

An aerial photograph of a university campus. A wide, light-colored walkway runs down the center, flanked by green lawns and trees with varying shades of green and brown. Numerous students are walking along the path. In the background, there are large, multi-story brick buildings with white window frames. The overall scene is bright and sunny.

Master's Students Support Programs

University of North Carolina
At
Greensboro
William Wiener, Graduate Dean

University of North Carolina, Greensboro

- Public University in 16 UNC System
 - 27 doctoral programs
 - 65 master's programs
 - 45 certificate programs
- 19,500 students
 - 3,500 graduate students
 - 16,000 undergraduate students

Highlighting Two Programs

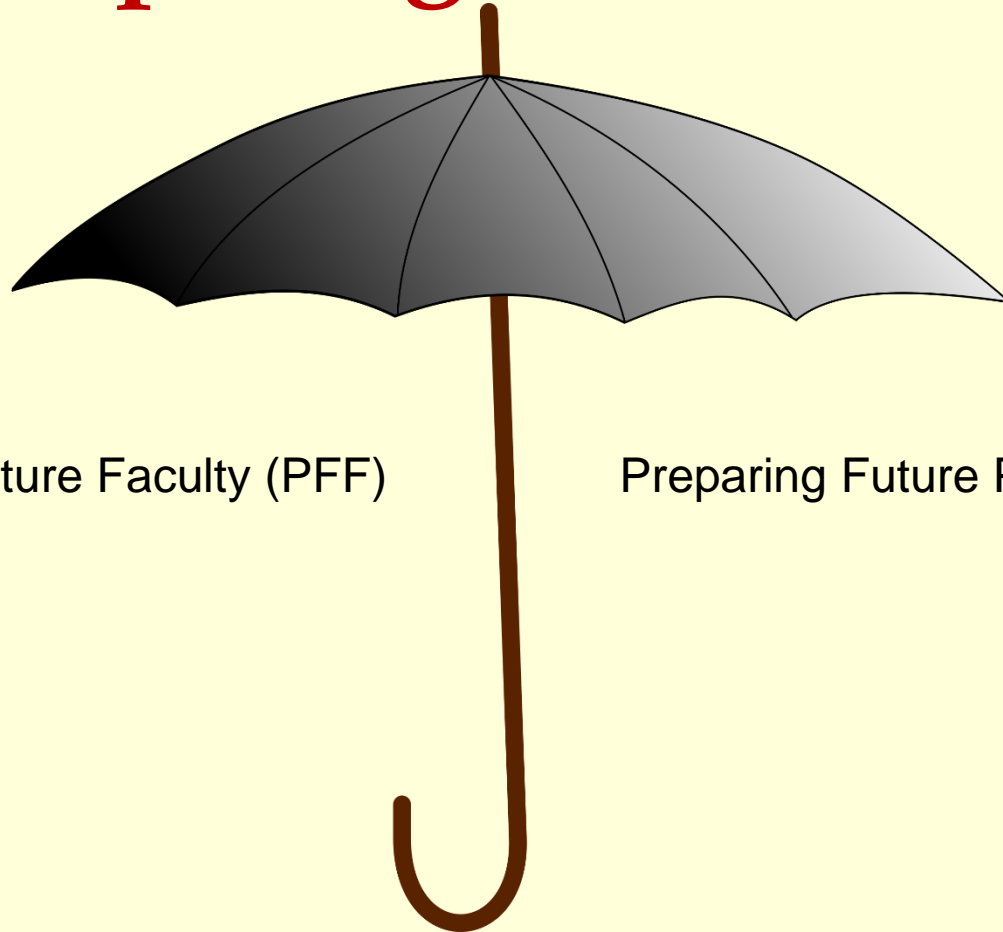
- Programs open to master's and doctoral degree students
 - Preparing Future Leaders (PFL)
 - Scholar's Retreat (Thesis and Dissertation Bootcamp)



Resources for the Programs

- PFL Program
 - Graduate Assistantship for PFL
 - Funding from CGS Teagle Grant for PFL Assessment Modules
- Scholar's Retreat
 - Council for Advancement of Graduate Education contribution for *Scholar's Retreat*

First Program: Preparing Future Leaders



Preparing Future Faculty (PFF)

Preparing Future Professionals (PFP)

Two Overlapping Tracks in PFL

- PFF prepares students for positions in academia – community colleges or universities
 - Master's students for community colleges
 - Ph.D. students for universities
- PFP prepares students for non-academic positions
- Workshops can be combined from both tracks

Basic Mechanisms of PFL

- Workshops designed to prepare for a teaching role in academe or career external to academe
- Series of non-credit bearing experiences
- Self paced program
- Electronic portfolio developed
- Completion registered on official university transcript

Administration of Program

- Jointly sponsored by the Graduate Schools of UNCG and NCA&T
 - Participating student must identify a mentor
 - Supervision by Deans of both universities
 - Director of the program is a graduate assistant

Contributing Partners

- The Graduate School
- Teaching and Learning Commons
- Office of Research and Economic Development
- Library
- Career Services
- Office of Planning and Assessment
- Entrepreneurship Center
- Student Affairs
- Human Resources

Content of PFF

- Designing Effective Courses
- Preparing a Syllabus
- Models of Teaching
- Managing Large and Small classes
- Feedback on Teaching
- Developing Effective Examinations
- Job Shadowing
- Use of Technology in the Classroom
- SLOs and Assessment

Assessment Training

- Student engages in four online modules on how to develop student learning outcomes and use them for improvement of instruction
- Students compete for an iPad by developing SLOs for a course and mapping it to the departmental curriculum

Examples of Assessment Modules

- [PFLS.uncg.edu](https://pfls.uncg.edu)

PFL Online Courses



[Home](#) • [Assessment](#)



Home

Welcome to the Focusing on Assessment of Student Learning online modules. These integrated modules are designed to introduce core concepts and methods for implementing the assessment cycle to improve student learning. These modules build on the idea that the assessment cycle is integral for 1) individual and institutional improvement of learning and teaching, and 2) internal and external accountability for measuring and delivering quality educational programs based on clearly stated learning outcomes.

[Login](#) or [Register](#).

The modules are designed to build on each other, so we recommend that they be completed in order if taking the full course. The modules can also be taken as standalone units to meet your own individual or institutional needs.



Registration

[Click here to register for these modules.](#)

Log In

[Click here to log in.](#)

Program Website



Content of PFP

- Project Management
- Conflict Resolution
- Leadership Training
- Written Communication Skills
- Developing Job Descriptions
- Entrepreneurship
- Analyzing Organizations
- Running Meetings
- Developing Business Plans

Business Plan Training

- Student attends training in how to write a business plan
- After learning about business plans, students write a plan to receive feedback and compete for an iPad

Areas in Common between PFF and PFP

- Work-Life Balance
- Time Management
- Emotional Intelligence
- Responsible Conduct of Research
- Job Shadowing
- Understanding Governance
- Writing a CV or Resume
- How to Interview for a Position

Second Program:

Scholar's Retreat

Thesis and Dissertation Bootcamp

Background

- Students achieving good grades but not finishing
- Thesis and dissertation was the barrier
- Students felt adrift

Bootcamp Activities

- Sequestered for one week during break for intensive writing
- Breakfast and lunch brought in
- Faculty advisors visit
- Discussion topics:
 - How to begin the writing process
 - Organizing the literature review
 - Innovative uses of technology
 - Time management and stress management
 - ETDs
 - Peer writing groups
- Dedicated time to write
- Meetings with faculty to review progress

Conclusion

- More master's students enroll in PFP than do doctoral students
- PFF can be helpful to Master's students going into CC teaching or continuing on to the Ph.D.
- Overlapping areas are helpful to both groups
- Dedicated time for writing helps master's students get started on a thesis

Questions and Answers (after all presentations)

