

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

FORSYTH TECHNICAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE, WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

AND

GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY, BOILING SPRINGS, NORTH CAROLINA

I. PARTIES

This Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), is made and entered into by and between Forsyth Technical Community College ("FT") and Gardner-Webb University ("GWU" or the "University"), collectively referred to as the "Parties."

II. BACKGROUND

Gardner-Webb University, a private, Christian, Baptist-related university, provides outstanding undergraduate and graduate education that is strongly grounded in the liberal arts while offering opportunities to prepare for various professions.

Forsyth Technical Community College is a public two-year institution in Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The college provides associate degrees, diplomas, and certificates in various fields, including healthcare, technology, business, and applied sciences. Additionally, Forsyth Tech offers workforce development and continuing education programs to support career advancement and lifelong learning opportunities for individuals of all ages.

The Parties have a shared geographic perspective and a shared desire to strengthen the learning community and workforce development of Forsyth and Stokes Counties, the piedmont of North Carolina, and the State of North Carolina and beyond.

III. TRANSFER ADMISSION PROMISE PROGRAM

GWU and FT will create and administer a program on each Party's campus called Bulldog Bound: A Direct-Entry Admission Program (the "Program"). The Program name may be changed upon the mutual written consent of both Parties. (NOTE: The Direct-Entry Admission Program discussed within this MOU pertains to admission to the

University and not to a specific degree program. Some GWU programs of study have their own programmatic admission criteria, standards, policies, processes and deadlines.)

Bulldog Bound is a co-admission program between GWU and FT intended for successful community college students who plan to transfer to GWU after completing Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science (AS), Associate of Arts in Teacher Preparation (AATP), Associate of Science in Teacher Preparation (ASTP), Associate of Fine Arts in Visual Arts (AFA), or Associate in Applied Science (AAS) degree through an institutional or state-wide articulation agreement.

The Program will allow currently enrolled FT students a direct-entry pathway to GWU available upon graduation from FT. Students who wish to participate in the Program must satisfy the following conditions:

- Be a currently enrolled student at FT in a degree-seeking capacity;
- Submit GWU application for admission and disciplinary forms by GWU deadlines;
- Submit application fee or waiver and fulfill all commitment actions steps;
- Be in good standing at FT and other institutions attended;
- Demonstrate good citizenship and conduct;
- Earn and maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 at FT and a minimum GPA of 2.20 in their most recent term; and
- Earn an Associate's degree from FT in a college transfer program or in an applied program for which an articulation agreement exists.
- Enroll at GWU within one academic year (within the next two regular terms (fall/ spring semesters) of completion of the Associate's degree).
- Meet all admissions requirements of GWU.

While enrolled at FT, students will identify their interest in the Program by completing a brief, online form provided by the FT Transfer Counselor. There is no Program participation fee. Students who discontinue their participation will be expected to transition to GWU through regular admission channels. Students who enroll at another college or university after their FT enrollment also will be expected to transition to GWU through regular admission channels.

The Program affords college students access to information about academic programs, faculty, and staff at the GWU campus who will facilitate their transition to GWU. This Program prioritizes the ability to receive admission, financial aid, registration and

orientation communications early in the transition process, which sets FT students up for maximum success at both institutions.

The Program requires completion of the Associate's degree from FT for guaranteed admission. In cases where Program participants matriculate prior to completing the Associate's degree, a Reverse Transfer Process provides the opportunity for students to complete their Associate's degree after transferring to GWU.

Additional benefits that serve both campuses may be added to the Program structure by mutual written consent of both Parties. Examples may include, but are not limited to, consortium agreements for cross-campus enrollment in individual courses and invitations to selective events or programs.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF BOTH PARTIES

- Disseminating information about the Program to Forsyth and Stokes Counties, Gardner-Webb University communities and statewide;
- Raising awareness of the Program with relevant members of the FT and GWU campus communities;
- The University Transfer Advising Coordinator at FT will work in concert with the identified Primary Point of Contact at GWU in the development and maintenance of the program. The FT Transfer Advising Coordinator, will also serve as the point person for GWU representatives while they are on campus;
- Developing and providing an online registration form for FT students to express interest in the Program;
- Providing faculty and staff to serve on the Program Committee;
- Providing real-time resource and information to FT students, on the FT campus, for students who express interest in the Program;
- Developing and maintaining a list of students who register to participate in the Program;
- Communicating with students who register to participate in the Program; and
- Providing guest-speaker access to FT students for services and opportunities that will be available after transitioning to the GWU campus. Some examples of guests that could be made available to FT students include, but are not limited to, academic program chairs and faculty, academic advisors, admissions and financial aid counselors, student life staff, and student success representatives. This provision does not imply that instructional time will be provided for guest-speaker access.

Forsyth Technical Community College will be responsible for:

- Aiding FT students pursuing the benefits of the Program to fulfill the requirements for admission to GWU;
- Educating participants as to program-level admission opportunities and requirements;
- Complying with all applicable federal and state laws and FT policies, including but not limited to those related to financial aid; and
- Working collaboratively with GWU staff assigned to serve on the Program Committee.

Gardner-Webb University will be responsible for:

- Advising and assisting FT students pursuing the benefits of the Program in fulfilling the requirements for admission to GWU;
- Educating participants as to program-level admission opportunities and requirements;
- Complying with all applicable federal and state laws, GWU policies, including but not limited to those related to financial aid;
- Disseminating information about the Program to members of the GWU campus community;
- Providing representatives assigned to administer the Program;
- Disseminating information about the Program to candidates for admission who are not offered admission directly to GWU about the possibility to participate in the Program as a student at FT; and
- Guaranteeing admission for applicants from FT who suffices all requirements in the above agreement.

IV. NOTICE

The Parties designate the following individual(s) to administer and oversee the Program on behalf of his or her Party.

A. For Forsyth Technical Community College: FT Student Success Services Staff

B. For Gardner-Webb University: GWU Enrollment Staff

V. TERM AND TERMINATION

This MOU will renew annually unless terminated by either Party.

Either Party may, for any reason, terminate this MOU with sixty (60) days prior written notice to the other Party. If the MOU is terminated, FT students who had submitted a

transfer application prior to the termination date will still be eligible to participate in the Program.

VI. MODIFICATION

This MOU may be amended or modified at any time upon mutual written consent by the Parties.

VII. GOVERNING LAW

This MOU is subject to applicable Federal and North Carolina State law. It is also subject to the policies and regulations of Gardner-Webb University, and the policies and regulations of the North Carolina Community College System.

VIII. RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES

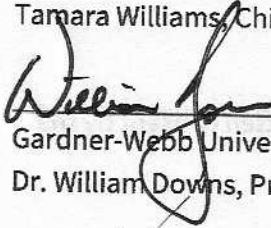
It is expressly acknowledged by the Parties that they are independent contractors and nothing in this MOU is intended or shall be construed to create an employer/employee relationship, partnership or a joint venture relationship so as to allow one Party to exercise control or direction over the manner or method by which the other Parties perform the services which are the subject matter of this MOU. Neither Party is authorized or empowered to act as agent for the other for any purpose and shall not on behalf of the other enter into any contract, warranty, or representation as to any matter. Neither Party shall be bound by the acts or conduct of the other Party. Neither Party, nor any other person performing services on behalf of such Party pursuant to this MOU, shall have any right or claim against the other party for Social Security benefits, workers' compensation benefits, disability benefits, unemployment insurance benefits, health insurance benefits, paid time off, or any other employee benefit.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this MOU as of the last written date below.

<u>Janet N. Spriggs</u> Forsyth Technical Community College, Winston-Salem, North Carolina Janet N. Spriggs, President	<u>2-27-2024</u> Date
<u>Tamara Williams</u>	<u>3/10/24</u>

Forsyth Technical Community College,
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Tamara Williams, Chief Academic Officer

Date



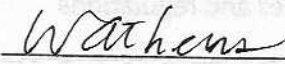
Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, North Carolina
Dr. William Downs, President

3/12/24
Date



Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, North Carolina
Dr. Karen Aubrey, Provost

3/12/24
Date



Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs, North Carolina
Dr. Wendy Athens, Dir Academic Innovation and Digital Learning

3/11/24
Date

It is expressly acknowledged by the Parties that they are independent contractors and nothing in this MOU is intended or shall be construed to create an employment relationship, partnership or a joint venture relationship or to allow one Party to exercise control or direction over the manner or method by which the other Party performs the services which are the subject matter of this MOU. Neither Party is authorized or empowered to act as agent for the other for any purpose and shall not be deemed to have entered into any contract, warranty, or representation as to any matter on behalf of the other Party by virtue of the fact that the other Party has performed any other person performing services on behalf of such Party pursuant to this MOU. Neither Party shall be bound by the acts or conduct of the other Party, whether or not such person performing services on behalf of such Party pursuant to this MOU, shall have any right or claim against the other party for Social Security benefits, workers compensation benefits, disability benefits, unemployment insurance benefits, health insurance benefits, paid time off, or any other employee benefits.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this MOU as of the date written below.


Forsyth Technical Community College
Winston-Salem, North Carolina
Janet N. Soligo, President
3/10/24
