



# **NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY**

## **FACULTY HANDBOOK**

### **UNIVERSITY POLICY**

### **CHAPTER II**

### **BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

#### **2.1 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (N.C. A&T) is a learner-centered community that develops and preserves intellectual capital through interdisciplinary research, discovery, engagement and operational excellence. The university's rich history dates back to March 9, 1891, when the institution was established as the Agricultural and Mechanical College for the Colored Race by an act of the General Assembly of North Carolina.

The college actually began operations in the fall of 1890, before the North Carolina General Assembly officially created it as a second college to meet the federal Morrill Act requirements that proceeds from land sold by the state be used to fund public colleges focused on agriculture and the mechanical arts. The College operated in Raleigh as an annex to Shaw University during the academic years 1890-1891, 1891-1892, and 1892-1893. A group of Greensboro citizens, including DeWitt Clinton Benbow, a Guilford County businessman and philanthropist, and Charles Henry Moore, an African-American educator and businessman, pledged to make Greensboro the permanent home for the institution. Fourteen acres of land were donated for the site and an additional \$11,000 in cash aided in construction of the buildings. This amount was supplemented by an appropriation of \$2,500 from the General Assembly. The first building was completed in 1893.

In 1915, state legislators changed the college's name to the Agricultural and Technical College of North Carolina, and in 1967 elevated its status to university. North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University became a constituent university of the University of North Carolina in 1972.

Since its inception, N.C. A&T has maintained a tradition of excellence in education. Under the leadership of Dr. Harold L. Martin Sr., the University's current Chancellor, N.C. A&T continues to thrive and sustain its rich legacy. Now situated on 200 beautiful acres, it is classified by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching as a doctoral research university. There is also a 492-acre university farm. N.C. A&T's enrollment is more than 11,000 students and its workforce includes more than 2,200 employees.

N.C. A&T offers 177 undergraduate degree programs, 45 master's concentrations through 30 master's degree programs, 11 doctoral concentrations through 9 degree programs, and a number of certificate programs. The University's academic programs are offered through the [College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences](#); [College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences](#); [College of Business and Economics](#); [College of Education](#); [College of Engineering](#); [College of Health and Human Sciences](#); [College of Science and Technology](#); [Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering](#); and [The Graduate College](#).

N.C. A&T's outstanding student body is the primary strength of the university. Students are carefully selected from thousands of applicants annually. Once enrolled, they are taught and mentored by excellent faculty, the majority of whom have earned doctoral and other degrees from many of the nation's most prestigious graduate and professional schools.

N.C. A&T graduates are among the largest number of African-American engineers at the undergraduate, master's, and doctoral levels. The number of African-American psychology graduates also surpasses any other university in the nation. Through its School of Business and Economics, which is internationally accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), the institution is among the largest producers of African-American certified public accountants. True to its heritage, N.C. A&T is home to the largest agricultural school among Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and is the second largest producer of minority agricultural graduates. In 2008, the institution was the only HBCU to be awarded a prestigious National Science Foundation Engineering Research Center (ERC) grant for biomedical engineering and nanobiomedical applications research.

The University is widely recognized for its advancements in funded research opportunities. For the fiscal year 2015-16, N.C. A&T generated more than \$60 million in sponsored programs. It also secures contracts and partnerships with national and international corporations, federal agencies and foundations to enhance academic programs and provide student scholarships.

N.C. A&T is proud of its 55,000 alumni of record who occupy leadership positions throughout the United States and internationally. These alumni spread the Aggie tradition everywhere they go as they continue to strive for excellence and make their mark on society. The University's well-known successful alumni include the Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr., civil rights activist; U.S. Congressman Edolphus Towns (D-NY); retired Maj. Gen. Charles D. Bussey; retired Brig. Gen. Clara Adams-Ender; Ralph Shelton, founder of Southeast Fuels; Dr. Joe Dudley, Sr., founder of Dudley Products, Inc.; Alvin Attles, vice president of the Golden State Warriors; former District Court Judge Lawrence McSwain; U.S. Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr. (D-IL); former North Carolina Supreme Court Chief Justice Henry E. Frye; The Greensboro/A&T Four, Jibreel Khazan, Joseph McNeil, the late Franklin McCain and the late David Richmond; North Carolina

legislator Alma Adams; Elvin Bethea, 2003 Pro Football Hall of Famer; Janice Bryant-Howroyd, founder and CEO of ACT 1 Group; Willie Deese, president, Merck Manufacturing Division; Donna Scott James, managing director, Lardon Associates LLC; Dmitri Stockton, president and CEO of GE Consumer Finance for Central and Eastern Europe; and the late astronaut Dr. Ronald E. McNair.

Twelve presidents/chancellors have served the university since its founding: Dr. John O. Crosby (1892-1896), Dr. James B. Dudley (1896-1925), Dr. Ferdinand D. Bluford (1925-1955), Dr. Warmoth T. Gibbs (1956-1960), Dr. Samuel DeWitt Proctor (1960-1964), Dr. Lewis C. Dowdy (1964-1980), Dr. Cleon Thompson Jr. (1980-1981, interim), Dr. Edward B. Fort (1981-1999), Dr. James C. Renick (1999- 2006), Dr. Lloyd V. Hackley (2006-2007, interim), Dr. Stanley Battle (2007- 2009) and Dr. Harold L. Martin Sr. (2009 – Present).

## **2.2 UNIVERSITY MISSION AND VISION STATEMENTS**

N.C. A&T is one of the state's two land-grant institutions and is an interdisciplinary university offering degree programs at the baccalaureate, master's and doctoral levels. The University conducts a wide range of sponsored science and technology-related research programs and activities.

### **2.2.1 Mission.**

### **2.2.2 Vision.**

For both, see <https://www.ncat.edu/about/vision-mission.html>

## **2.3 UNIVERSITY GOALS**

To become the premier interdisciplinary university in North Carolina and America, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University has six strategic goals:

1. Create an intellectual climate that encourages the creative exchange of ideas and increases the quality of the professional environment.
2. Commit to excellence in teaching, research, public service and engagement.
3. Position the University to be a national, premier research-intensive, doctoral, science and technology-focused learning institution.
4. Embrace an entrepreneurial spirit that intentionally engages university and community partners to expand economic development and civic engagement.
5. Foster a more diverse and inclusive campus community by promoting cultural awareness, collegiality, and by cultivating respect for diverse people and cultures.
6. Achieve excellence in academic and operational effectiveness and efficiency.

In 2006, N.C. A&T was classified as a doctoral research university (high research activity). The current classification became effective in 2011.

Approved by the Board of Trustees

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