Reaffirmation of Commitment

Diversity, Inclusion, Equal Education and Employment Opportunity

At the University of North Carolina at Wilmington (UNCW), our culture reflects our values of inclusion, diversity, globalization, ethics, integrity, and innovation, and we are committed to providing equality of educational and employment opportunity for all persons without regard to race, sex (such as gender, gender identity, marital status, childbirth, and pregnancy), age, color, national origin (including ethnicity), religion, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, veteran status, military service member status, genetic information, or relationship to other university constituents – except where sex, age, or ability represent bona fide educational or occupational qualifications or where marital status is a statutorily established eligibility criterion for State funded employee benefit programs. UNCW believes that embracing the unique contributions of our faculty, staff and students is critical to our success and paramount in being recognized for our global mindset. This Policy prohibits all forms of discrimination based on a person’s protected status as established by the laws listed below.

This affirmation is published in accordance with 41 CFR Part 60 and is implemented in accordance with the following laws and their amendments: Title IV, VI, VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972; Title II of the Genetic Information Non Discrimination Act of 2008; Age Discrimination in Employment Act; Age Discrimination Act of 1975; Equal Pay Act of 1963; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; Executive Order 11246; Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; ADA Amendments Act of 2008; Violence Against Women Act; Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Act; the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1988; The Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Campus Crime and N.C. General Statutes Chapters 116, 126, 127B, and 168A.

To ensure that equal educational and employment opportunity exists throughout the university, a variety of diversity and inclusion efforts and a results-oriented equal opportunity/affirmative action program have been implemented to overcome the effects of past discrimination, enhance our culture and to eliminate barriers to educational or employment opportunities for all qualified individuals. Copies of the equal opportunity/affirmative action program are available for review upon request in the Human Resources Department M-F, between 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The University of North Carolina at Wilmington is committed this program and is aware that, with its implementation, positive benefits will be received from greater utilization and development of a diverse and inclusive environment.
Statement on Diversity and Inclusion in the University Community

- “Diversity” means the ways in which individuals vary, including, but not limited to, backgrounds, personal characteristics, ideas, beliefs, cultures, and traditions that distinguish one individual or group from another, which may include, but are not limited to, Federal, State, University, and constituent institution protected classes.
- “Inclusion” means the enablement of individuals, including those from underrepresented groups, to fully and equitably have access to, and participate in, the University’s programs, services, facilities, and institutional life.
- “Diversity and Inclusion (D&I)” collectively means the intentional efforts undertaken to create an institutional culture and a working and learning environment that offers acceptance, support, and respect for a diversity of individuals as they pursue their academic, research, and professional ambitions and interests.

Unlawful Harassment, Discrimination and Retaliation

The University of North Carolina at Wilmington affirms that students and employees are entitled to an educational and employment environment free from unlawful harassment or discrimination based on that individual’s race, gender, gender identity, sex (such as marital status or pregnancy), age, color, national origin (including ethnicity), religion, disability, sexual orientation, genetic information, political affiliation, veteran status, or relationship to other university constituents, and expressly prohibits unlawful harassment or discrimination of any individual among the university community engaged in educational or employment pursuits. Further, no student or employee shall be subject to retaliation for bringing a good faith complaint pertaining to unlawful harassment or discrimination or for protesting such behavior directed against another member of the university community.

For more information concerning ways in which our multicultural learning community may be nurtured and protected or complaint resolution procedures, contact the Office of Institutional Diversity and Inclusion, the Office of the Dean of Students, the Office of Academic Affairs, or the Office of Human Resources.

Jose V. Sartarelli, Chancellor

Date 12/14/21