

PROVOST DISTINGUISHED FACULTY LEADERS

2023 – 2025 PDFL Faculty Fellows

Through the PDFL program, some of Carolina's outstanding mid-career and senior faculty have the opportunity to develop greater insight into key campus strategic initiatives and academic processes, strategic planning, budget issues, and challenges in higher education. Our Fellows participate in professional development activities designed to enhance their leadership capabilities, networking, relationship-building skills, and personal communication styles as they prepare for executive leadership roles.



Travis Albritton
Clinical Associate Professor,
School of Social Work



Spencer Barnes
Associate Professor,
Hussman School of Journalism & Media



Kim Boggess
Professor of Obstetrics & Gynecology,
School of Medicine



Tanya Garcia
Associate Professor of Biostatistics,
Gillings School of Global Public Health



Johna Register-Mihalik
Associate Professor of Exercise
& Sport Science,
College of Arts & Sciences



Scan the QR code to visit
our website and learn more
about the PDFL program
and our participants.

PDFL Capstone Leadership Projects

Kim Boggess – Faculty Success: UNC Faculty Thrive Hub

When Faculty are happy, UNC is happy! The proposed Faculty Thrive Hub will support faculty happiness by tracking satisfaction and timeliness of promotion, the two key elements that research – including interviews, surveys and employment data coupled with evaluating both national data and the published literature – highlight are central to faculty success. The Faculty Thrive Hub will be administered by the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment and the Office of Provost's Faculty Affairs and will be used to monitor faculty success. When Faculty Thrive, students succeed, research flourishes, and our community grows stronger.

Spencer Barnes – An Analysis of the Data Associated with APT Committee Voting Items from 2022 – 2025

The appointment, promotion, and tenure process (APT process) is a vital component of the faculty experience at Carolina. It rewards faculty for their accomplishments and their contributions to the academy. Also, it drives the pursuit of excellence and it enables the university to retain the best and the brightest. This project offers a glimpse into how the APT process unfolds and maintains its cadence via an exploration of university APT data originating from 2022 through the present. An understanding of the APT process helps to identify current trends, foster faculty success through the APT experience, and enhance our campus community.

Travis Albritton – Faculty Resource Groups: A Collaborative Model for Faculty Well-Being and Development

Faculty Resource Groups (FRGs) are small, interdisciplinary, faculty-led communities designed to enhance well-being, foster collaboration, and support professional growth. Rooted in the Faculty Learning Community model, FRGs are flexible and responsive to faculty needs. This project has launched the development of FRGs at UNC, an initiative that addresses challenges such as burnout and isolation by creating structured opportunities for connection and shared learning. This investment into faculty success will help strengthen student outcomes, deepen scholarly engagement, and foster a more connected and thriving academic culture at UNC.

Tanya Garcia and Johna Register-Mihalik – Campus Wide Mentoring Toolkit

Mentoring is a powerful tool, but it is not something a typical faculty member is trained in. This project sought to making mentoring easier by bringing together key resources and turning them into a coherent and practical campus-wide toolkit. Working collaboratively with the Office of Faculty Affairs, Center for Faculty Excellence, and a dedicated advisory board, the mentoring toolkit addresses needs at the University, unit, mentor, and mentee levels, providing efficient tools to develop the talent at UNC and foster stronger contributions to innovation and science.