UNC | BOARD OF TRUSTEES

# UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

January 26, 2022, 2:20 pm
Magnolia Room, The Rizzo Conference Center

## OPEN SESSION

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY**
(No formal action is requested at this time)

1. Chair Remarks
   *Rob Bryan, Committee Chair*

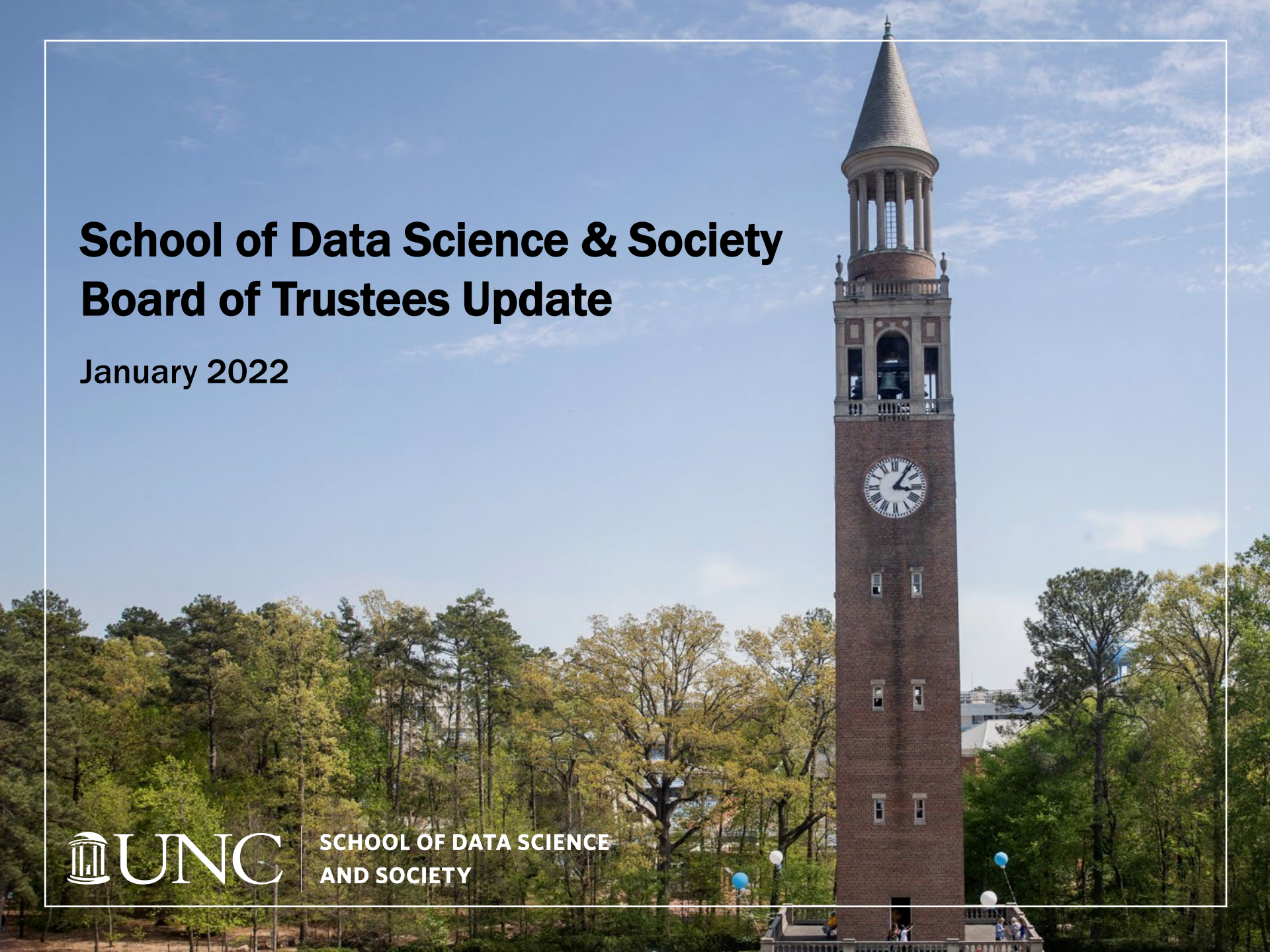
2. Employee Forum Update
   *Katie Musgrove, Chair*

3. Graduate and Professional Student Federation Update
   *Neel Swamy, President*

3. SAAO Tier II Approvals Process
   *Becci Menghini, Vice Chancellor, Human Resources & Equal Opportunity and Compliance*

4. Update on Data Science Initiative
   *Chancellor Kevin M. Guskiewicz*
   *Chris Clemens, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Elect*
   *Jay Aikat, Chief Operating Officer, RENCI and Research Professor of Computer Science, UNC-Chapel Hill*

Some of the business to be conducted is authorized by the N.C. Open Meetings Law to be conducted in closed session.



# School of Data Science & Society
# Board of Trustees Update

January 2022

UNC | SCHOOL OF DATA SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

# Our Mission

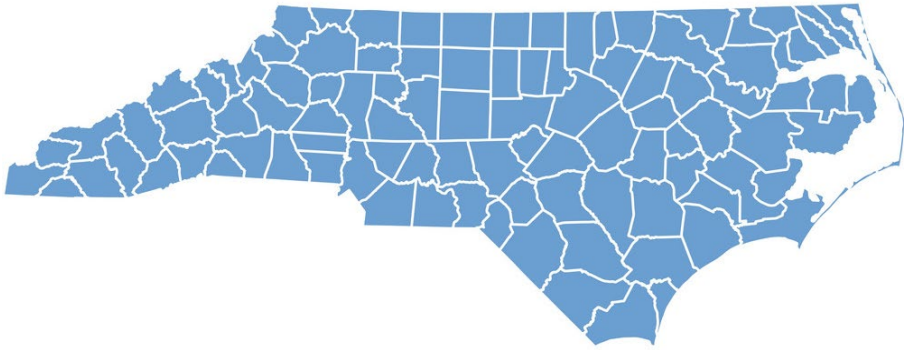
- Deliver knowledge and skills for North Carolina to thrive in a **data-driven world**
- Educate a diverse community of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students from across our State to become the **next generation of data science leaders**
- Serve the state, the nation, and the world through premier innovative research directed to **advancing the public good with human-centric and ethical applications in e.g. genomics, healthcare, biomanufacturing, robotics, automation, artificial intelligence, and machine learning.**

# Benefit to Our State

- Support the **economic health and well-being** of rural and urban communities across the state of North Carolina

- Develop a **critical mass of workforce talent** to support the existing data economy of North Carolina and to *draw new industries* to our State

- Form **strong partnerships** for research and workforce development with community colleges, UNC system schools and industry.



# Corporate Landscape

> Apple plans to invest over **$1 billion** in North Carolina…The investment will create at least **3,000** new jobs in machine learning, artificial intelligence, software engineering, and other cutting-edge fields.
>
> - Apple Newsroom

- Robust demand for UNC graduates in NC, including Apple, Google, Amazon, SAS, the banking industry, Epic Games, Cisco, and IBM
- NC has the 9th most job openings for data scientists in the country
- Data Science jobs are projected to grow at 19% over the next 10 years
- The median annual salary for Data Scientists is $114,368; The salary average of Apple's new positions will be $187,001

# UNC's Vision Distinct from Our Peers'

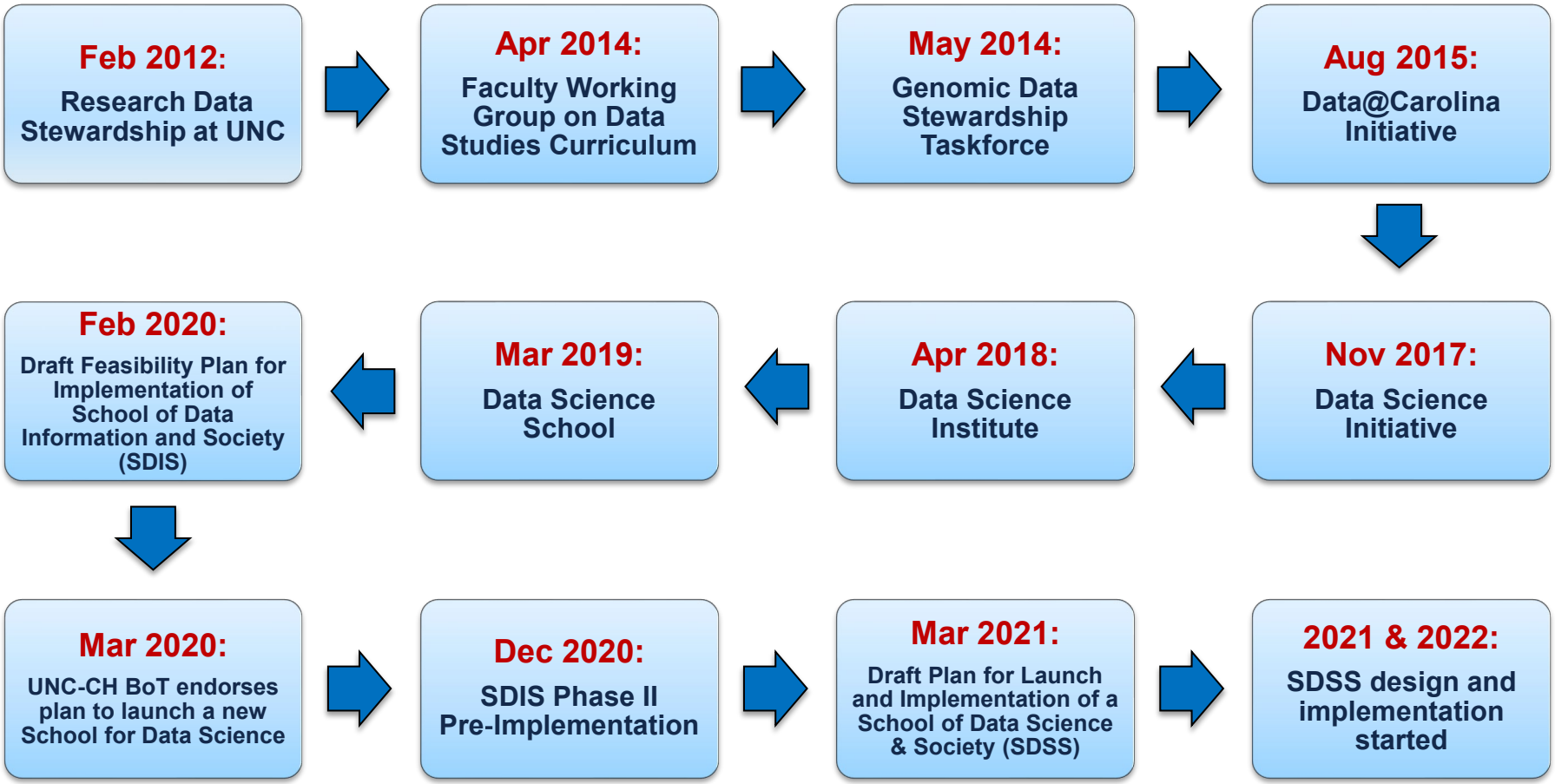
**What other programs emphasize:**

- *UC Berkeley*: Research ("across scientific and technological frontiers")
- *MIT*: Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (website lists complex/interconnected systems)
- *UVA*: Ethics and Principles in Data Science
- *Georgia Tech*: Large-scale Data and Modeling

**The UNC Value:**

- "And Society": human-centric approach; leverage service to NC in economic development, healthcare, biomanufacturing, and other sectors
- Existing strength in Data Science research and faculty
- UNC-CH uniquely positioned to become a global leader in using data and information to solve humanity's greatest challenges

# The Pursuit of Data Science at Carolina, 2012 to 2022



# BoT Endorses Plan – March 2020

May 2019 – Feb 2020: a diverse committee of over 100 faculty, staff, and students across the university, including data science experts and university leaders, proposed a school for data science that will lead the world in using data and information to solve humanity's greatest challenges, by leveraging and building upon Carolina's existing strengths.

**In March 2020, the UNC-CH Board of Trustees endorsed this draft feasibility plan for the launch and implementation of a School of Data, Information and Society.**

# BoT Endorses Plan – March 2020

- This feasibility plan proposed to:
  - Build on Carolina's **research strengths**
  - Develop **degree programs** that prepare students for data-driven careers
  - Collaborate to build **career development pathways** from community college to postgraduate level combining residential and online programs for maximum accessibility
  - Address the robust **demand for graduates** by employers in NC and the region
  - Provide students with **job outcomes** that have projected growth and salaries well above the national average
  - Grow **strategic partnerships** with NC communities, businesses, and government

# Preparatory Work 2021 - 2022

- Launched a Data Science minor in Fall 2021
  - 367 students have registered for the minor with almost no advertising
  - Keen interest from students for a major in data science
- Launched *Carolina Data Science Now,* a monthly seminar series in January 2022
- Developing an online Master of Applied Data Science (MADS) degree program for launch in Fall 2023
- Developing Bachelor's degree curricula in data science
- Working with industry leaders to develop strategic partnerships
- Exploring funding options for the new School
- Appointing implementation team with Academic Lead

# Next Steps

- **Launch the School of Data Science and Society** (SDSS) in Fall 2022, with internal university funds and a possible match from the state of NC
- **YR1**
  - Appoint an Inaugural Dean, other academic leaders, governing boards; hire staff;
  - Start hiring faculty joint with various other units on campus;
  - Continue pursuing both donors and recurring state funding;
  - Launch highly interdisciplinary, campus-wide, data science research clusters.
- **YR2**
  - Launch the online Masters program;
  - Continue planning and development of various degree programs in data science;
  - Continue hiring faculty to develop and teach these courses and build out the ecosystem of data science at Carolina.
- **YR3**
  - Launch the undergraduate majors in data science;
  - Launch PhD degrees that are interdisciplinary with various domains.

# Questions?

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