

DEVIN FOR SBP

PROJECTBOLD

POLICY PLATFORM

2026-2027



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DEAR TAR HEELS,

My name is **Devin Duncan**, and I'm a Public Policy and Media & Journalism major from Cincinnati, Ohio. Like so many of you, I came to Carolina believing in its promise not just to educate us, but to empower us to think bigger, serve others, and make a real difference. I believed in this community and in what it means to live out **GDTBATH**.

From my first semester, I saw much of that promise come to life. Carolina is more than rankings or traditions. It is its people, students who show up for one another, faculty and staff deeply committed to student success, and alumni who carry Carolina's values into the world.

But it would be incomplete, and dishonest, to speak only of Carolina's promise without acknowledging **the moment we are in**.

Across this campus and higher education, **trust is being tested**. Students are asking hard questions about access, advising, well-being, and belonging. Faculty and staff are seeking clarity and confidence in the direction of the institution they serve. Alumni are watching closely, hoping the University they love remains worthy of their faith. All while, and too often, people feel decisions are happening around them rather than with them.

That tension is what inspired Project Bold.

This is a **defining moment** for Carolina. The challenges before us demand leadership that is transparent, collaborative, and courageous. They demand that we build confidence and trust not just in Carolina's reputation, but in its direction. And it is my opinion that trust in higher education is not rebuilt through press releases or rankings alone. It is rebuilt internally, when students believe **their voices matter**, when faculty and staff feel respected and heard, and when alumni see alignment between Carolina's values and its actions. **External trust follows internal trust.** It always has.

That is why I am running for Student Body President.

Project Bold is a commitment to bridge students and administration, vision and action, and where Carolina is with where it must go. It is about ensuring every student feels seen, supported, and empowered, and that Carolina leads not only in prestige, but in purpose. Regardless of the outcome of this election, Carolina's best days are still ahead, if we choose collaboration over division and hope over hesitation. At this moment, Carolina does not need less care. It needs more, more listening, more transparency, and more trust, built together. I humbly ask for your support as I intend to meet this moment with a **bold vision**.

With Carolina Pride,

Devin Duncan



WHAT IS PROJECT BOLD?

Project Bold is a vision for a stronger, more connected Carolina—one that is First, Best, and For All.

It is a Carolina where every student feels seen, supported, and empowered to make their mark. A Carolina that believes leadership is not confined to titles, and that progress is achieved when students, faculty, staff, and administrators move forward together with shared purpose.

We call it Project Bold because this moment in higher education demands nothing less. It demands leadership willing to think big, act with courage, and confront challenges honestly. It demands bold ideas, bold action, and bold leadership—leadership that listens deeply, learns humbly, and lifts others along the way.

At its core, Project Bold is a commitment to ensure Carolina lives up to its highest ideals—not only in reputation, but in experience; not only in excellence, but in care.

IT IS A CAROLINA THAT IS
FIRST, BEST, AND FOR ALL.
IT IS A CAROLINA THAT IS **BOLD.**

POLICIES AND DEPARTMENTS



Department of
Academic Affairs



Department of
Basic Needs



Department of Civic
Engagement and Outreach



Department of Diversity,
Equity, and Inclusion



Department of Student
Wellness and Safety



Department of
Environmental Affairs



Department of State
and External Affairs



Office of
Communications

OUR VALUES AND PRIORITIES

VALUES

- **Courage:** We lead fearlessly, even if the path forward is uncertain.
- **Community:** We believe progress happens together.
- **Accountability:** We follow through on our promises and lead with honesty and transparency.
- **Equity:** We ensure every Tar Heel has the opportunity to thrive, regardless of their background or identity.
- **Innovation:** We think creatively about the challenges we face and act boldly to solve them.

PRIORITIES

- **Empowering Academic Success:** Reimagining advising, mentorship, and learning environments so every Tar Heel can thrive
- **Supporting Basic Needs and Well-Being:** Ensuring every student has access to food, housing, health, and safety resources.
- **Building Civic and Community Engagement:** Strengthening the bond between Carolina and the community through service, civic participation, and outreach.
- **Championing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:** Celebrating identity, fostering belonging, and ensuring equity across every corner of our University.
- **Strengthening Communication and Transparency:** Telling Carolina's story authentically and ensuring student voices shape university decision-making.

POLICY OVERVIEW

THE MAIN IDEA & TASKFORCES

Taskforce on AI & Academic Affairs

The Academic Affairs Task Force will develop specific, actionable recommendations to strengthen academic advising, mentorship, and student support. It will have a mission to help ensure that every Tar Heel has the tools and guidance needed to reach their full potential, both inside and outside of the classroom. This group will focus on AI, accessibility, academic well-being, and innovation in teaching, learning, and advising.

Taskforce on Community & Belonging

Carolina is at its best when every student feels they belong here. The Task Force on Community & Belonging will explore ways to restore connection, unity, and school spirit across campus, and work to address the growing sense of isolation and disconnection many students feel.





Taskforce on Civic Engagement & Outreach

Carolina was founded on a promise to serve the people of North Carolina and that promise begins with us. The Civic Engagement & Outreach Task Force will focus on renewing Carolina's spirit of service and leadership, empowering students to engage in their communities, strengthen democracy, and build bridges beyond campus.

DEPARTMENT OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Policy #1 - Establish a University-Wide Peer Mentorship and Support Network

This program would introduce a university-wide Peer Mentorship, Advising, and Tutoring Network that **connects students to guidance and academic support across disciplines**. By prioritizing accessibility and responsiveness in academic advising, the network would ensure students receive timely, personalized support throughout their time at Carolina.

Category		  
Advising Mandatory?	✗	✓
Gallup Strength Poll	✗	✓
Faculty Advising	✗	✓
Peer Advising	✗	✓
Advising Topics	Mostly courses	Classes, electives, minors, career guidance, research
Reaching Out to Students	Once a semester for some students	Actively reach out for interventions
Student to Advisor Ratio	300 students per advisor	Peer advisors reduce strain on advisors

Policy #2 - Introduce Standardized Midterm Progress Check-Ins

This policy would implement Midterm Progress Check-ins to help students **better understand their academic standing before final grades are issued**. Issuing timely feedback and guidance is crucial for allowing students to address challenges early and make informed decisions about their pathway forward.

Policy #3 - STEM Collaboration and Study Centers

Modeling after the already-existing Economics Aid Center, this policy would establish **24-hour access STEM Collaboration and Study Centers**. These centers would foster peer support and make academic support more accessible, providing space for mentorship, studying, and the completion of group projects.

Policy #4 - Enhance and Expedite the Dean’s List Process

Recognizing academic success should be a larger priority at Carolina. This policy would formalize the Dean’s List process, **making notifications earlier and enhancing recognition through official emails**. Not only would this better celebrate student academic achievement, it would allow students to use the honor more effectively for professional and academic opportunities.

Policy #5 - First-Year Strengths Integration

This policy would advocate for incorporating the Gallup Strengths assessment into first-year programs to help students **identify their strengths and potential pathways** early in their college experience.

FUN FACT!

UT Knoxville, Purdue, Virginia Tech, and over 1,000 colleges currently run a strengths-based model on campus

DEPARTMENT OF BASIC NEEDS

Policy #1 - Expand On-Campus Farmers Markets and Chase Farm Stands

Partnering with the Chapel Hill and Carrboro Farmers Markets would bring affordable, local produce directly to campus through on-campus markets accessible to the broader student body. By expanding Chase Farm Stands into high-traffic spaces like the Pit, this initiative would **increase food access, support local farmers, and promote healthier, more sustainable food choices for students.**

Policy #2 - Centralize Food Security Access

This policy would strengthen food security initiatives by **expanding shared and donated meal swipe programs** and **centralizing food access information**. By creating a single, accessible resource hub that maps campus and community fridges, pantries, and food security programs, students would be able to find support quickly and consistently, especially during times of crisis.

Policy #3 - Expand Plus Swipe Options

This policy would advocate for **expanding Plus Swipe options** to include healthier off-campus dining locations. Broadening eligible vendors would increase student choice and better align campus dining options with student wellness needs.

Policy #4 - Create a Student Grocery Transportation Access

Partnering with the P2P and Transportation & Parking would create a **dedicated grocery shuttle that helps students access affordable food off campus**. This program would offer students regular, scheduled trips to nearby grocery stores, working to reduce transportation barriers and support food security.

Policy #5 - Launch Off-Campus Living Education

This policy would partner with Off-Campus Student Life to offer **monthly programming on leases, budgeting, and housing options**, equipping students with practical tools for living off campus. It would also add "Housing" as a subject area in the CFWC training curriculum, allowing Peer Financial Coaches to be certified to advise students on housing-related budgeting during one-on-one appointments.

FUN FACT



Peer institutions have implemented effective grocery transportation programs to support student access to affordable food. UNC Asheville offers evening shuttles to nearby grocery stores, UNCW operates Dub's Grocery Run and provides shuttle routes to shopping centers, and NCA&T runs a monthly Saturday Shopper shuttle to Walmart and other stores!

DEPARTMENT OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH

Policy #1 - Establish the Carolina Civic Award

An annual Carolina Civic Award would recognize students, faculty, or organizations that **demonstrate outstanding civic and community engagement**. By celebrating meaningful contributions to public service and campus involvement, the award would elevate civic leadership.

Policy #2 - Town-University Partnership Council

This policy would establish a Town–University Partnership Council to **strengthen collaboration between UNC and local government**. Chapel Hill hosts over 25 boards and commissions that consistently seek community members; this council would create a two-way pipeline that strengthens town–gown relationships while providing students with meaningful opportunities for public service and civic participation.

Policy #3 - Carolina Day of Service

Introduce Carolina Day, **a campus-wide day of service** where students volunteer with local schools, parks, and nonprofit organizations. By uniting students in hands-on community engagement, this celebration would strengthen the university's relationship with the Town of Chapel Hill while reinforcing Carolina's commitment to service and civic responsibility.

Policy #4 - Centralized Service Engagement Initiative

This initiative named a “Find Their Place to Serve” would work within the Provost's Learn to Lead program to **centralize volunteer opportunities and increase student participation**. Require all Student Government representatives to complete a minimum of four service hours per academic year, and partner with Fraternity & Sorority Life and the Carolina Center for Public Service to expand engagement across the Carolina community.

DID YOU KNOW?

Data from NC State's centralized PackServes portal shows a 35% increase in student volunteer participation following centralization.

Policy #5 - Informed, Nonpartisan Current Events Newsletter

This policy would launch an informed, nonpartisan **current events newsletter** designed to help students stay civically engaged without misinformation or partisan noise. Modeled after similar peer programs at the University of Florida, Ohio State University, and the University of Michigan, the newsletter would provide clear summaries of key issues, explain why they matter to students, and offer pathways for further learning and involvement.

DEPARTMENT OF DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION

A Statement on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Conversations about “DEI erasure” can create understandable concern, especially for students who have long had to fight to be recognized. But even in uncertain moments, one truth remains: students, particularly those from historically marginalized communities, are not without power.

Our voices and leadership continue to shape Carolina, and no shift in terminology can erase that progress. We are not asking for exclusivity, but for safety, community, and the ability to breathe freely on our own campus. And given our country’s and University’s history, we must acknowledge that the well-being of students of color, especially Black students, remains most vulnerable. Naming this is not division; it is honesty and care. Our responsibility now is to lay a foundation that lasts and to build a Carolina that does more than open its doors, it stands with every student who walks through them. That is our vision. And together, we will build it.

Policy #1 - Create a Student Success & Engagement Syllabi Section

This initiative would work with the Faculty Council to introduce a recommended Student Success & Engagement section in course syllabi, **highlighting key campus resources for academic support, wellness, mentorship, and leadership**. By embedding this information directly into syllabi, the policy would ensure students are consistently aware of opportunities from the start of each course.

Policy #2 - Organize a Cultural Organizations Council

This policy would establish a Cultural Organizations Council to **strengthen collaboration among identity-based student organizations** and improve coordination across campus. By creating a shared forum for communication and planning, the council would support collective advocacy, resource sharing, and more inclusive programming that reflects the diversity of the student body.

Policy #3 - Establish a University-Wide Cultural Calendar

A university-wide Cultural Calendar would **highlight cultural events, heritage months, and celebrations** across campus, making them more visible and accessible to students. The calendar would centralize information, encourage broader participation, and reduce scheduling conflicts.

Policy #4 - Create a Collaborative Cultural Programming Fund

A Student Engagement Fund would **support monthly collaborations between cultural organizations**, providing resources for shared programming that promotes cross-cultural understanding and community building.

DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT WELLNESS AND SAFETY

Policy #1 - Expand CAPS Access Through Drop-In Hours and More Locations

This initiative would increase accessibility to Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS) by **offering more drop-in hours** and **creating additional locations across campus**. Students could more easily schedule appointments, reducing wait times and ensuring timely access to mental health support. Integration with ConnectCarolina would streamline scheduling, while expanded virtual counseling options would allow students to access care regardless of location or schedule. These improvements aim to make mental health support more coordinated, visible, and approachable, strengthening overall student wellness.

Policy #2 - Launch an Off-Campus Safety Task Force and Ride Programs

Quick fact: **more undergraduates feel unsafe on Franklin St. than not**. In response to that, this initiative would create a task force dedicated to **improving off-campus student safety**, including evaluating and **expanding the existing SafeWalk program**. The task force would explore **peer-driven late-night ride programs** modeled after Texas State University's Bobcat Safe Rides, providing safe, affordable transportation home for students. By combining student leadership, real-time ride tracking, and trained navigators, the initiative would reduce risks in off-campus areas and foster a culture of shared responsibility for safety. This idea is not new: Texas State, Duke, OSU, Arizona, University of South Carolina all offer student-driven or corporate sponsored late-night ride programs through Uber & Lyft.

Policy #3 - Increase Access to Plan B and Narcan Distribution

This program would ensure that **Plan B and Narcan are widely available on campus** and nearby locations, addressing gaps in current distribution. Strategic placement in high-traffic areas, combined with clear signage and awareness campaigns, would make these life-saving resources more accessible. The initiative would also prioritize **educational efforts about proper use and overdose prevention**, empowering students with both tools and knowledge to protect themselves and peers.



Policy #4 - Implement Off-Campus Event Safety Planning for Registered Parties

This initiative would require registered student organizations to **submit safety plans for off-campus events**, outlining strategies for transportation, crowd management, and emergency response. By proactively addressing potential risks, students, administrators, and safety personnel can prevent incidents before they occur. The program would also include workshops and guidance resources to support students in creating effective, realistic safety plans, promoting a culture of responsibility and preparedness.

DEPARTMENT OF STUDENT WELLNESS AND SAFETY

Policy #5 - Add a “Student Wellness” Button in Canvas

This initiative would integrate a **dedicated “Student Wellness” button in Canvas**, linking students directly to **mental health, medical, and safety resources**. The button would serve as a central, easily accessible portal for support services, including CAPS, Plan B/Narcan locations, and ride services. This centralized access reduces barriers and ensures students can quickly find and connect with the resources they need.

Policy #6 - Integrate Campus Health Services into ConnectCarolina

This program would fully integrate Campus Health Services into ConnectCarolina, allowing students to **schedule medical and mental health appointments in one centralized platform**. This initiative would improve the continuity of care and make accessing services more convenient. Combined with greater CAPS access and virtual options, this integration strengthens UNC’s overall health infrastructure while keeping students at the center of care efforts.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Policy #1 - Launch Sustain Carolina Week

This initiative would create a campus-wide **celebration of sustainability** that unites student organizations, academic departments, and community partners under one cohesive effort. Sustain Carolina Week could feature events such as zero-waste challenges, sustainable fashion pop-ups, faculty and alumni panels on environmental leadership, and outdoor service projects like litter cleanups. The week would highlight the diversity of sustainability work happening at UNC, promote collaboration among student leaders, and make Carolina's environmental commitment more visible and accessible to the broader student body.

Policy #2 - Pilot a "Too Good To Go" Dining Model

Partnering with Carolina Dining Services, this pilot program would **redistribute surplus dining hall meals** through a low-cost or free student access platform modeled after the "Too Good To Go" app used at other universities. Students could **purchase discounted meals** at the end of service hours or access surplus food through coordinated pickup events. The initiative would reduce food waste while addressing food insecurity among students—a key intersection of sustainability and equity. This model builds on the success of similar efforts at institutions like Duke and aligns closely with Carolina Dining's ongoing waste reduction and composting goals.

Policy #3 - Adopt-a-Space & Campus Trash Pickup Day

This program would empower student organizations, residence halls, and RAs to **"adopt" designated campus spaces** such as the quad, walkways, or courtyards, and commit to maintaining them through regular cleanup events. Monthly "Campus Cleanup Days" could be coordinated by the Department of Environmental Affairs, offering opportunities for service hours and team-building while keeping shared spaces beautiful and waste-free. The initiative promotes shared responsibility, visible student leadership, and a culture of collective care for the Carolina environment.

Policy #4 - Expand Composting and Plate-Clearing Stations

To make waste reduction a daily habit, this proposal calls for **expanding composting infrastructure** across campus, particularly in dining halls and high-traffic areas. The Department would collaborate with Carolina Dining Services and Facilities to **install more compost bins** and implement **plate-clearing systems** that make it easy for students to separate food waste from recyclables and trash. Educational signage and student ambassador programs could reinforce proper sorting and raise awareness about waste diversion metrics, turning everyday dining into a visible act of sustainability.

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS

Policy #5 - Establish a Move-Out Donation Shop

During student move-out periods, large amounts of usable furniture, clothing, and dorm items are discarded. This proposal would establish a **Carolina Thrift-style Move-Out Donation Shop**, operated semiannually, to collect, sort, and resell or donate these items. The initiative would **reduce landfill waste, promote reuse, and support affordability** for students needing inexpensive furniture or supplies at the start of each semester. Partnerships with Housing and local nonprofits could ensure that leftover items are responsibly redistributed, creating a closed-loop system that benefits both students and the community.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

Policy #1 - Organize “Heels on the Hill”

This initiative would establish Heels on the Hill, a **coordinated State Lobby Day** that **unites student organizations in collective advocacy** at the state level. Held at least once per academic year, the program would prepare students through required pre-trip trainings on current legislative issues affecting UNC, effective communication with legislators, and professional etiquette.

Policy #2 - Create an Annual Legislators-in-Residence Day

This program would define an annual on-campus event that **brings state legislators, federal office staff, and public servants** directly into conversation with students. The day would feature issue-based panels along with small-group roundtables and optional class visits or guest lectures. At least one portion of the program would be student-driven, with **student organizations proposing questions** and discussion topics in advance. Through prioritizing direct interaction, this event would help students familiarize themselves their legislators and expose them to public service career paths they may not otherwise encounter.

Policy #3 - Build an Alumni in Public Service Network

The Alumni in Public Service Network would **connect current students with Tar Heels working in government, policy, nonprofits, and advocacy**. The network would maintain an opt-in alumni directory and offer both virtual and in-person programming, including career panels, “day in the life” conversations, and open office hours. It would also incorporate flexible mentorship options, ranging from short-term micro-mentorships to optional long-term relationships, giving students guidance as they explore public service careers.

FUN FACT

Other universities have made programs similar to the proposed Alumni in Public Service, such as Princeton’s AlumniCorps and Harvard’s Public Service Alumni Board.

Policy #4 - Facilitate Nonpartisan Roundtable Discussions

This series would create consistent, structured spaces for students to **engage in respectful dialogue on public issues**. At least two roundtables would be hosted each semester, each session intentionally partnering with different student organizations to encourage cross-campus perspectives and broaden participation.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Initiative #1 - Launch “Who is Carolina” Storytelling Campaign

A “Who Is Carolina?” storytelling campaign would **highlight the diverse experiences and identities that make up the Tar Heel community** through short-form, interview-style videos. Students would be selected through an open submission form and filmed in their everyday environments, with visuals capturing campus life while their stories are shared. By centering authentic student voices, the campaign would humanize the Carolina experience and help students see themselves reflected in the broader UNC community.

Initiative #2 - Create a Student Advisory Committee to the Vice Chancellor for Communications

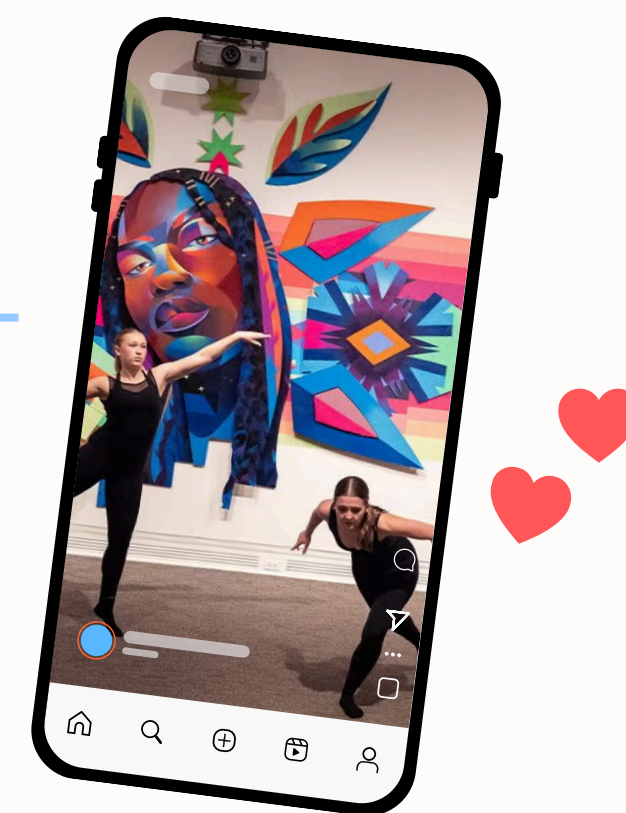
A Student Advisory Committee to the Vice Chancellor for Communications would create a **formal channel for student input on UNC’s messaging and branding**. The committee would advise on how university communications are received by the student body and help ensure institutional messaging reflects student experiences and priorities.

Initiative #3 - Produce a Student Government Podcast

This project would **spotlight student leaders, athletes, administrators, and campus organizations** by sharing their personal trajectories at UNC and demystifying how students can get involved. Each episode would highlight places to start on campus and concrete opportunities students may not know exist.

Initiative #4 - Showcase Student Talent through Social Media

Arts, Dance, Theater, and Comedy Spotlights would **celebrate student creativity** by highlighting performances and rehearsals through social media reels and coordinated promotional content. These spotlights would feature event previews, behind-the-scenes moments, and post-event highlights, helping student artists reach broader audiences and build momentum for campus arts programming.



Initiative #5 - Celebrate Student Success and Everyday Life through Social Media

Overall, we want to expand video and social content to **spotlight student achievements** and everyday life at Carolina through short-form videos and reels. This project would increase visibility for student accomplishments and present a more relatable picture of the Carolina experience.

OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS

Initiative #6 - Lead an Assessment & Accountability Campaign

Through this campaign, the Office of Communications will establish **measurable outcomes for every project**: this includes clear benchmarks, timelines, and success indicators that students can track. Additionally, this campaign will be as transparent as possible to assure accountability. The Office would publish regular progress updates and adjust when results fall short. For us, Accountability is not optional; it's the difference between making promises and making progress.



CLOSING STATEMENT

Carolina is at its best when every Tar Heel feels they belong here—when students are seen and supported, when faculty and staff are trusted partners, and when our community moves forward together with clarity and purpose.

Project Bold is grounded in the belief that Carolina's promise is not self-sustaining. It is upheld by the choices we make, the trust we build, and the courage we show in moments that ask more of us. This moment is one of them.

The path forward does not demand perfection, but it does demand participation. It calls for leadership that listens before it leads, acts with transparency, and understands that confidence in this institution is built from the inside out. When students believe their voices matter, when our values are reflected in our actions, and when collaboration replaces distance, Carolina rises to meet its promise.

This policy vision is an invitation—to imagine a University that leads not only in prestige, but in purpose; not only in excellence, but in care. A Carolina that is worthy of the faith placed in it by generations past, and prepared for the generations to come.

Our commitment is simple: to build a Carolina that is First, Best, and For All.

Together, **We Go Bold.**

Devin Duncan

**BUILDING A
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