

UNC WORLD VIEW TEACHER-STUDENT INITIATIVE



UNC World View

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THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

2021 / 2022

ABOUT THE UNC WORLD VIEW TEACHER-STUDENT INITIATIVE



The UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative is a specialized program designed with the following four goals:

1. Supporting educators in introducing timely global topics to their students
2. Connecting students in North Carolina directly with faculty at UNC-Chapel Hill
3. Providing opportunities for collaborative professional development
4. Creating impactful, real-world globalized lessons that educators can share and replicate

BACKGROUND

The UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative was founded by UNC World View in response to requests made by NC global education partners to create a program that would provide structured, personalized engagement for educators and their students on global topics. UNC World View partners appreciated the connections World View created between North Carolina educators and UNC faculty and felt the organization was poised to further engage students, spark their intellectual curiosity, and consider how their studies and careers could benefit local and global communities.

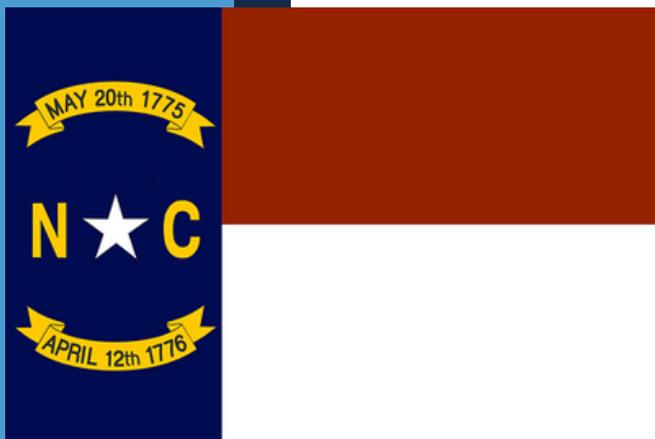
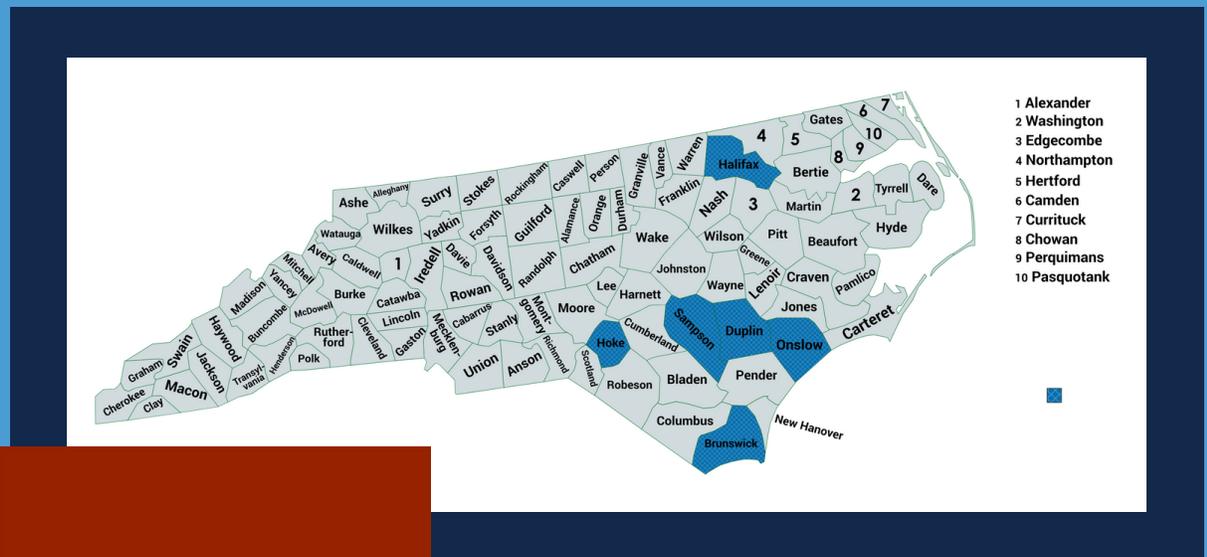
To meet this need for structured, collaborative professional development in global education, UNC World View designed the Teacher-Student Initiative. The program piloted in April of 2021 in three districts (Duplin County Schools, Onslow County School, and Elkin City Schools) with financial support provided by the Office of the Vice Provost for Global Affairs. Through this small pilot, UNC World View provided a presentation for over one hundred high school students to learn more about the global water crisis directly from Dr. Aaron Salzberg, the director of the UNC Water Institute.

The success of and feedback from the pilot encouraged UNC World View to seek out funding from Anonymous Trust to expand the program in eastern North Carolina and incorporate new features, including one-on-one coaching from an assistant director, global resource materials, and an additional UNC World View workshop for teachers in Chapel Hill at the end of the program.



SCALING THE UNC WORLD VIEW TEACHER-STUDENT INITIATIVE IN EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

Thanks to generous support of the Anonymous Trust, UNC World View was able to fulfill the four goals and scale the program to serve a greater number of students in eastern North Carolina who might not otherwise have the opportunity to engage with UNC Chapel Hill faculty. This expanded program, launched in 2021, reached eight schools in Brunswick, Duplin, Halifax, Hoke, Onslow, and Sampson Counties.



POSITIONS CREATED TO SERVE EASTERN NORTH CAROLINA

Assistant Director

With the support of Anonymous Trust, the TSI assistant director position was created. In selecting an assistant director, UNC World View selected a candidate with experience both as a K-12 educator and as an administrator. This professional expertise enables the assistant director to coach teachers based on real-world classroom experience and an understanding of curricular requirements. The assistant director is invested in student success and cross-curricular learning and provides essential coaching support to educators as they integrate global topics and North Carolina teaching standards in their classrooms in real-time.

Assessment Coordinator

Anonymous Trust funds also supported the creation of the assessment coordinator position. UNC World View hired a doctoral student in the UNC School of Education specializing in scholastic assessment. The assistant director and assessment coordinator designed a survey shared with the Teacher-Student Initiative participants as well as a focus group study to assess impact of the initiative on the teachers' practice and their students' achievement.

TEACHER-PARTICIPANTS

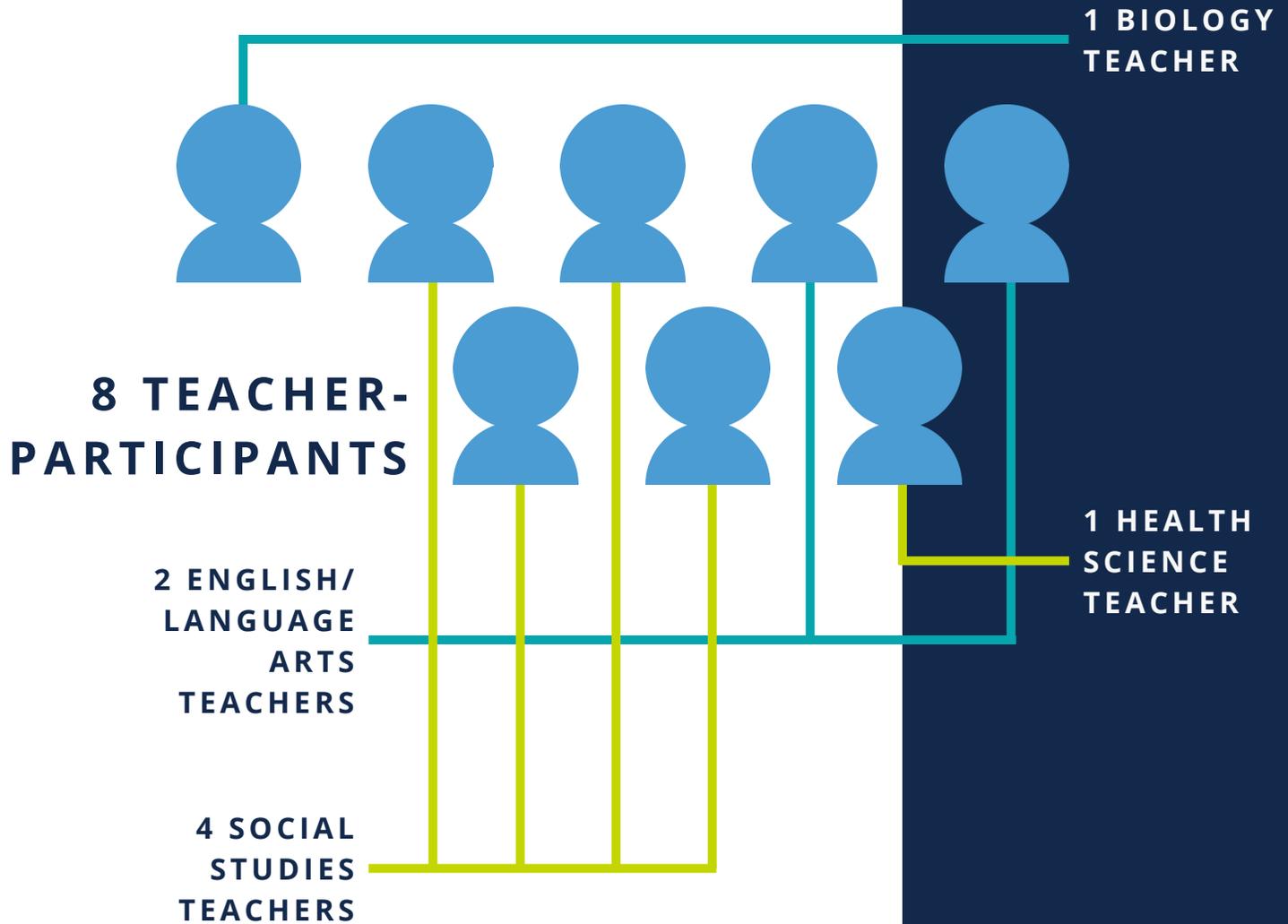


The application was developed and an intentional plan was created and implemented to market the program in eastern North Carolina. Principals in World View's partner districts in eastern North Carolina's were contacted and invited to have teachers apply from their districts. Targeted e-blasts were sent statewide to educators. In addition, the UNC Advisory Corp representatives in the eastern districts were notified to encourage teachers in their respective schools to apply. Eight educators were then selected for the 2021-2022 cohort.

The 2021-2022 cohort included two English Language Arts educators, four social studies to teachers, one biology teacher, and one health science teacher. The diversity of disciplines included in the cohort is essential to the Teacher-Student Initiative. This diversity both confirms the importance of global perspectives when studying STEM and humanities topics and creates opportunities for cross-curricular lesson design.

The program brought together educators with a range of experience, from beginning teachers who have been working with students for two-three years to veteran teachers who have been in the classroom for up to nineteen years. The range in professional experience educators bring is also an essential part of the Teacher-Student Initiative. It creates a community that appreciates both new approaches to global education and years of experience in the North Carolina educational system. Across all years of experience, educators in the Teacher-Student Initiative share a commitment to global learning and desire to innovate in their classrooms.

TEACHER-PARTICIPANTS



THEME FOR THE 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

The 2021-2022 Teacher-Student Initiative focused on a fundamental resource: [water](#).

This theme, “Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink,” offered broad appeal to educators across disciplines—from STEM teachers curious about the science behind global clean water initiatives to social science educators interested in the social and public health impacts of water scarcity and resource allocation. Crucially, though, the theme of the initiative was drawn from Samuel Taylor Coleridge’s famed poem, “The Rime of the Ancient Mariner,” in order to emphasize the power of the humanities in helping students think about the human and cultural impact of water-related issues.



UNC-CHAPEL HILL FACULTY

The Teacher-Student Initiative partnered eastern North Carolina educators and students with UNC-Chapel Hill faculty researching global water and environmental issues: **Dr. Aaron Salzberg** and **Dr. John Bruno**.



Dr. Aaron Salzberg's research and experience in the field is extensive. Not only is Dr. Salzberg the Director of the UNC Water Institute; he also was “the first Special Coordinator for Water at the U.S. Department of State where he led the development and implementation of U.S. foreign policy on drinking water and sanitation, water resources management, and transboundary water issues.”

Dr. Salzberg's global expertise provided an exceptional opportunity for educators to dig deeper into global water issues and for students to learn directly from and engage with a former policymaker and changemaker in global water studies.

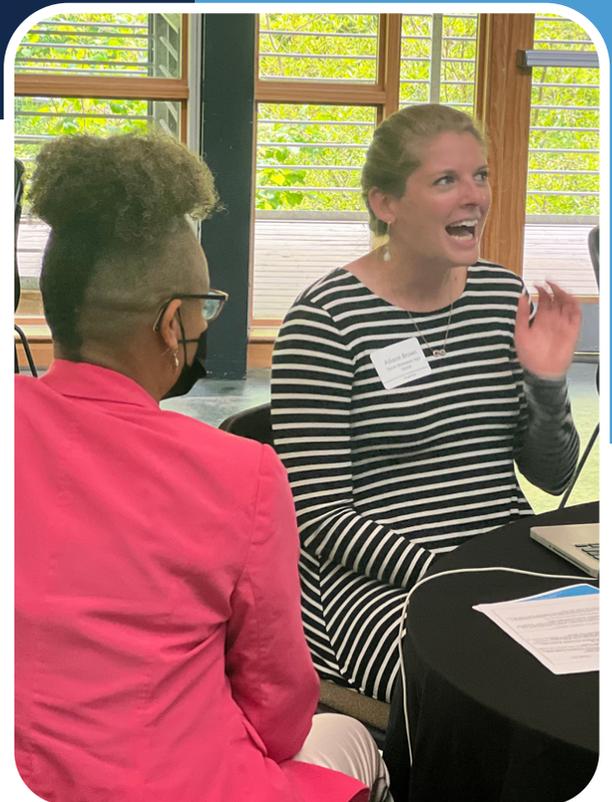


Dr. John Bruno has extensive experience in global scientific and interdisciplinary collaboration as a marine ecologist researching the Galápagos and the Caribbean. As a professor in the Department of Biology at UNC-Chapel Hill and a faculty member of the Center for Galápagos Studies, Dr. Bruno is part of a collaborative organization of researchers from UNC-Chapel Hill, North Carolina State University, the Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Ecuador, and the Universidad del Rosario in Colombia. His studies on biodiversity, too, help students think about the interconnectivity of living things and the ways global environmental trends have local impacts.

COLLABORATION & COACHING

➤ Virtual Workshop

When the Teacher-Student Initiative launched, educators first came together at the **Introductory Virtual Workshop** on February 8, 2022. This initial workshop was structured so that educators could meet one another, share about their teaching experiences and goals for the program, and build a foundational relationship with UNC faculty member, Dr. Aaron Salzberg. Dr. Salzberg delivered a lecture which provided teachers with information so that they could begin designing their lesson plans addressing global water issues.



➤ One-on-One Coaching

In the weeks that followed, teachers met one-on-one with the assistant director for personalized coaching sessions. During these sessions, the assistant director discussed the template she created to guide lesson plan development so that lessons would meet North Carolina standards, provide clear learning objectives, and explain how to implement the activities in a classroom. Educators also communicated with the assistant director to discuss how they could develop lessons that best fit their curricula and collaborate with other content area teachers. The coaching collaboration enabled educators to differentiate lessons for diverse learners, including those with individual education plans, those with accommodation plans, English language learners, and academically gifted students.

COLLABORATION & COACHING

➤ World View Students Day

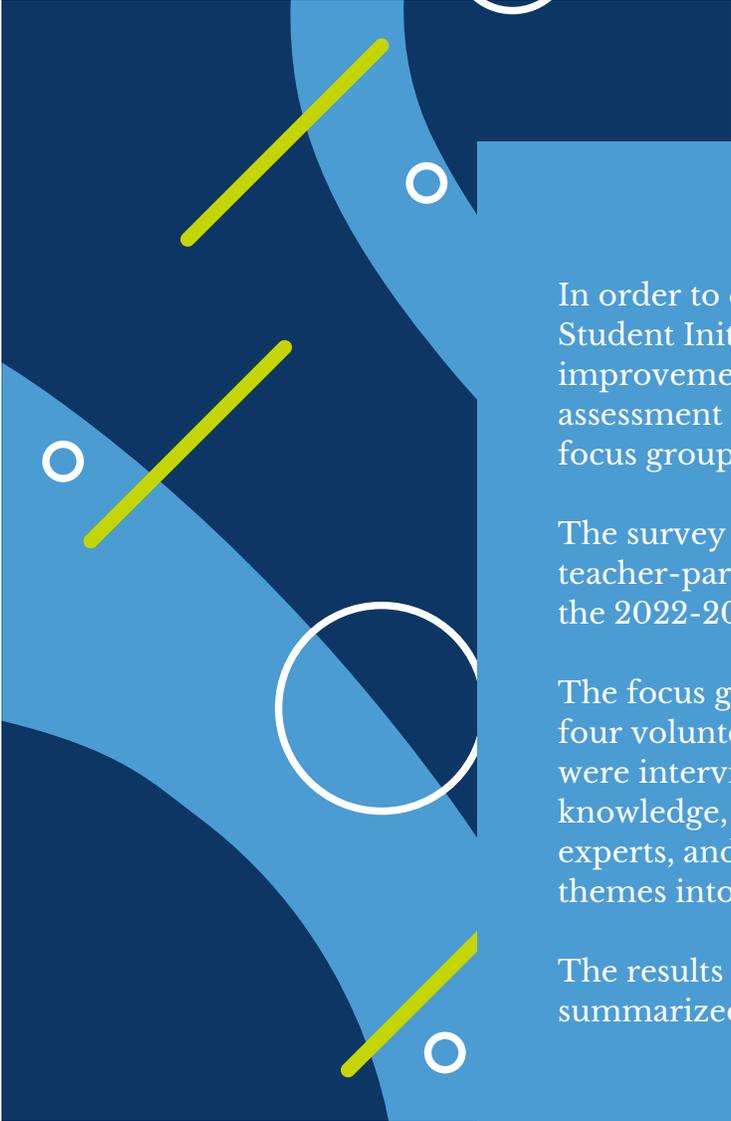
The culminating event for students in the Teacher-Student Initiative was the **World View Students Day** on April 5, 2022. On this day, Dr. Aaron Salzberg “Zoomed into” the classes to talk directly with students about the importance of access to water and sanitation service as well as issues related to water, peace, and security (also known as “water wars”). Dr. Salzberg discussed the importance of improving water security in African nations and helped students understand the significance of this issue by bringing the issue “home.” Students discussed how they use water in their everyday lives and considered how water security, especially in eastern North Carolina, is important for people’s health, agriculture, and food production in North Carolina. Students eagerly asked Dr. Salzberg questions about how they could protect water resources locally and globally.



➤ Collaboration Celebration and In-Person Workshop

Finally, on April 29, 2022, educators came together at the North Carolina Botanical Garden in Chapel Hill for the **Collaboration Celebration** in person workshop. This in-person workshop gave educators the opportunity to present their lessons to their peers and meet with Dr. John Bruno, who discussed his research on the Galápagos Islands and the importance of preserving marine biology. The in-person session strengthened the sense of community and allowed teachers to exchange information with fellow content-area specialists. This exchange was especially valuable as some members of the TSI are the only specialists covering that subject in their school community. This celebration provided foundations for future collaboration and further development of lessons rooted in real-world water research. Certificates were awarded to participating teachers.

UNC WORLD VIEW TEACHER STUDENT INITIATIVE ASSESSMENT



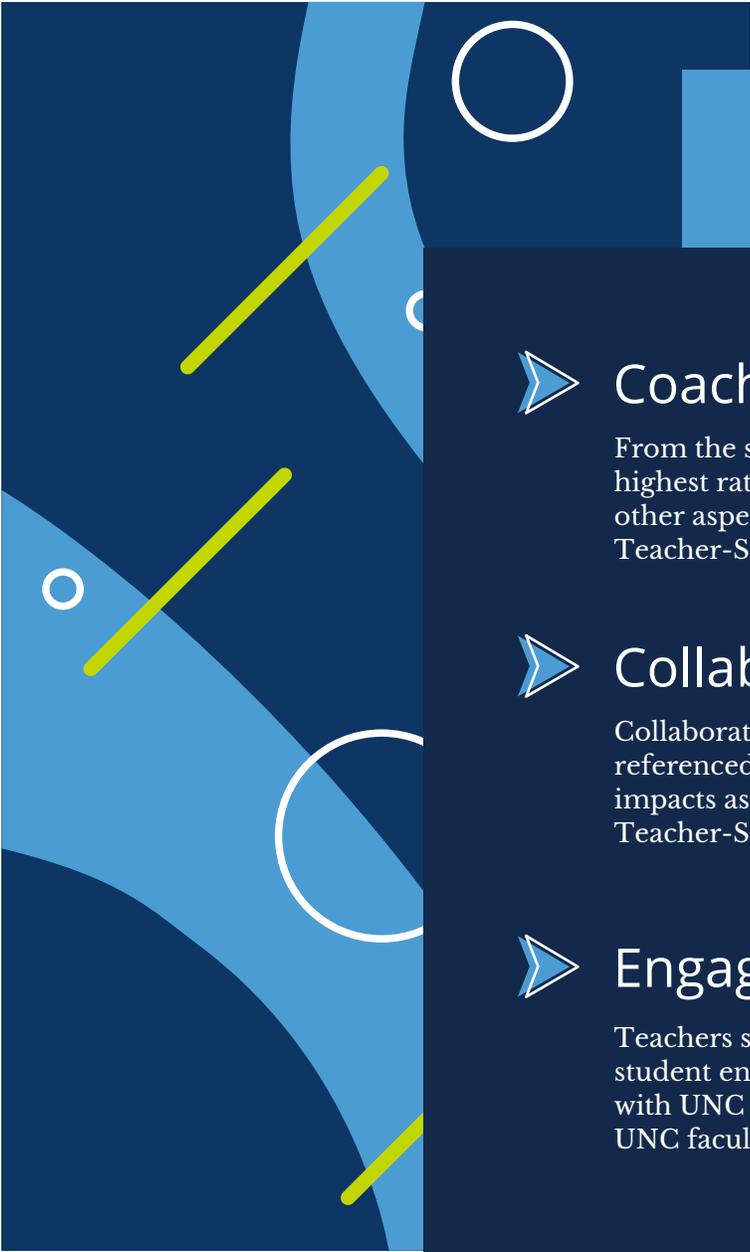
In order to evaluate the successes of the Teacher-Student Initiative and identify areas for improvement, the assistant director and assessment coordinator designed a survey and a focus group.

The survey was distributed electronically to all teacher-participants following the conclusion of the 2022-2023 program.

The focus group was conducted virtually with four volunteer participants. Teacher-participants were interviewed about their increased global knowledge, student engagement with with faculty experts, and improved ability to integrate global themes into their respective classrooms.

The results of the survey and focus group are summarized on the following pages.

EVALUATION OUTCOMES



➤ Coaching

From the survey data, coaching was the highest rated **outcome** in comparison to all other aspects of the UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative.

➤ Collaboration

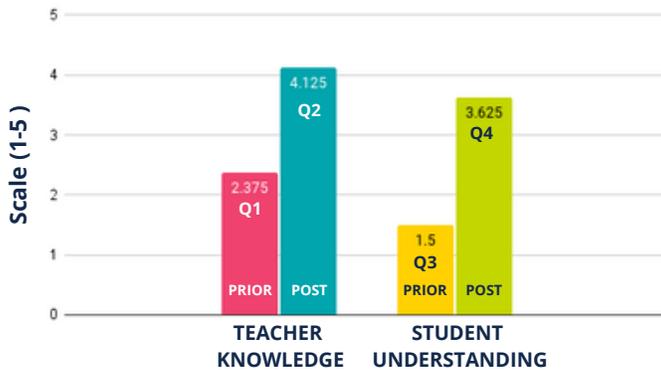
Collaboration was most frequently referenced as a major influence on teaching impacts as a result of the UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative.

➤ Engagement

Teachers saw an immediate difference in student engagement as a result of working with UNC World View staff, working with UNC faculty, and collaborating with peers.

TEACHING PRACTICE

KNOWLEDGE and UNDERSTANDING COMPARISON

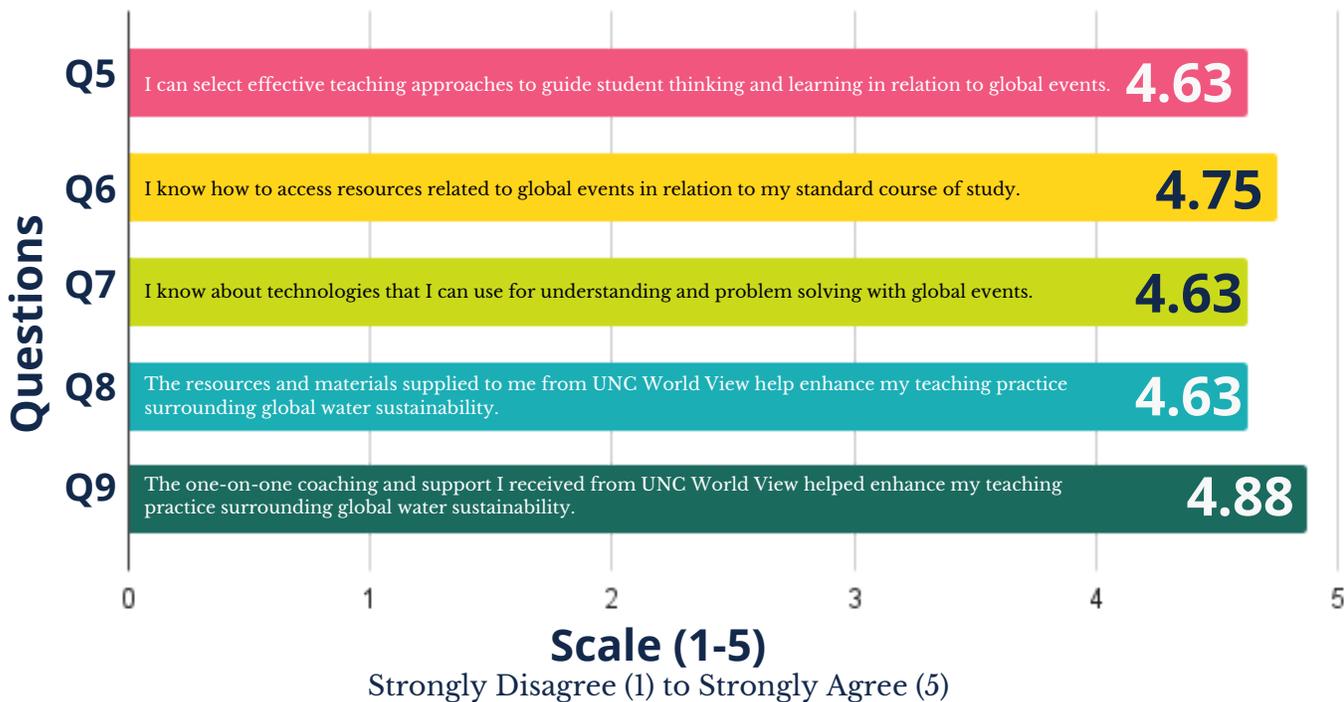


COMPARISON

Prior to the UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative, teachers rated their knowledge at slightly knowledgeable (2.38). After completing the program, the teachers rated their knowledge as very knowledgeable (4.13). For students, teachers rated their understanding between no understanding and a little understanding (1.5) compared to a lot more understanding (3.63) after the program.

One-on-one coaching and support offered from UNC World View was the most impactful aspect of the professional development according to the teachers (Q9, average 4.88). It is also apparent from the data that, collaboration, coaching, and supplying resources and materials enhanced teaching practices.

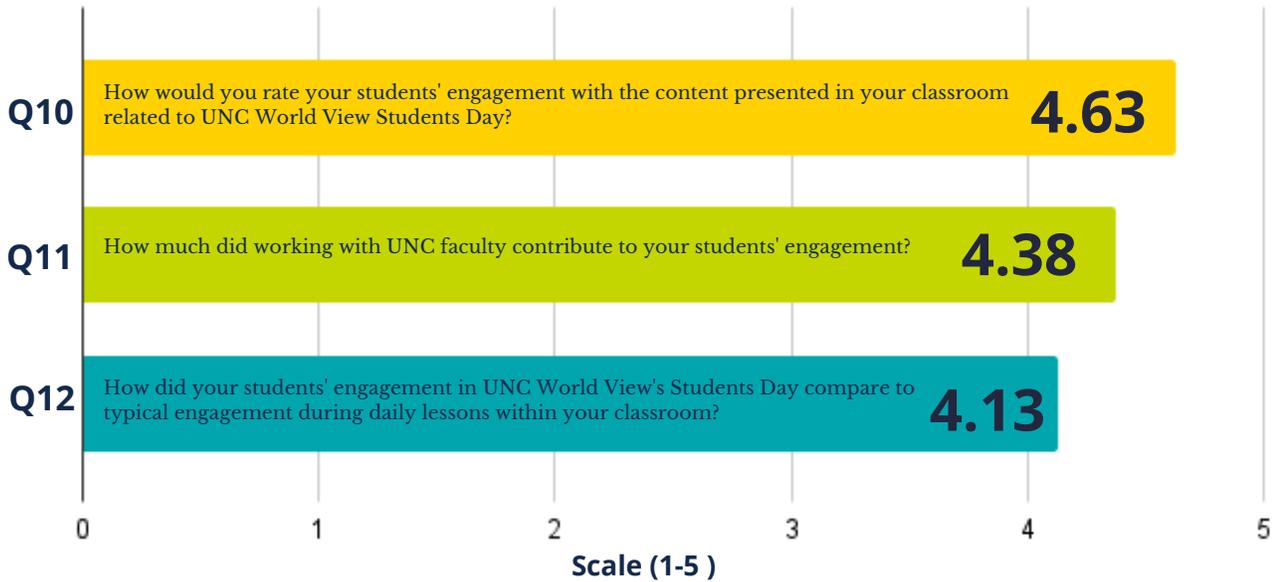
TEACHING PRACTICE



Teachers were asked to describe student engagement with content from UNC World View Students Day (Q10), engagement as a result of working with UNC faculty (Q11), and engagement compared to typical lessons (Q12).

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

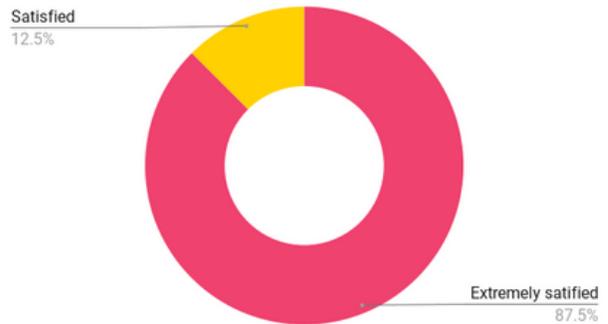
STUDENT ENGAGEMENT



SATISFACTION

7 of 8 teachers were extremely satisfied with the program. No teachers were dissatisfied nor indifferent.

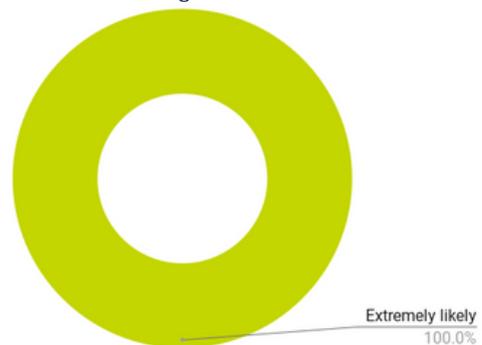
Overall, how satisfied or dissatisfied were you with this initiative?



RECOMMENDATION

All participants responded "extremely likely" to recommend the UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative to a friend or colleague.

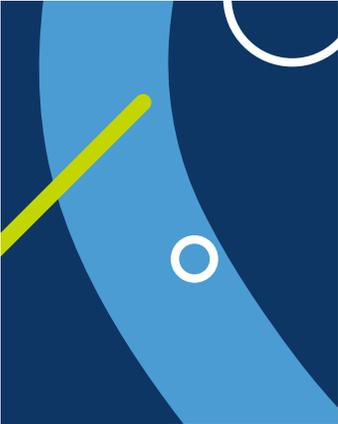
How likely are you to recommend this initiative to a friend or colleague?



ACHIEVEMENT OF GOALS

UNC WORLD VIEW TEACHER-STUDENT INITIATIVE

The UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative is a specialized program designed with **FOUR** goals. The data indicates that all four goals were met during this program.

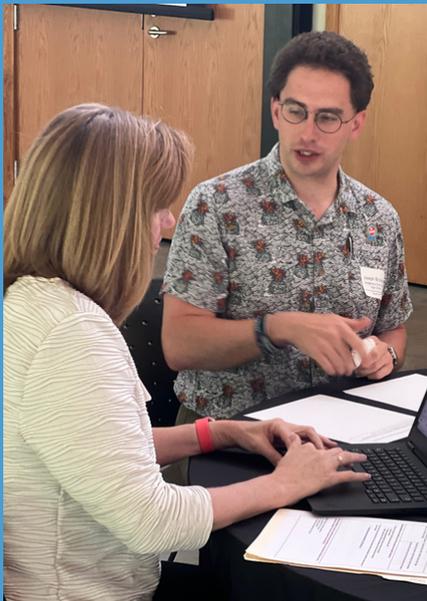


▶ GOAL 1

Supporting educators in introducing timely global topics to their students

This goal was accomplished through the specified content and coaching educators received from the UNC World View TSI.

“The UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative offered my high school English class the opportunity to learn about a relevant real-world issue. It was learning that my normal content could not have offered.”
- Hoke County Teacher-Participant



▶ GOAL 2

Connecting students in North Carolina directly with experts at UNC-Chapel Hill

This goal was accomplished through live UNC faculty presentations where current North Carolina secondary students were able to ask real-time questions while connected through a Zoom session with the faculty member.

"Student engagement during the live presentation with Dr. Salzberg was amazing in that they were super interested and thought of many incredible questions to ask him. From my perspective as a teacher, in addition to being impressed with my students' involvement, I thoroughly enjoyed - and benefited greatly - from coming together with other participants and observing how this one topic was approached from so many different subjects and grade levels. I am so thankful to have been selected to participate and hope to be involved in more UNC World View programs in the future."
- Sampson County Teacher-Participant



GOAL 3

Providing opportunities for collaborative professional development

Teachers unanimously agreed that the coaching and in-person workshop offered unique and transformative collaborative experiences. 100% of teacher-participants found collaboration to be one of the most impactful aspects of this program for their teaching practice.

"My favorite parts of UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative were the individualized coaching and the collaborative professional development. I enjoyed the helpful tips during my lesson planning process and then really benefited from sharing our lesson plans in-person as a group. I got so many great ideas from various content areas and made new professional relationships with some great teachers."

- Brunswick County Teacher-Participant

"I have found the individualized coaching offered to have a direct, positive impact in my classroom. The coaching received made it easier to meet the educational needs of my students. This year a collaborative professional development was offered. This PD allowed the participating educators an opportunity meet together, share ideas, and learn from one another. Being able to discuss classroom strategies with other professionals was greatly appreciated and enabled me the opportunity to leave with ideas that I could use in my classroom the next day! It was GREAT!!"

- Onslow County Teacher-Participant



GOAL 4

Creating impactful, real-world globalized lessons that educators can share and replicate

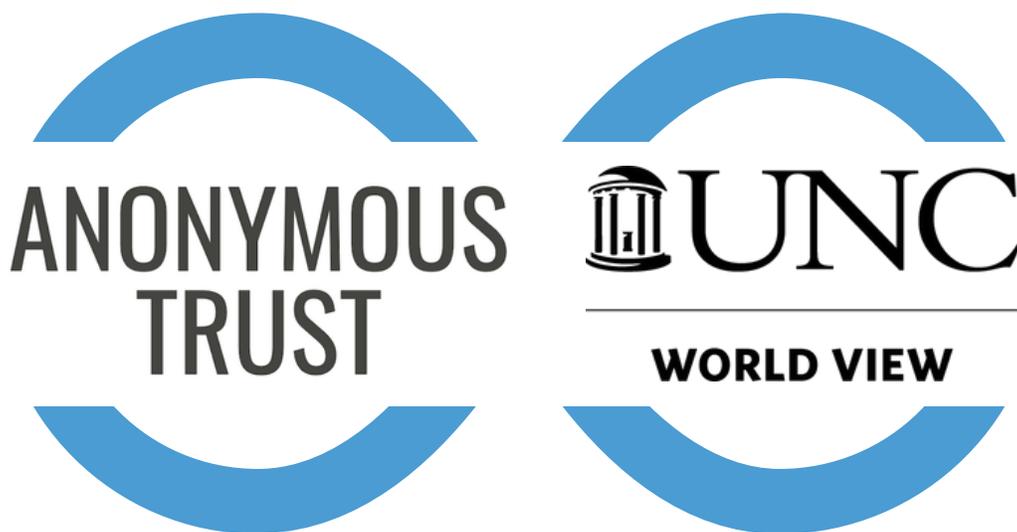
Collaborating with UNC World View directors and other educators was instrumental in creating engaging lesson plans.

"My students thoroughly enjoyed learning about the global shortage of drinking water. We tied our lesson in with our genetics unit, and students were amazed and shocked to learn of the challenges associated with the lack of and poor quality of drinking water that other countries face. Fortunately, my students here in the US have never experienced a shortage of potable water so they have never thought about it being an issue in other countries. The lesson ignited curiosity and a passion in my students to brainstorm ways of approaching this challenge."

- Sampson County Teacher-Participant

IMPACT OF PARTNERSHIP

Funding from Anonymous Trust has allowed UNC World View to fulfill its mission of serving the state by providing global resources, skills, and strategies to high school teachers and their students in eastern North Carolina. The Teacher-Student Initiative achieves the goals of UNC World View by developing global awareness and building global knowledge among eastern North Carolina students. By connecting high school educators with UNC faculty collaboratively, the Teacher-Student Initiative empowers students to explore global studies and make connections to the increasingly globalized workforce. This unique way of developing the UNC World View Teacher-Student intentional partnerships in eastern North Carolina serves as a model of collaboration and will be scaled statewide in 2022-2023 with generous funding provided by North Carolina Department of Public Instruction.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is a new day in education, and now is the time to continue the positive momentum to develop future-ready teaching and learning environments for K-12 and community college educators. UNC World View's Teacher-Student Initiative, funded in 2021-2022 by Anonymous Trust, with support from UNC Office of the Provost and Office of the Vice Provost for Global Affairs, creates opportunities for new modes of collaborative teaching and learning between UNC faculty and eastern North Carolina secondary teachers and students.

The success of the UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative depends on the faculty and participants who strive to prepare students for our interconnected world. Many thanks to Dr. Aaron Salzberg, who collaborated with teachers and presented virtually to more than three hundred high school students across the state. Thank you to Dr. John Bruno, who presented to our participants at the culminating workshop in Chapel Hill. Finally, many thanks to our participants from Brunswick, Duplin, Halifax, Hoke, Onslow, and Sampson Counties who model for their students the value of life-long learning about the world.

The UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative was made possible thanks to the generosity of Anonymous Trust. I am most grateful for their support. I offer thanks to Dr. Myra Cox, Dr. Eric Cunningham, Susanne Long, Dr. Rodney Peterson, Dr. Austin Obasohan, and Dr. Brent Williams who offered valuable advice as the initiative evolved, and the contributions of associate director, Dr. Hazael Andrew, who managed the pilot program. In addition, I would like to thank the authors of this report including UNC World View assistant director Courtney Harris-Brown who championed the program as administrator and coach; Waverly Whisenant, doctoral student at UNC-Chapel Hill School of Education who served as assessment coordinator, collected and interpreted data, and designed the visualizations for this report; and Dr. Susan O'Rourke, UNC World View program coordinator who crafted the story of the UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative 2021-2022.

Thanks to Anonymous Trust, the UNC World View Teacher-Student Initiative will continue to be a signature UNC World View program connecting UNC faculty with teachers and students throughout North Carolina.

Sincerely,



Charlé LaMonica
Director, UNC World View



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