



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

“Water In Our World” UNC’s Pan-campus Theme for 2012 - 2014



WATER IN OUR WORLD



Background on Water Theme



- Derived from 2011 Academic Plan which called for mobilization around a common societal issue.
- Key partners: UNC Water Institute, Institute for the Environment, Global Research Institute, UNC Global
- Approved by Faculty Council in Dec. 2011 and officially launched in Aug. 2012



Objectives



- Extend University's traditional role as a force for greater equity and scholarly progress.
- Bring community together around a common purpose and create meaningful external partnerships.
- Enhance interdisciplinary research and practice, and in turn, Carolina's reputation as an exemplary university.
- Make major breakthroughs in the study of water.
- Inaugurate future pan-campus themes at UNC.



Extend University's traditional role as a force for greater equity and scholarly progress.

- Distinguished Speaker Series led by Global Research Institute
- Friday Center *What's the Big Idea?* lecture series featuring water scientists and researchers
- More than 50 graduate and undergraduate courses offered related to water
- Annual International Water & Health Conference organized by Water Institute and Institute for the Environment



Bring community together around a common purpose and create meaningful external partnerships.

- Student-led initiatives: A Drink for Tomorrow, First Year Service Corps, Campus Y Fund and Jon Curtis Enrichment Fund to sponsor student water projects
- Visitor's Center *Priceless Gems* campus water tour
- Artistic and dramatic representations of water
- UNC as founding partner of US Water Partnership
- UNC and Proctor & Gamble Children's Safe Drinking Water alliance to provide clean water globally



Enhance interdisciplinary research and practice, and in turn, Carolina's reputation as an exemplary university.

- 2014 Water Nexus Conference
- 2012-2013 Global Research Institute Fellows devoted to water research across disciplines
- Renaissance Computing Institute's coastal hazards modeling, HydroShare water research database, and Water Science Software Institute
- Environmental Finance Center's research related to stormwater management, water utility infrastructure, and sustainable urban use practices



Make major breakthroughs in the study of water.

- Water Institute at UNC research challenged official U.N. statistics on the number of people without proper toilet facilities
- Potential negative impact of carbon released from melting Arctic permafrost highlighted by UNC School of Public Health research
- Rapid DNA-based water testing and storm surge modeling technology developed by UNC Marine Sciences Institute researchers
- UNC School of Dentistry study regarding the positive benefits of water fluoridation in preventing adult tooth decay



Next Steps

- Complete end-of-year report for 2012-2013 academic year
- Submit budget proposal for year two of theme
- Brief Chancellor Folt and Provost Dean on current progress of theme



Questions?



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