



James E. Shepard, Founder



Dear NCCU Students,

Warm greetings as we welcome the 2023-2024 academic year at North Carolina Central University (NCCU)! This year is bound to be filled with unparalleled opportunities for personal and professional growth, both within and beyond the boundaries of the classroom.

Our unwavering dedication to NCCU's utmost goal— your success — continues, bolstered by a renewed emphasis on on-time graduation. This renewed focus forms an integral part of 'The Eagle Promise', a commitment to our student scholars that, through dedicated engagement with the university's rich educational offerings, you will: graduate on time, partake in experiences of global relevance, evolve into a

demonstrated leader, and transition from NCCU with employment in your chosen field or acceptance into a graduate or professional program.

One of the keys to ensuring on-time graduation is forming deep and productive relationships with your academic advisors. I strongly encourage you to invest time in understanding your curriculum, the support services available in the divisions of Academic and Student Affairs, and most importantly, in establishing meaningful relationships with your academic advisors. They are invaluable allies, equipped to guide you around potential distractions and towards your ultimate goal of on-time graduation.

This is a remarkable period at NCCU. We are delivering innovation in our academic programs and cultivating broader connections with corporate and community partners who wish to connect with you, our remarkable students. Make sure to seize these opportunities, which are broader and more exciting than ever before.

Beyond our campus, I urge you to explore the dynamic and diverse city of Durham and the wider Triangle region. You will find abundant possibilities for personal fulfillment and professional engagement.

The Eagle community eagerly awaits an invigorating academic year and looks forward to collectively celebrating your achievements!

In Truth and Service,

Johnson O. Akinleye, Ph.D.
Chancellor