

The Task Force on Undergraduate Student Success has been charged with coming up with 2-5 game changers, i.e., bold recommendations that are meant to have a significant impact on the University as a whole (as opposed to individual colleges, groups, etc.). The focus of our task force is quite broad and we recognize that there are many members of our university community whose expertise is much greater than the collective expertise of our committee. So we are seeking your ideas as to what you see as the game changers.

We would ask that you submit your recommendations to the co-chairs of the task force, Maxine Atkinson (maxine_atkinson@ncsu.edu), Jo-Ann Cohen (j_cohen@ncsu.edu), and Marycobb Randall (mbrandal@ncsu.edu), as well as to Pam Long (pam_long@ncsu.edu), in any format you choose.

Below is the template that we have been asked to use when submitting our final report, so your thoughts on each piece would be helpful as well:

Template

1. **Context:** Describe the central challenges facing NC State that are key to our success in this area. Provide a brief overview of NC State's activity that is relevant to those challenges (if possible).
2. **Goals:** What should NC State strive to achieve in this area during the next 5 to 10 years?
3. **Specific Recommendations:** Propose a specific initiative to move NC State toward these goals. Be bold! (Examples include improvements to existing programs, services, policies, and practices; elimination of unnecessarily duplicative or outdated programs and services; and new approaches and practices.) Suggest implementation details, including who, what, how, and when. Include a general estimate of new costs (if any) that would be required for implementation (e.g., positions, operating funds, and infrastructure).
4. **Metrics:** By what metrics shall we monitor our progress toward the goals and the implementation of the specific initiative? Select metrics that measure outcomes and results, rather than processes. If available, provide baseline data as well as targets for 2015.

Note: Below is the organizational framework the task force is using.

Thanks for your efforts on behalf of our students.

Maxine, Jo-Ann and Marycobb

Organizational Framework

Overarching Themes

- Students should graduate in a timely manner (as measured by completion rates, time to degree, etc.).
- Students should have quality academic and non-academic experiences that prepare them to become leaders in their fields and prepare them for life (as measured by internal and external program reviews, admission to graduate schools and professional schools, employer, student and alumni surveys, etc.).

Subcommittees

The recommendations from each group should have a focus on improving graduation rates (and possibly decreasing time to degree) and enhancing quality. We expect overlap in the recommendations from the three groups and, in fact, welcome it.

1. Who should be admitted and how: for example, out-of-state versus in-state mix, selectivity (for degrees that are freely available across the university system), qualifications, general college versus admissions to academic colleges, etc.
2. How should we support student success at the university and prepare students for success in life and work: for example, how do we count and encourage out of class academic experiences such as study abroad and undergraduate research?, where do the living and learning communities fit in our strategic plan? the first year inquiry courses? the interdisciplinary courses? how should we use summer school?, are there additional degrees that should be developed (general studies, music, PE, ...)?, what modifications should we make in our advising models?, what support should we provide for on-line courses?, what support should we provide for targeted populations?, etc.
3. How should we facilitate internal transfers?