

# NC State Coastal Resilience and Sustainability Initiative



Who We Are, What We're Doing, Where We're Going  
August 25, 2021

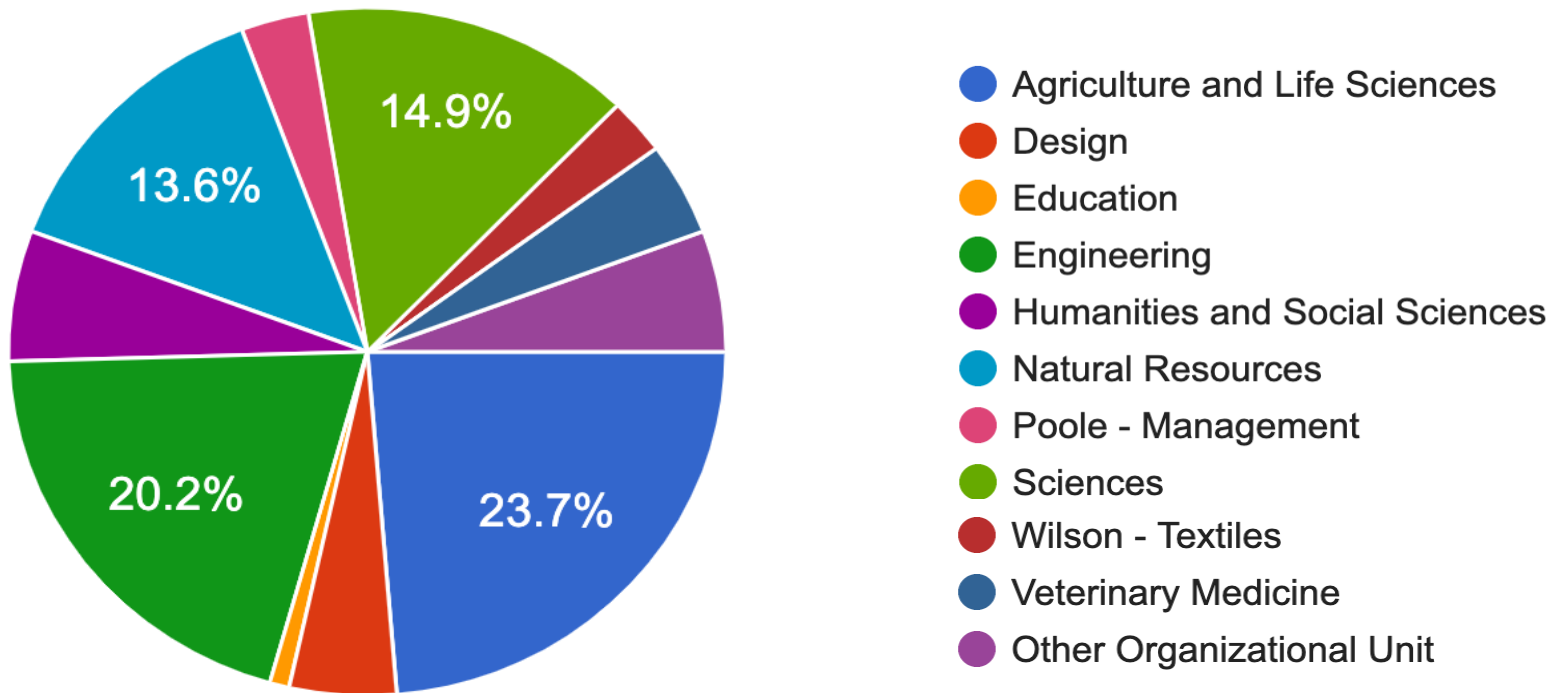
# NC State Coastal Resilience and Sustainability Initiative

- The world is unprepared for the challenges of climate change
- Coastal NC is at the epicenter of this challenge
- NC State, as premier land grant institution, should lead in finding solutions

**Vision:** build multidisciplinary teams to address the pressing societal and ecological challenges facing coastal ecosystems and communities, placing a premium on actionable solutions that will inform the choices before us and lead to a more sustainable future.

# Survey of Faculty Expertise and Interests

228 responses, all 10 Colleges represented



# Clusters of Expertise

(Based on original 168 responses)

- **Group 1** – communication, economic development, education, engagement, equity and culture, and policy and planning.
- **Group 2** – modeling, visualization, engineering and infrastructure, and design.
- **Group 3** – climate/environmental change, agriculture/forestry, water quality, and marine/aquatic ecosystems.

# Thematic Areas That Build on Faculty Strengths

1. Challenges and opportunities in sustainable agriculture, forestry, and rural, natural resource-based economies.
2. Water quality and quantity in the coastal zone.
3. Energy resilience, and innovations in technology.
4. Coupled human and natural systems.
5. Mutually beneficial engagement that emphasizes social equity.
6. Education at NC State and beyond

# Where NC State Could Lead

- **Focus on Rural Resilience** – a key gap, could be a differentiator for us
- **Leveraging partnerships** – those in place, and new ones – helping to develop a partnership ecosystem at NC State
  - Extension network, IEI, Corporate connections
  - NC Sea Grant, NC Climate Office, and SE CASC
  - New KIETS Climate Leaders Program, and others. . . .

# Expanded RISF Call for Proposals

Research and Innovation Seed-Funding Program  
Due: Thursday, October 14, 2021, 5:00 p.m.

**NC STATE**



**KENAN INSTITUTE**  
ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY & SCIENCE  
**NC STATE UNIVERSITY**

## Expanded Research and Innovation Seed-Funding Program Fall 2021

### PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

The Research and Innovation Seed-Funding (RISF) program welcomes proposals from NC State faculty and EHRA professionals for the FY21-22 funding cycle. For the next two fiscal years, the RISF program will be expanded significantly to include additional seed-funding focused on special topic areas. The intention of this expanded RISF program is to stimulate novel, interdisciplinary research projects that will help foster University-based research in a post-pandemic era.

**Due Date:** Proposals are due Thursday, October 14, 2021, 5:00 P.M.

The **Climate Change** special program area is intended to support research projects that are focused on mitigation strategies and adaptation to climate change, including, *but not limited to*:

- Environmental justice. . .
- Changes in temperature and precipitation patterns, and sea-level rise and their effects. . .
- Effects of changing climate on water quality and availability, and the social, policy, and technical innovations to address them
- Extreme weather and its effects on infrastructure. . .
- And much more. . . .

# What Can We Build Together?



Mary Watzin ([mwatzin@ncsu.edu](mailto:mwatzin@ncsu.edu)); Amanda Mueller ( [ammuell2@ncsu.edu](mailto:ammuell2@ncsu.edu))