to be around 110,000 feet. The team contacted a NASA astrophysicist to help with data and GoPro images. They were able to successfully recover their balloon and instruments in Wake Forest, NC.

Joshua Mook expressed how meaningful participating in this team was, both personally and academically, sentiments echoed by all of his teammates:

“From a young age, I dreamed of being part of a space mission, but I had no idea that 10 years down the road I would be leading a team to touch space from a balloon. On Thursday, April 13, 2023, a piece of me, my team, and everyone at Durham Tech reached for the stars and for that, I am beyond grateful. The challenges overcome, and the lessons learned over the course of this project have truly positively influenced my growth as a person, a student, and a leader. To see people of different backgrounds combine skills for a single goal was inspiring to say the least, and I had the chance to learn from this experience. I also built lasting friendships, and I couldn’t have asked for a better team than Sonic Boom. Although we faced setbacks, conflict, and at times discouragement, Sonic Boom showed me what it means to be a team and work together even in the toughest times. Overall, this was truly an inspiring experience.”

(Photos of the team developing, testing, and launching their balloon.)

Creating Conversation

Durham Tech Celebrates First Public Art Installation & Artist Guy Solie Who Created it

Durham Tech celebrated in 2023 longtime Durham resident Guy Solie and the installation of one of his works of public art at the College.

“The Dancers” is on the College’s Main Campus on Lawson Street and will remain on loan to the College indefinitely.

Durham Tech President J.B. Buxton noted the College wants to create an inclusive environment where students can connect and feel like they belong, and public art is an important part of that.

“Outdoor public art creates opportunities for conversation, in coming together around ideas, in coming together around connectivity,” Buxton said.

(Photo of Art Installation “The Dancers”)

SGA President Aims to Help Students Connect with Resources, Make Campus More Inviting

Durham Tech Student Government Association President Elle Hargrave has a clear vision for the role she sees the organization playing at the College.

SGA continues to advocate for students and works to be a conduit for providing social experiences as well as connecting students to resources available at the College.

“The biggest thing I want to do this year is make the school more accessible and more open and inviting for students. A lot of students just come in, take their class, and then go home. They don’t know about the resources we have that could help them or about the areas we have for socializing.”

Dway Stover, Durham Tech coordinator for Student Enrichment, said the Student Government Association is integral for student success at Durham Tech.

“They are the student voices, faces, and advocates for creating a positive community college experience for their peers,” Stover said. *“The SGA is a team of dedicated student leaders, that are developing as professionals. These individuals are committed to everything from their schoolwork to student legislation.”*

(Photo of Elle Hargrave)

(Photo of graduates on the day of commencement)

It's time to celebrate!

More Than 300 Durham Tech Students Received Diplomas at 2023 Spring Commencement

Durham Tech held Commencement Exercises on Wednesday, May 24, at the Durham Performing Arts Center, with 305 students graduating with degrees, diplomas, or certificates in the 2022-23 school year.

Keynote speaker Dr. Elizabeth Fenn spoke to the graduates about her pathway in education, which included attending Duke University as an undergraduate and Yale University for graduate work, before deciding to return to Durham. She enrolled in Durham Tech's automotive program and then worked for almost a decade in Durham auto shops before returning to Yale and finishing her doctorate degree.

Fenn, a distinguished professor at University of Colorado at Boulder, historian, author, and 2015 Pulitzer Prize winner in history, spoke about how her experience at Durham Tech helped shape her and how working in the auto shops helped her grow. The College awarded her an honorary degree at Commencement.

2023 Commencement

Honorary Degrees

Mary Marsha Cupitt

Mary Marsha Cupitt, who taught at Durham Tech, restarted the College's University Transfer program, and assisted in the creation of the N.C. College Transfer Program Association, among other contributions to the College, was awarded an honorary degree at Commencement. Now retired, she and her husband, Larry, continue to provide opportunities for students through the C² Scholarships they offer to Durham Tech students.

Wanda Garrett

Wanda Garrett, a retired educator who taught on the high school and college level and served on Durham Tech's Board of Trustees, received an honorary degree to recognize her tireless efforts to ensure that all students have access to the education opportunities they want to pursue.

A Focus on Philanthropy - A Focus on the Future

Philanthropist

Cynthia Perry Garland

Cynthia Perry Garland was five years old when her mother graduated from high school, earning her diploma as an adult student who returned to the classroom. Cynthia and her brother, Andrew, clearly remembered their father driving their mother to school, keeping track of things at home, and generally being Mrs. Perry's chief advocate and supporter.

The memory of her mother's achievement stayed with Cynthia and inspired her to get her high school diploma and pursue additional education. She graduated from Durham Tech in 1994 as a certified nursing assistant. Though she didn't continue nursing, the skills she learned in the program were helpful during her career in the correctional system.

Adult High School (AHS) at Durham Tech charges no tuition as it is part of the Durham Public Schools system. Rather than a scholarship, Cynthia had an idea of supporting the whole AHS student with a special fund to be used for class field trips, co-curricular experiences off campus, and team-building activities. Her husband, Terrance, quickly got on board with his support.

The Perry Family Enrichment Endowment Fund will generate \$1,000 each year for these activities, curated by the director of Durham Tech's Gateway to College program.

Donor Spotlight

Dr. Steven B. Sorin & Wendy Collin Sorin

Hailing originally from Cleveland, Ohio, Dr. Steven B. Sorin and Wendy Collin Sorin have made their home in Durham to be closer to their son and his family. Steve is a rheumatologist and Wendy is an artist. Together they decided to embark on a legacy project to provide both an immediate and a long-lasting impact on the community.

To that end, the Sorin Scholarship was established in 2021 to support students in a STEM discipline, in the second or third year of study, and with an intention to transfer to a four-year institution. The Sorins felt that it was important to fund scholarships now and provide for additional scholarships in the future. This defines their legacy project at Durham Tech: Their annual gifts fund at least three full scholarships for each following academic year, with the remainder going to build an endowment so that the Sorin Scholarship lasts in perpetuity.

The Sorins were able to meet one of the Sorin Scholars in person, along with her advisor and another faculty member, and learn more about her educational journey. The student was happy to say that, because of her scholarship, she was able to take part in undergraduate research instead of getting a second job.

Taking Care of Our Own

The Durham Tech Family Believes in Supporting Our Students

Durham Tech's employees are the College's greatest asset, and not only because of the work they do each and every day. Many employees are also donors to the Durham Tech Foundation. Whether it's a gift for general purposes, or to support a fund that is personally meaningful, we celebrate this evidence of our employees' dedication to our students.

"I started participating in the Campus Fund Drive because, when I was a student, I received support from the Single Parent Fund. This made a huge difference for my family and now I want to give back to the same fund so that other students and their families can receive the same kind of support." - T.B.

The Foundation's employee giving campaign, known as the Campus Fund Drive, is an essential annual giving effort that has raised more than \$800,000 over the past 25 years since its inception. This level of support is what enables the Foundation to award scholarships, stock the Food Pantry, provide emergency financial assistance, celebrate employee excellence, and more.

"Knowing firsthand that departmental funding is stretched thin and there are only so many things state funding covers, I give to the department I work in because it feels like I'm investing in myself and my closest colleagues." - J.H.

(Photo of Roxanne Miller)

A Letter From The Vice President, Chief Institutional Advancement Officer

Friends,

As we reflect on the past year, I am humbled by this community. Since the Foundation's inception in 1982, it has served as a bridge for community investment and engagement with the College. Together, through public-private partnerships, we have developed innovative strategies for student success, removed barriers to student persistence, and collaborated to create pathways to well-paying careers with real market demand.

The Foundation serves the unique role of facilitating community support to advance College effectiveness and provide agility for rapid response to changing needs. Today, we endeavor to do even more as we champion the college's strategic plan to accelerate the core drivers of student and college success — student access, persistence, completion, and employment.

This past year, we have seen the impact our community can have at Durham Tech. The Foundation's assets climbed from \$8 million to \$14.7 million, over \$260,000 was awarded in student scholarships, and more than 1,000 students received barrier removal support so they could stay in school and persevere.

The Foundation's accomplishments reflect this community's strength and conviction. I am excited to work with and alongside you. On behalf of the students, faculty, and staff, thank you for all you have empowered us to do in 2023.

To another great year,

(signature)

Roxanne Miller

Vice President, Chief Institutional Advancement Officer
Durham Tech

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The 1961 Giving Society

In 2017, the Durham Tech Foundation Board of Directors formulated a bold strategic plan with an ambitious aim to double the institution's endowment from \$2.5 to \$5 million. In FY23, the Foundation's endowments exceeded \$7 million. Endowments are vital to an institution's ability to act with flexibility and foresight, and the permanent resources they steward deliver sustainable funding even amidst challenging times.

The 1961 Giving Society is a group of the most loyal donors to Durham Technical Community College. These philanthropic leaders have made a generous commitment to the College in the form of an endowment or a planned gift.

Endowments Fuel Future Possibilities

Endowments are investments in the future of Durham Tech. Endowments may be created to celebrate a milestone in the personal or professional life of a donor, a family member, or a friend. The Durham Tech endowment funds a range of resources, including scholarships and emergency grants for students, digital and in-demand collections for the library, and recognition for employee excellence.

Planned Gifts

Gift Planning simply refers to a donor's intent to make a charitable gift at some point in the future. Also known as deferred giving, gift planning includes a range of commitments such as multi-year pledges; corporate matches; other structured gifts that pay a dividend back to the donor(s); bequest intentions; and gifts of appreciated securities, closely held stocks, and collections of art or other appraised valuables.

Your Will is an important way to provide for family and friends, plan the orderly management and disposition of your estate, and ensure a lasting legacy for charitable institutions that have special meaning for you. Our benefactors continue to provide significant growth in our endowment and other important programs through their Wills and Trusts.

Benefits of Charitable Gift Planning for You & Durham Tech

Financial security: Your assets remain available to you during your lifetime and, with certain options, you may be able to avoid capital gains tax or reduce taxes on your estate.

- **Control:** You decide the final purpose or disposition of your assets.
- **Legacy:** You can establish an endowed fund in your name or to honor another person that will last in perpetuity.
- **Satisfaction:** Your philanthropy will be honored and recognized during your lifetime and beyond, and you will have done something special to invest in Durham Tech's future.

For more information, visit durhamtech.edu/foundation.

2022-23 Donor List

Pinnacle Lifetime Giving Society (\$1,000,000+ or cumulative)

Walter & Dennie Newton

Novo Nordisk

Connectors Circle (\$100,000+)

Advance Auto Parts Foundation

Lowe's Foundation

Achievers Circle (\$50,000+)

Newton Instrument Company, Inc.

Truist Bank

Implementers Circle (\$25,000+)

The Duke Energy Foundation
Sarah & Robert Feldman
Cynthia P. & Terrance Garland
Mobile Health Clinics Association
Steven B. & Wendy Collin Sorin
Mark & Karen Webbink
Wolfspeed

Designers Circle (\$10,000+)

Willie K. Beasley
John & Pamela Buxton
Jacob & Kristin Clauson
Mary Marsha & Larry Cupitt
Robert & Mercedes Eichholz Foundation
W. Barker French
Mary Duke Biddle Foundation
Triangle Community Foundation
Vista Ministries
Wells Fargo Bank

Ambassadors Circle (\$5,000+)

John & Sandra Atkins
Ronald & Linda Cheatham
Consulate General of México in Raleigh
Corning Incorporated Foundation
Turan & Linda Duda
Forest Hills Neighborhood, Inc.
George & Mary Newton Scholarship Fund of TCF
Kay P. Gresham
Robert Healy & Kay Edgar
Donna Jarvis
National Board for Respiratory Care
Patrick J. O'Leary
S&C Harvest Foundation, Inc.
Patricia W. Sickles
Tallman Trask III

President's Circle (\$1,000+)

American Heart Association

Patricia Ashley

Association of Ambulatory Surgical Centers of America

AT&T

Barbara A. Baker

Lois E. Ballen

Kara A. Battle

Susan Bowen

Evan Burness

John Burness & Anne Williams

Margaret Bush

J.B. & Hunter Buxton

Nathan Byrd

Joan & Frank Celestino

Bob Cole

Construction Specification Institute

Angela D. & Andre P. Davis

David Dodson

Abraham L. Dones

Drake Precision Dental Laboratory, Inc.

Duke University Health System

Durham Coca-Cola Bottling Co.

Ebonettes Service Club, Inc.

Valarie J. Evans

Wayne Faust

Food Bank of Central & Eastern North Carolina, Inc.

Foundation for the Carolinas

Mary Freedman

Sean Germaine

Constanza Gómez-Joines

Roslyn Grace

Adrienne Grant

Greater Gift Initiative

Olive E. Greenwald

Janet T. Hadar

Ryan Hampton

Kerry S. Havner

Michael & Susan Hershfield

Dan & Susie Hill

Martha Hsu

Julie C. Humphrey
Insurance People of North Carolina
Naeda Irick
Kathryn Jarvis
Gracie Johnson-Lopez
Marie B. Keller
Mark & Cindy Kuhn
Irina and Eugene Kuntukov
Harry & Kathy Land
Little Diversified Architectural Consulting
Gabrielle B. McCutchen
National Council for Mental Wellbeing
Sam Nichols
Martin Nystrom
Elizabeth H. Payne
Piedmont Electric Helping Hand Foundation
John Piva
Sarah Pohlig
Tia Pope & Pixel Perfect Hair, LLC
William K. Rand III
Red Fern Fund of the Triangle Community Foundation
Sarah Stone Reeves
Renfert USA, Inc.
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Guy & Mindy Solie
St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
Bill & Lucy Stokes
Triangle Media Partners
Linda Lyon Turner
Geoffrey Tuson
Antonio Villalta
Deetra B. Watson
Heidi E. White
Charles T. Wilson, Jr.

Making an impact one contribution at a time.

For a complete listing of all fiscal year 2022-23 donors to Durham Tech, please visit durhamtech.edu/foundation-partners.

Impact by The Numbers

FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

- \$262,132 - 185 students awarded

FOOD PANTRY DISTRIBUTIONS

- 50,000+ lbs. - 905 students and family members served

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

- \$75,000 - 106 students aided

DONOR PLEDGES & NEW GIFTS

- \$6,528,812 - 489 donors engaged

(photo of three students outside smiling)

COLLEGE BUDGET - \$58,953,191.12

- INSTRUCTIONAL 39%
- ACADEMIC & INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT 21%
- STUDENT AFFAIRS 9%
- FINANCIAL AID 14%
- CAPITAL & PLANT OPERATIONS 16%
- AUXILIARY SERVICES 2%

Foundation Financials as of June 30, 2023

ASSETS

- Cash and Cash Equivalents - \$2,583,595.42
- Contributions Receivable - \$4,974,707.62
- Sales Tax and Other Receivable - \$21,950.57
- Inventory - \$1,500
- Investments – at Market - \$7,183,295.61
- Total Assets - \$14,765,049.22

LIABILITIES

- Accounts Payable - \$5,913.92
- Total Liabilities - \$5,913.92

NET ASSETS

- Without Donor Restrictions - \$1,286,407.31
- With Donor Restrictions - \$6,680,142.47
- Total Net Assets - \$7,966,549.78

FUND BALANCE - \$14,759,135.30

TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS - \$14,765,049.22

(Group of students posing in their scrub attire)

Make the difference. Give today. durhamtech.edu/donate