



Digital dot.  
Business Card:

Curriculum Vitae

# Gregory D. Pillar, Ph.D

Assistant Provost for Academic Affairs  
(980) 216-0164 – pillaresci@gmail.com  
gregpillar.com



More info on:  
[Linked in](#)

## SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

**INNOVATIVE, DATA INFORMED & STUDENT-CENTERED ACADEMIC LEADER** with extensive experience in higher education administration, instruction, program and curriculum design, accreditation, faculty development, student services, university programs, and crisis management. Background includes proven & effective strategic leadership in university operations and major university initiatives including reaffirmation of accreditation, transition to Division I athletics, and establishing offices focused on embedding community engagement in the curriculum and programs for high achieving students. Experience shows progressive and increased responsibility in academic administration. Leadership style is collaborative, inclusive, hybrid (active & passive) and transformational. Founded on integrity, open & direct communication, and strong interpersonal savvy with a desire to foster individual growth and motivate effective teams to have an enduring impact on campus and in the community.

## CAREER JOURNEY & PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (pg 2)

### ▼ ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

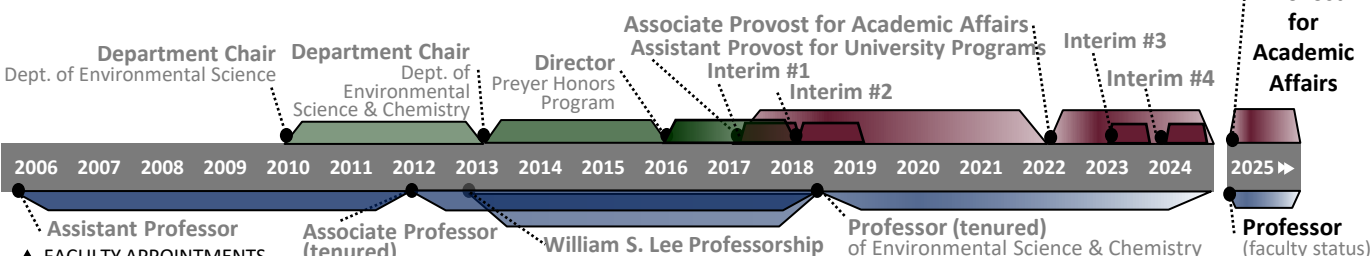
#### Queens University of Charlotte

#### Interim Administrative Posts (while serving as Assistant/Associate Provost)

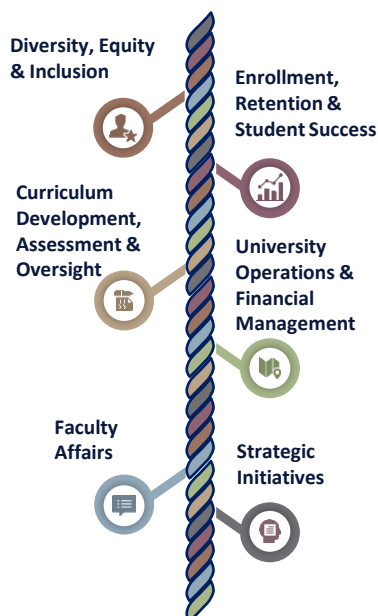
- #1 – Director, Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence #2 – Director, Everett Library  
#3 – Dean, McColl School of Business #4 – Director, Pulliam Center for International Education

#### Gardner-Webb University

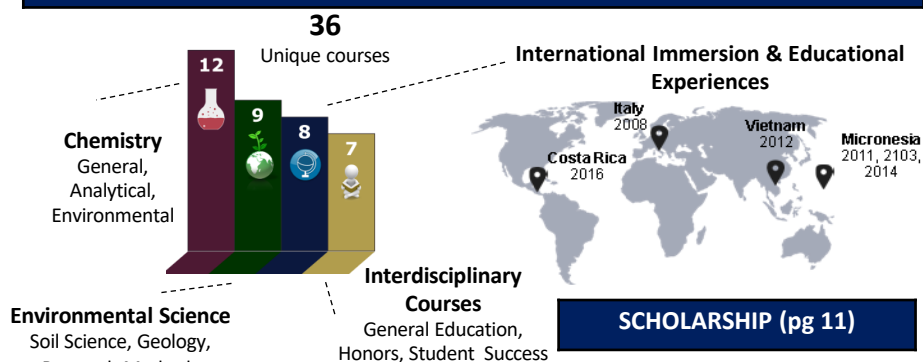
Assistant Provost for Academic Affairs



## AREAS of FOCUS in UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP & SERVICE (pg 7)



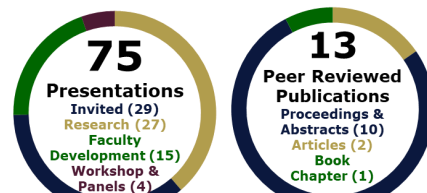
## TEACHING & MENTORING (pg 9)



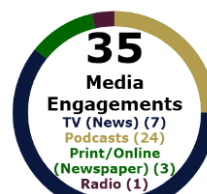
## EDUCATION (pg 6)

- Doctor of Philosophy (2006)**  
University of Georgia  
Agronomy (Environmental Chemistry)
- Master of Science (2002)**  
Kansas State University  
Agronomy (Soil Science)
- Bachelor of Science (1999)**  
University of Minnesota  
Environmental Science (Soil Science)
- Continuing Education**  
**Certificate (2022)**  
Cornell University  
Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

## SCHOLARSHIP (pg 11)



## MEDIA ENGAGEMENT (pg 16)



## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE – ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

GARDNER-WEBB UNIVERSITY– Boiling Springs, NC (2025 – present)



### **Administrative Appointments and Positions**

#### **Assistant Provost for Academic Affairs (2025 – present)**

- Lead daily operations of the Provost's Office, serving as the first point of contact for academic affairs and ensuring seamless functionality across institutional units.
- Serve as a member of the Provost Council and Council of Deans, collaborating with academic deans, institutional leaders, and other key stakeholders to address academic initiatives, strategic alignment, and operational priorities.
- Collaborate with the Provost to design and implement academic policies, ensuring alignment with institutional goals and fostering student success.
- Partner with deans on academic matters, providing leadership and guidance to ensure effective implementation of institutional goals and policies.
- Oversee strategic initiatives to enhance curriculum development, faculty development, and student engagement, ensuring alignment with Gardner-Webb University's mission and strategic plan.
- Provide leadership for faculty and staff development through oversight of the Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL), promoting innovative teaching practices and continuous improvement.
- Supervise and collaborate with academic leaders, including the Registrar, Dean of the Library, and directors of CETL, Academic Innovation, Honors, and Undergraduate Research, to align efforts with institutional priorities and foster innovation.
- Manage key faculty processes, including sabbaticals, promotion and tenure reviews, annual evaluations, and professional development programs.
- Partner with academic units, Deans, and Institutional Effectiveness to facilitate curriculum design, assessment, and review, ensuring programs meet emerging trends and community needs.
- Support the integration of high-impact practices, such as internships, study abroad programs, and student-engaged research, into the academic experience.
- Collaborate on efforts to align academic offerings with accreditation standards and internal program review processes.
- Oversee operational functions, including academic course scheduling, faculty workload management, and day-to-day issue resolution in academic affairs.
- Manage budget oversight for academic initiatives, ensuring equitable allocation of resources and fiscal responsibility.
- Supervise academic activities on Gardner-Webb's Charlotte campus, including facilities and operational logistics.
- Foster student success by collaborating with academic and industry partners to provide experiential learning opportunities and practical skills development.
- Advise and serve as adjudicator of student appeals related to academic concerns, ensuring consistent application of academic policies.
- Lead initiatives to collect and analyze data on academic efforts, guiding decision-making to improve student outcomes.
- As SACSCOC Liaison work closely with the Provost to manage SACSCOC compliance, accreditation, and QEP efforts along with external program accreditation processes.
- Represent the Provost's Office on institutional committees, including those related to curriculum, shared governance, and student affairs.
- Coordinate academic ceremonial events and manage representation of academic affairs at university-wide ceremonies.
- Liaise with the Marketing and Enrollment teams to enhance academic webpages and promote university initiatives.
- Lead special projects as directed by the Provost, driving innovation and addressing emerging institutional priorities.
- Ensure collaboration across departments to maintain a culture of excellence in academic and administrative operations.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE – ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

QUEENS UNIVERSITY OF CHARLOTTE – Charlotte, NC (2006 – 2025)

**Administrative Appointments and Positions****Associate Provost for Academic Affairs (2022 – 2025)****Assistant Provost for University Programs (2017 – 2021)**

- Spearhead the creation of innovative strategies for academic operations, faculty affairs, and academic programs to advance University goals and elevate the student experience.
- Collaborate intensively with academic deans and senior academic leadership as a member of the Provost Council, catalyzing advances in undergraduate and graduate education and promoting academic excellence.
- Provide strategic insights and perspectives as a member of the President's Cabinet, shaping high-level decisions related to advancing the University's vision, mission, and priorities.
- Optimize the performance of multiple university programs including international education, career and internship development, honors programs, and community and civic engagement initiatives, by implementing effective oversight, coaching, and leadership.
- Direct and provide leadership for the operations of units within academic affairs, including the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment, Everett Library, the Registrar's Office and the Center for Student Success.
- Provide leadership and strategic insights in faculty development including oversight of the Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence.
- Provide operational support and strategic leadership in partnership with the Provost for the Center for Student Success, General Education Program, 1<sup>st</sup> Year Writing Program and Writing Enhanced Curriculum Program.
- Provide leadership and serve as the Institutional Liaison for Accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools – Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC), ensuring compliance and maintaining high academic standards.
- Appointed by the Provost to provide leadership in diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives such as leading the process of conducting a DEI audit of our undergraduate and graduate curriculum.
- Co-chaired the taskforce responsible for developing strategies to mitigate challenges from our shift from DII to DI athletics on academic student success and academic course schedule.
- Serve as the senior academic representative on the COVID Response Team, Behavioral Assessment Team (BAT), and Emergency Operations Team (EOT), ensuring effective response and management during crisis.
- Provided strategic leadership for the Blair College of Health serving in an Acting Dean capacity\* managing day-to-day operations including faculty searches, annual faculty review and tenure/promotion process. (\*due to a serious temporary situation)
- Stepped in as the interim grants and sponsored programs officer, responsible for supporting efforts to secure and manage external funding and grants to advance academic initiatives.
- Provide oversight of the academic honor code and academic concerns, ensuring academic integrity and ethical standards are upheld across the institution.

Key Accomplishments:

- ❖ As SACSCOC Liaison was primary and lead author on all substantive change requests and the decennial reaffirmation self-study
- ❖ Led the team responsible for the successful decennial reaffirmation of the institutional accreditation resulting in a final outcome with no recommendations or follow-up visits.
- ❖ Provided visionary and operational leadership on the selection, development, and implementation of the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP), *Inform*, focused on Information Literacy
- ❖ Provided senior-level leadership and strategic direction for the successful launch of the Center for Community & Civic Engagement, Office of Preyer Honors Programs and Initiatives for Academic Excellence & Rogers Summer Undergraduate Research Institute, driving increased engagement, student retention and success and academic excellence across the University.
- ❖ Guided the expansion of staff, services, and the annual reporting of graduate employment outcomes of the Vandiver Center for Career Development, enabling students to achieve their career aspirations and goals
- ❖ Provided leadership as a steering committee member, Program Director, and Assistant/Associate Provost in the overhaul and revitalization of the Academic Honors Program, resulting in a remarkable 540% growth in enrollment (23 to 147) over a 8-year period and fostering a diverse student body including 22% first-generation, 44% underrepresented and/or minority populations and 18% Pell-Grant eligible,
- ❖ Provided senior-level leadership in faculty development, institutional effectiveness, and operations including the digital transformation of critical student and academic support services/programs during the COVID 19 pandemic
- ❖ As Interim Director, led the Emergency Operations Team (EOT) in managing the initial (5 months) response to the COVID-19 pandemic and facilitated the transition of day-to-day management to the COVID Response Team.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (continued)****Interim Director, Pulliam Center for International Education (August 2024 – January 2025)****Key Accomplishments:**

- ❖ Expanded global learning opportunities: Oversaw the development of new study abroad experiences in Iceland and Denmark and partnered with faculty to embed international learning into coursework, including a border immersion experience on global migration.
- ❖ Provided oversight for a growing international student population: Supported services for over 200 international students studying at Queens, as well as those participating in Optional Practical Training (OPT) and Curricular Practical Training (CPT).
- ❖ Enhanced risk management protocols: Worked with university staff to further update risk management protocols and monitoring processes, ensuring compliance with evolving regulations from Title IX, the State Department, CDC, and insurance providers.

- Provided strategic leadership and vision for all aspects of international education, aligning efforts with the university's goals for global engagement and student success while continuing to serve as Associate Provost for Academic Affairs.
- Provided oversight the development and coordination of globally oriented curricula and programs across the university, including faculty-led study abroad opportunities, exchange programs, and international internships.
- Provided oversight for the Principal Designated School Official (PDSO) and support the Assistant Director for International Student Services in delivering comprehensive support services to international students, including advising on visa-related matters, cultural adjustment, academic integration, and organizing orientation and engagement programs to enhance the overall international student experience.
- Implemented risk management strategies for international programs, including emergency response plans, health, and safety protocols, and compliance with relevant regulations.
- Supervised the international education team, including two direct reports and other staff members, ensuring program effectiveness and operational efficiency.

**Interim Dean, McColl School of Business (January – August 2023)**

- Provide academic, administrative, financial, and strategic leadership for an AACSB-accredited business school with over 550 students (250+ graduate and 300+ undergraduate) while continuing to serve as Associate Provost for Academic Affairs.
- Supervise 48 faculty and staff including 21 full-time faculty, 18 adjunct faculty, and 9 staff members.
- Conduct and oversee yearly faculty and staff performance review process as well as the faculty mid-tenure, tenure, and promotion process.
- Provide leadership and oversight of 5 degree programs (BA, BBA, MBA, MSTOD, MSFA) and 12 graduate certificate programs.
- Advocate for, and lead, the McColl School of Business faculty in matters of curriculum, policy, program development, and resource allocation.
- Maintain and foster strong coalitions with internal and external constituents; faculty, university community, alumnae, corporate and community partners, prospective and current students.
- Facilitate strategic relationships with external constituents such as program and school advisory boards and business leadership organizations.
- Engage with regional business community to foster existing collaborative ventures and raise the profile of the McColl School of Business.
- Coordinate efforts to maintain the Schools compliance with accreditation standards for AACSB and SACSCOC.

**Key Accomplishments:**

- ❖ Provided leadership in partnership with program directors to develop and implement several major curricular changes for the BBA and MSTOD programs.
- ❖ Provided leadership in partnership with program directors to develop and launch new programs including a BA degree in Business and a MS degree in Finance & Analytics
- ❖ In partnership with the Graduate School & Marketing and Community Relations developed a marketing and enrollment strategy for the launch of the new MS in Finance & Analytics
- ❖ Restructured & optimized operational processes, reallocated resources and redeployed staff to improve the student experience and services including advising, awarding of financial aid, co-curricular programming and course scheduling.
- ❖ Successfully facilitated the seamless transition of leadership to the new Dean of the McColl School of Business, showcasing adeptness in maintaining stability and continuity during periods of change.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (continued)****Interim Director, Everett Library (2018-2019)****Key Accomplishments:**

- ❖ Effectively managed the restructuring and simplification of the library's budget accounts, ensuring efficient and effective utilization of operating and donor funds accounts.
  - ❖ During the leadership transition maintained the consistent operation of all library services and instruction, thereby ensuring delivery of high-quality student support and academic success services. This reflects a commitment to excellence and a deep understanding of the library's pivotal role in the academic community.
  - ❖ Successfully orchestrated the seamless transition of leadership to the new director of Everett Library, showcasing adeptness in maintaining stability and continuity during periods of change.
- Provided administrative, financial, instructional, and strategic leadership for the day-to-day management of Everett Library while continuing to serve as Assistant Provost for University Programs.
  - Supervised 7 library staff members including 3 librarians, 2 full-time support staff members, and 2 part-time support staff members.
  - Provided leadership and management of all library collections, educational programs and services.
  - Collaborated with administrators, faculty, and students in the management of library policies and the use of library collections, facilities and services.
  - Coordinated student services with campus offices such as Information Technology Services and the Center for Student Success.
  - Managed partnerships and relationships with key campus offices and support groups such as the Friends of the Library and University Advancement to foster philanthropic support for the library.
  - Facilitated strategic relationships with external constituents such as program and school advisory boards and business leadership organizations.

**Interim Director, Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence\* (2017 – 2018)**

- Provided leadership for faculty development initiatives across the faculty lifecycle, including orientation for new faculty and professional renewal programs for senior and part-time faculty while continuing to serve as Assistant Provost for University Programs.
- Designed and implemented programs fostering a community of practice around the scholarship of teaching and learning, pedagogical innovation, and faculty scholarship/creative work.
- Facilitated and ensured the effective execution of Title III grant initiatives, supporting technology-enhanced pedagogy and embedding undergraduate research into course curricula to enhance student learning and engagement.
- Collaborated with academic leaders, including deans and program directors, to integrate learning technologies into course design and enhance teaching effectiveness in hybrid and online modalities.
- Developed campus-wide faculty development programs, including workshops, seminars, and faculty learning communities, aligned with institutional goals for teaching, scholarship, and leadership.
- Facilitated signature faculty development events, such as Faculty First Fridays, Wired Wednesdays, to promote engagement and sharing of best practices.

\*Leadership efforts were in collaboration and partnership with the Chair of the CAFE faculty steering committee.

**Key Accomplishments:**

- ❖ Successfully planned and executed a dynamic schedule of workshops and events, including Faculty First Fridays, Wired Wednesdays, and targeted sessions on civic engagement, innovative pedagogy and online teaching technologies.
- ❖ Partnered with Hayworth Center for Digital Learning and the Writing Center to deliver high-impact programming such as "Mastering MyCourses" for effective use of LMS and sessions on Writing Across the Curriculum, enhancing pedagogical practices.
- ❖ Spearheaded the purchase and implementation of technology such as a lightboard, rocket books, and Livescribe pens, advancing innovative teaching methods across modalities, and facilitated faculty training on educational technology.
- ❖ Maintained uninterrupted access to CAFE services during leadership transition, ensuring faculty continued to receive critical support for teaching, scholarship, and professional development.



**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (continued)****Director of the Preyer Honors Program and Initiatives (2016 – 2018)**

- Oversaw and managed the Academic Honors Program including the curriculum, student achievement and recruitment, assessment, and staffing.
- Identified and developed opportunities and initiatives for high-achieving students to enhance their curricular and co-curricular experience and enhance their success and retention.
- Co-designed and facilitated Honors specific faculty development with the Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence.
- Collaborated with admissions, student life, Registrar, Deans, program/department chairs and other key offices to develop new initiatives, co-curricular programming, and extra-curricular opportunities for high achieving students.
- Advise students interested in, and who apply for, national competitive scholarships including the Fulbright, Marshall, and Goldwater scholarships.
- Oversee the yearly Marking Excellence celebration of undergraduate scholarship/creativity accomplishments.

**Key Accomplishments:**

- ❖ Successfully increased enrollment in the Academic Honors Program
- ❖ Updated the recruitment and admissions process in partnership with the Admissions Office and the Honors Steering Committee to be more equitable and inclusive by implementing a wholistic application review less dependent on standardized testing and completion of AP/IB courses.
- ❖ Collaborated with student life and admissions to create the Academic Honors living learning community.
- ❖ Increased student engagement in high achieving student initiatives including national competitive scholarships, Marking Excellence participation, undergraduate research participation, and involvement in all Honors events/activities.

**Key Accomplishments:**

- ❖ Increased undergraduate participation in research by integrating research-based learning into core curricular and securing resources for faculty-led projects.
- ❖ Fostered collaborations with local organizations and industry leaders to enhance experiential learning opportunities, including internships and community-based environmental projects.
- ❖ Managed merger of the Environmental Science and Chemistry Departments.
- ❖ Established new programs in Environmental Studies (BA), Chemistry (BA) and Environmental Chemistry (BS)
- ❖ Led comprehensive program review of all programs and facilitated conversion from a 3-credit to 4-credit model.
- ❖ Contributed to the design and transition to a \$20 million science facility, ensuring inclusion of independent research labs and advanced instrumentation for student and faculty research.

**Chair, Department of Environmental Science & Chemistry (2013 – 2016)**  
**Chair, Department of Environmental Science (2010 – 2013)**

- Provided leadership and oversight of departmental operations, including faculty recruitment, supervision, professional development, and compliance with university policies.
- Managed department budgets and allocated resources to support lab equipment, research projects, and departmental initiatives, ensuring fiscal responsibility and strategic alignment.
- Supervised the maintenance and operations of teaching, research, and instrumental labs, ensuring optimal functionality and safety for student learning and faculty research.
- Directed the development, implementation, and assessment of curricula across degree programs in Environmental Studies (BA), Environmental Science (BS), Chemistry (BA and BS), Biochemistry (BS), and Environmental Chemistry (BS), ensuring compliance with accreditation standards and alignment with best practices.
- Worked with admissions and marketing teams to develop outreach strategies and promotional materials to attract prospective students to departmental programs.
- Collaborated with the Center for Student Success to establish Supplemental Instruction in Chemistry courses, successfully reducing D, F, and withdrawal rates and enhancing student retention and performance.
- Provided strategic oversight of degree programs, including curriculum development, course scheduling, faculty teaching assignments, and initiatives to improve enrollment and student outcomes.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE – FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

**Professor of Environmental Science and Chemistry (2018 – present)****Associate Professor (w/tenure, 2012 – 2018)****Assistant Professor (2006 – 2012)**

- Developed and taught undergraduate courses in environmental science, geology, soil science, environmental impact assessment, research methods, general chemistry, analytical chemistry, and environmental chemistry.
- Advised students majoring in Chemistry, Biochemistry, Environmental Chemistry, Environmental Studies and Environmental Science
- Led or co-led international educational experiences to Italy, Micronesia (environmental impact & geospatial analysis), Vietnam, and Costa Rica (food and sustainability).
- Contributed to and co-led several environmental research projects including the impact of global climate change on the Pacific islands and mapping and eradication of the invasive grass *Imperata cylindrica* in Micronesia, .
- Fostered and developed a research program incorporating undergraduate students and integrated student research into course and program curriculum.
- Advised and mentor students on senior capstone research projects in environmental science, chemistry, environmental chemistry, biochemistry and biology.

**Key Accomplishments & Honors:**

- ❖ Developed and taught more than 30 distinct courses across multiple modalities.
- ❖ Advised more than 30 undergraduate capstone research projects.
- ❖ Received the William S. Lee Professorship for Interdisciplinary Studies: 2013 – 2018
- ❖ North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture and Environmental Science Educator Award (NACTA): 2017
- ❖ Queens University of Charlotte Nominee for USA & North Carolina Professor of the Year (CASE & Carnegie Foundation): 2014, 2015
- ❖ William S. Lee Distinguished University Teaching Award: 2011

## EDUCATION, CERTIFICATIONS, and PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**Education**

**Ph.D., Agronomy (Environmental Chemistry),** University of Georgia, Athens GA

**Dissertation:** *Influence of clay minerals, humic substances, and soil aggregation on the fate and bioavailability of 2,4,6-trinitrotoluene (TNT)*



**M.S., Agronomy (Soil Science),** Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS

**Thesis:** *Impact of golf course construction and management on soil quality: Evaluating soil quality with multiple indicators*



**B.S., Environmental Science (Soil Science & Hydrology),** University of Minnesota, Minneapolis-St.Paul, MN

**Continuing Education**

**Certificate in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion,** Cornell University, Ithaca NY



**Senior Leadership Academy,** The Council of Independent Colleges (CIC) and the American Academic Leadership Institute (AALI)

## AREAS of FOCUS in UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP &amp; SERVICE

Over 16 years of progressive experience, focus and leadership in higher education administration by serving on **steering committees (SC)**, as **faculty fellow/associate (FFA)**, **department chair (DC)**, **program director (PD)**, **interim library director (ILD)**, **interim dean (ID)**, and **assistant/associate provost (AP)**.

## Diversity, Equity &amp; Inclusion

- ❖ In partnership with University partners including faculty and admissions staff updated and revised the Academic Honors Program admissions process to be more equitable and inclusive by implementing a wholistic review process resulting in a more diverse student body including 22% first-generation, 44% under-represented and/or minority populations and 18% Pell-Grant eligible (PD, AP)
- ❖ Worked closely with academic leadership with the overhaul and implementation of revised faculty hiring practices to cultivate a diverse applicant pool and eliminate implicit bias (AP)
- ❖ Provide leadership and guidance to the Office of Accessibility Services in their work to support student success through access to student services, academic accommodations and compliance with ADA. (AP)
- ❖ Conducting (in-progress) DEI audit of entire undergraduate and graduate curriculum (AP)

## Curriculum Development, Assessment &amp; Oversight

- ❖ Provided senior level leadership and direction (direct report) for the office of institutional effectiveness and assessment (AP)
- ❖ Partnered with senior academic leadership to overhaul the new program proposal process to ensure market viability and healthy enrollment projections (AP).
- ❖ Provided leadership, direction and guidance for program directors moving curricular proposals (curricular revisions, new programs, etc.) through the shared governance process for undergraduate and graduate programs (AP).
- ❖ Provided leadership and oversight of more than 10 undergraduate and graduate degree programs and 12 graduate certificate programs (DC, ID)
- ❖ Provided direct leadership in the development, launch and establishment of 5 new undergraduate and graduate degree programs (DC, ID)
- ❖ Provided leadership and guidance on the comprehensive review, revision, and implementation of a modernized Academic Honors Program (SC, PD, AP)
- ❖ Served as steering committee member, faculty coordinator and team lead for learning communities and faculty teams in two different General Education Programs (SC, FFA)

## Enrollment, Retention &amp; Student Success

- ❖ In partnership with the Graduate School & Marketing and Community Relations developed a marketing and enrollment strategy for the launch of the new MS in Finance & Analytics
- ❖ Collaborated with the Director of Academic Advising to implement and co-facilitate a new undergraduate advising program and faculty learning community of over 20 faculty members to develop, establish and share best practices in academic advising. (FFA)
- ❖ Co-created, implemented and provided professional support for a new peer learning supplemental instruction program (FFA)
- ❖ Appointed by the Provost to serve on the university's strategic initiative that provided undergraduate students with a pathway to curate, analyze, and make meaning of their educational and co-curricular experiences through the use of a digital portfolio. (AP)

## Faculty Affairs

## Faculty Personnel Hiring, Management and Evaluation

- ❖ Conducted annual faculty performance evaluation and facilitated mid-term review, tenure review and tenure-track conversion recommendations (ID)
- ❖ Provided leadership, guidance and oversight for full-time and adjunct faculty searches (DC, ID, AP)
- ❖ Served on College of Arts and Sciences and University Personnel Committee responsible for reviewing faculty portfolios for consideration for tenure and/or promotion (SC)

## Faculty Mentoring &amp; Development

- ❖ Provided strategic leadership and oversight of the Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence (CAFÉ) (direct report) (AP)
- ❖ Collaborated with CAFÉ Director on programming, new faculty orientation, and faculty development initiatives as member of faculty steering committee (FFA, DC)
- ❖ Developed programming and provided 1-on-1 mentoring and consultation on instructional pedagogy, course design, and other faculty initiatives (FFA, SC, AP)



## AREAS of FOCUS in UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP &amp; SERVICE(continued)

## University Operations &amp; Financial Management

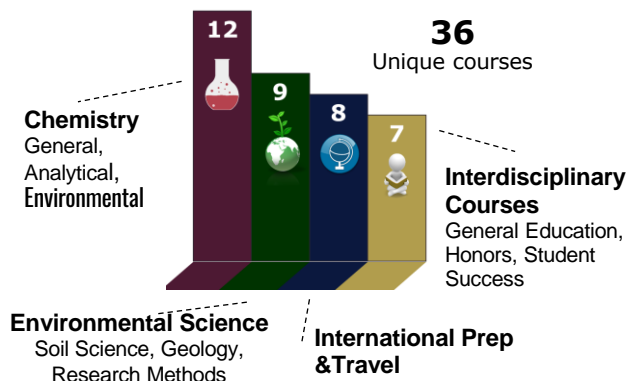


- ❖ As SACSCOC Liaison was primary and lead author on all substantive change requests, the decennial reaffirmation self-study and led the team responsible for the successful decennial reaffirmation of the institutional accreditation (AP)
- ❖ Direct key operations of academic affairs, including the Library, Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment, and the Registrar's Office (direct reports), and Center for Student Success (ILD, AP)
- ❖ Over a 10+ year period, in total, have been responsible for managing facilities, strategic financial planning, and annual budget management in excess of \$3 million (DC, PD, ILD, ID, and AP)
- ❖ Provide operational support and strategic leadership in partnership with the Provost for the key student services within the Center for Student Success including advising, tutoring services, and accessibility services. (FFA, AP)
- ❖ Served as the lead academic representative on the Emergency Operations Team (EOT) tasked with responding to campus emergencies. Stepped in and provided leadership as the Interim Director of EOT to coordinate quarterly training and respond to several campus emergencies over 3 years including the initial response (5 months) to the COVID-19 pandemic. (AP)
- ❖ Served as the lead academic representative on the COVID-19 Response Team (AP)
- ❖ Served as the lead academic representative on the Behavioral Assessment Team (BAT) (AP)
- ❖ Provide leadership and serve as the academic liaison in facilitating all academic student complaints (AP)
- ❖ Stepped in as the interim grants and sponsored programs officer, responsible for supporting efforts to secure external funding and grants to advance academic initiatives (AP)
- ❖ Provide oversight of the academic honor code, ensuring academic integrity and ethical standards are upheld across the institution. (AP)

## Strategic Initiatives

- ❖ Provided visionary and operational leadership on the selection, development, and implementation of two different Quality Enhancement Plans (QEP), *Connect* (2011), focused on faculty – student interaction and *Inform* (2022), focused on information literacy (SC, AP)
- ❖ Provided visionary leadership in collaboration with members of academic senior leadership to conduct & implement strategic planning process under two Presidents using different approaches (i.e. 3-yr strategic plan and agile strategic framework). (AP)
- ❖ Appointed by the Provost to co-chair D1 Transition – Academic Affairs taskforce to identify, manage, and propose solutions to academic challenges (i.e. course scheduling, student attendance, academic support, accommodations) that developed due to our move from DII to DI athletics. (AP)
- ❖ Appointed by the President to serve on the steering committee to ideate and develop a vision for a new library facility as the lead capital project in the current strategic framework (AP)
- ❖ Appointed by the Provost to serve on the Sustainability Action & Advisory Committee charged with reviewing and implementing the University Sustainability Plan (AP)
- ❖ Appointed by the Provost as the academic representative to serve on the Business Process Review steering committee tasked with preparing the institution for an Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) modernization effort. (AP)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Courses TaughtInternational ExperiencesStudent quotes<sup>^</sup>

"He teaches with incredible passion and his lectures are always captivating"

"He uses real-world examples to demonstrate the utility of our education"

"(His honors course) was one of the most interesting and thought-provoking courses I took"

"Dr. Pillar exemplifies everything that is genuine about being an educator. His sense of appreciation for his field, respect for his students and passion for teaching are what make him truly one of a kind."

"He connected with students very well and established close relationships with each of us. Dr. Pillar expected the best work possible from me and kept me motivated throughout the semester."

Queens University of Charlotte**Introductory Courses (100 & 200)**

Chemistry for Life\* and Lab\*  
Introduction to General, Organic & Biochemistry and Lab  
General Chemistry I Lab  
General Chemistry II and Lab

Environmental Topics  
Issues in Science: Food and Agriculture\*  
Introduction to Environmental Science\*\*  
Physical Geology\*

\*Course offered in traditional (face-to-face) and online formats

\*\*Course offered in traditional (face-to-face) and hybrid formats

**Intermediate Courses (200 & 400)**

Analytical Chemistry\*\* and Lab  
Topics in Environmental Science: Environmental Impact Assessment  
Research Methods  
Soil and Water Science

**Advanced Courses (300 & 400)**

Environmental Chemistry & Lab  
Chemistry Capstone Seminar  
Environmental Science Research  
Environmental Science Capstone Seminar

**International Experiences (Preparation & Travel Courses)**

Costa Rica: Food & Sustainability  
Italy: Italian Art & Culture  
Pacific Islands (Micronesia) Environmental Studies Tour (3x)  
Vietnam: Jewel of Southeast Asia

**University Programs & Interdisciplinary Courses**

Modern Citizenship: Food for Thought (CORE General Education Program)  
Science & Society (Learning Community General Education Program)  
Supplemental Instruction Leadership I & II (Center for Student Success)  
Application of Learning Theory (Center for Student Success)  
Honors Seminar: Recipe for Disaster - Hollywood vs Reality (Honors Program)  
Honors Connects Capstone (Honors Program)  
Transition Road Map (Learning Community General Education Program)  
Culminating Experience (Learning Community General Education Program)

University of Georgia**Department of Crop and Soil Sciences**

Contaminants in Soil and Water (Guest Lecturer)  
Soil Chemistry (Teaching Assistant & Guest Lecturer)  
Soil Chemistry Laboratory (Lead Instructor)  
Soil Mineralogy (Teaching Assistant & Instructor)

Kansas State University**Department of Agronomy**

Soil Science (Lead Laboratory Instructor & Teaching Assistant)  
Soil Microbiology (Laboratory Instructor)

<sup>^</sup>Quotes were voluntarily provided by former students and publicly posted on LinkedIn.

Full quotes and additional recommendations are available on LinkedIn

## STUDENT MENTORING

Undergraduate Capstone Research Projects – Primary Advisor (26)

McCathern, H. 2025. Honors/Interdisciplinary. *Raiders of the Lost Course Catalog: What Past Course Catalogs Say About Trends in Higher Education.* (GWU)

Culpepper, K. 2017. Biochemistry, *Analysis of Azodicarbonamide in Bleached Flour* (QUC)

Fazilova, S. 2017. Biochemistry, *Estimation of Exposure to Bisphenol-A and Bisphenol-S from Thermal Receipt Paper* (QUC)

Petcka, N. 2017. Biochemistry, *Determination of the Presence of Benzene in Incense, Mosquito Coils, and Candles* (QUC)

Schoenecker, J. 2017. Environmental Science, *Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs) in Urban Streams: A Case Study of Little Sugar Creek in Charlotte, NC* (QUC)

Brown, C. 2016. Biochemistry, *Determination of Tartrazine in Citrus in Carbonated Beverages* (QUC)

Jackson, T.A. 2016. Environmental Studies, *Tilling the Food Deserts: A Case for Urban Agriculture in Large U.S. Cities.* (QUC)

Milici, M. 2016. Biochemistry, *Measuring the Effectiveness of Chlorine Evacuators* (QUC)

Ruth, W. 2016. Environmental Science, *The Benefits of Composting on College Campuses* (QUC)

Tran, A. 2016. Chemistry, *Sorption of Bisphenol-S on Soil* (QUC)

Cook, R. 2014. Environmental Science, *Correcting Soil Fertility Deficiencies in Perennial Crops at Poplar Ridge Organic Farm* (QUC)

Moore, A. 2014. Environmental Science, *Macro- and Micronutrient Cycling of Organic Compost via Vermiculture* (QUC)

Foster, W. 2013. Environmental Science, *What Does the Soil Say? The Plant-Soil Relationship of the Helianthus Schweinitzii (Schweinitz's Sunflower).* (QUC)

King, L. 2012. Biochemistry, *Thiabendazole in Apples: A comparison of Organic and Non-Organic Produce.* (QUC)

Knuckles, C. 2012. Environmental Studies. *Impact of Impervious Surfaces on Urban Soil Quality* (QUC)

Turner, K. 2012. Biochemistry, *A Quantitative Chemical Analysis of Carbamazepine in Charlotte Streams by HPLC-UV* (QUC)

Wingate, S. 2012. Chemistry, *Analysis of Bisphenol A (BPA) in Thermal Receipt Paper* Mallberg, C. 2011. Environmental Studies, *Potential Contaminant Impact on Urban Streams Passing Through Golf Courses in Charlotte, North Carolina.* (QUC)

McKinzie, A. 2011. Environmental Science, *Sediment Pollution and the Associated Chemical Characteristics within Charlotte's Urban Creeks.* (QUC)

Janaskie, E. 2010. Biochemistry, *Efficiency of Home Water Filters for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC's)* (QUC)

Schoenhals, S. 2010. Biochemistry, *Potential Migration of Bisphenol-A (BPA) in Polycarbonate Plastic Water Bottles into Water.* (QUC)

Striano, S. 2010. Chemistry, *The Analysis of Dietary Supplements to Determine Caffeine Content* (QUC)

Austin, C. 2008. Biochemistry, *Analysis of Salicylic Acid in Cosmetic Products* (QUC)

Caldwell, J. 2008. Biochemistry, *Analysis of Triazine Herbicide Residues in Strawberries via High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC)* (QUC)

Mahle, A. 2008. Chemistry, *Determination of Acetaminophen in Common Cold Medicine* (QUC)

McCloy, S. 2008. Biochemistry, *HPLC and UV Analysis of Caffeine in Beverages* (QUC)

Olian, M.C. 2008. Biochemistry, *HPLC Analysis to Determine Actual Concentration of Non-FDA Regulated Vitamin B<sub>12</sub> Supplements*

Undergraduate Capstone Research Projects – Secondary Advisor/Committee Member (6)

Wickman, M. 2017. Chemistry, *How Do Sulfites in Wine Relate to Taste? A Quantitative Analysis of Sulfite Content in Various Wines*

Laing, M. 2017. Chemistry, *Are We Swallowing Toxic Metals with Every Sip of Wine? An Analysis of Heavy Metals in Various Wines*

Bahl, A. 2016. Environmental Studies, *Effects of Chemical Removal of Invasive Ligustrum sinense (privet) on Microbial Communities in the Flood Plains of Briar Creek in Mecklenburg County.*

Hannah, M. 2016. Biochemistry, *Determination of Styrene Leaching in Styrofoam Cups*

Tindal, J. 2016. Biochemistry, *Determination of Copper in Drinking Water with Flame Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy.* (QUC)

Gutierrez, J. 2011. Biology, *Microbial Fuel Cells Powered by Sediments of the South Fork River Enhanced with Carbon, Sulfur and Iron Substrates* (QUC)

## PUBLICATIONS (peer-reviewed)

E.B. Knight / Jack Everly  
NACTA Journal Awards:  
Honorable Mention →

**Book Chapters**

Siarzynski-Ferrer, K., & **G.D. Pillar**. 2021. The importance of student services for adult learners. In C.L.B. Jennings (Ed.), *Ensuring adult and non-traditional learners' success with technology, design, and structure* (155-171). Hershey, PA: IGI Global.

**Journal Articles**

**Pillar, G.D.**, K.Karnok and S.J. Thien. 2008. Perceptions, Utilization, and Training of Graduate Student Teaching Assistants in Introductory Soil Science Courses: Survey Results. *North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Journal*. 52:25-32

Xia, K., A. Bhandari, K.Das and **G. Pillar**. 2005. Occurrence and Fate of Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products (PPCPs) in Biosolids. *Journal of Environmental Quality*. 34:91-104

**Proceedings & Abstracts (peer-reviewed & from associated presentations)**

Braswell, J. and **G.D. Pillar**, 2017. Tale of Two Courses: Embedding Research in an Undergraduate Curriculum. *North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Journal*, 61—Supplement 1: Pg 121

**Pillar, G.D.** 2017. Teaching on a Swivel: Integrating Technology to Foster Engaged Learning. *North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Journal*, 61—Supplement 1: Pg 28

**Pillar, G.D.**, J. Daniels, S. Dishman, F. DeAngelis, S. White and B. Stuart. 2016. An Holistic Evaluation of Supplemental Instruction on Student Learning and Success in Introductory Science Courses. *North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Journal*, 60 – Supplement 1: Pgs 133-134

**Pillar, G.D.** 2016. Effectiveness of Course-embedded Research to Address Multiple Student Learning Outcomes in an Analytical Chemistry Course. *North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Journal*, 60 – Supplement 1: Pg. 133

**Pillar, G.D.**, J. Daniels, B. Stuart, S. White, A. Seagroves, A. Tucker and F. Majs. 2015. The Effect of Supplemental Instruction on Student Performance and Metacognitive Skill Development in a First Year Chemistry Course Sequence. *North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Journal*, 59 – Supplement 1: Pg 105

Braswell, J. and **G.D. Pillar**, 2013. A Multidisciplinary Approach to Improve Critical Thinking and Scientific Writing in an Introductory Environmental Science Course. *North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Journal* 57 – Supplement 1: 105

**Pillar, G.D.**, J. Braswell and M.S. Harper. 2011. An Interdisciplinary Approach to Engaging Students in Active Citizenship and Community Service by Investigating Issues in Food and Agriculture. *North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Journal* 55 – Supplement 1: 72

**Pillar, G.D.**, J. Braswell, S.W. Henderson, M.S. Harper and D. McGavran. 2010. Food for Thought: A Collaborative Effort to Incorporate Food and Agriculture into a Liberal Arts Curriculum. *North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Journal*. 54(2):63

**Pillar, G.D.**, K. Karnok and S.J. Thien. 2006. Perceptions, Utilization, and Training of Graduate Student Teaching Assistants in Introductory Soil Science Courses. *North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Journal*. 50(2): 74

Xia, K. and **G. Pillar**. 2003. Anthropogenic Organic Chemicals in Biosolids from Selected Wastewater Treatment Plants in Georgia and South Carolina. Pg. 806-809. In Kathryn Hatcher (ed.) *Proceedings of the 2003 Georgia Water Research Conference*. Athens, GA, April 23 – 24 (Extended Proceedings)

## PUBLICATIONS (Professional and Industry Publications)

**Pillar, G.D. & Shanderson, L.** 2025. *Accreditation Is Trump's 'Secret Weapon': Here are three scenarios for how his attack on higher ed could play out.* In *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, March 21, 2025. (<https://www.chronicle.com/article/accreditation-is-trumps-secret-weapon>)

**Pillar, G.D.,** 2024. Interim Leadership: Navigating Challenges and Seizing Opportunities in Higher Education. In *The ACAD Leader*, November, 2024 (<https://shorturl.at/gS8A8>)

**Pillar, G.D.,** 2024. Leading from the Heart of Higher Education: Empowering Mid-Level Leaders to Drive Transformation and Student Success. Posted on *The EdUp Experience Editorials*, August 2024. (<https://lnkd.in/eB5jEu3A>)

## PRESENTATIONS

Scholarly (Research) Presentations (27) (\*undergraduate student)

McCathern\*, H. and **G.D. Pillar** 2025. Raiders of the Lost Course Catalog: What Course Catalogs Reveal about Trends in Higher Education. Presented at the 2025 Annual Southern Regional Honors Conference, Chattanooga, TN

**Pillar, G.D.,** A. Rutstein-Riley, J. Meriwether, K. Lawler-Sagarin, J. Ayabe, and A. Marie Fallon. 2023. Trauma Informed Leadership: From Awareness to Action. Presented at the closing seminar of the Senior Leadership Academy hosted by the American Academic Leadership Institute (AALI) and the Council of Independent Colleges (CIC), Washington DC.

**Pillar, G.D.,** N. Tarr, and C. Blattner. 2022. Reaffirmation During a Pandemic: Challenges & Lessons Learned. Presented at the 2022 Annual SACSCOC Meetings, Atlanta, GA.

**Pillar, G.D.** and M. McCartney. 2022. Online Programs: Surviving a Decennial Reaccreditation during a Global Pandemic. Presented at the 2022 Online Learning Consortium (OLC) Conference – Accelerate, Orlando, FL

McCartney, M. and Rick, H., **Pillar, G.D** 2020. Assessment and Effectiveness of Faculty Development to Address Student Accessibility of Course Materials. International AHE Conference. Manchester, England, United Kingdom. <https://ahenetwork.org/ahe-conference-2020>. (conference cancelled)

**Pillar, G.D.** and B. Smentkowski. 2017. Innovate, Integrate and Invigorate - Effective Utilization of Technology in a Student-centered Course (Re)design. Presented at the 2017 Lilly National Conference on College and University Teaching and Learning, Asheville, NC

Braswell, J and **G.D. Pillar**, 2017. Tale of Two Courses: Embedding Research in an Undergraduate Curriculum. Presented at the 63rd Annual North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference, West Lafayette, IN

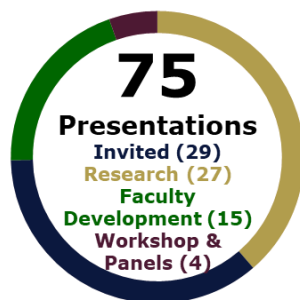
**Pillar, G.D.** 2017. Teaching on a Swivel: Integrating Technology to Foster Engaged Learning. Presented at the 63rd Annual North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference, W. Lafayette, IN

**Pillar, G.D.** 2017. Online Instruction in Science Courses with Labs: Challenges and Opportunities for Achieving Student Success. Presented at the 2017 Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy, Blacksburg, VA

Petcka\*, N and **G. D. Pillar**. 2017. Determination of Benzene Produced by Burning Incense, Mosquito Coils and Candles. Presented at the 17th Annual Poster & Vendor Night of the Central North Carolina Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS), Greensboro, NC.

**Pillar, G.D.** 2016. A Gardner's Guide to Phytoremediation. Presented to the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Master Gardener Program, North Carolina State University, Monroe, NC.

**Pillar, G.D.,** J. Daniels, S. Dishman\*, F. DeAngelis, S. White and B. Stuart. 2016. A Holistic Evaluation of Supplemental Instruction on Student Learning and Success in Introductory Science Courses. Presented at the 62nd Annual North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference, Honolulu, HI



### Summary of Organizations & Conferences

Presented before

**25**

different conferences, organizations, and institutions including (partial list):

American Academic Leadership Institute (AALI)

American Society of Agronomy  
- Soil Science Society of America - Crop Science Society of America (Tri-Societies)

Conference on Higher Education Pedagogy

Lilly National Conference on College and University Teaching and Learning

North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA)

North Carolina Academy of Science

Online Learning Consortium (OLC)

University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill

Duke University



## PRESENTATIONS

Scholarly (Research) Presentations (27 - continued) (\*undergraduate student)

**Pillar, G.D.** 2016. Effectiveness of Course-embedded Research to Address Multiple Student Learning Outcomes in an Analytical Chemistry Course. Presented at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Annual North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference, Honolulu, HI

Carrillo\*, J., S. Fazilova\*, W. Khushaim\*, Y. Lee\*, M. Milici\*, J. Tindal\* and **G.D. Pillar**. 2016. Would You Like a Receipt? Determination of Bisphenol-A and Bisphenol-S in Thermal Receipt Paper Using Liquid Chromatography. Presented at the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Poster & Vendor Night of the Central North Carolina Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS), Greensboro, NC.

**Pillar, G.D.**, J. Daniels, B. Stuart, S. White, A. Seagroves, A. Tucker and F. Majs. 2015. The Effect of Supplemental Instruction on Student Performance and Metacognitive Skill Development in a First Year Chemistry Course Sequence. Presented at the 61<sup>st</sup> Annual North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference, Athens, GA.

Braswell, J. and **G.D. Pillar**, 2013. A Multidisciplinary Approach to Improve Critical Thinking and Scientific Writing in an Introductory Environmental Science Course. Presented at the 59<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference, Blacksburg, VA.

**Pillar, G.D.**, J. Braswell and M.S. Harper. 2011. An Interdisciplinary Approach to Engaging Students in Active Citizenship and Community Service by Investigating Issues in Food and Agriculture. Presented at the 57<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Annual Conference, Edmonton, Canada.

Gutierrez\* J.L., P.Koplas and **G.D. Pillar**. 2011. Microbial Fuel Cells Powered by Sediments of the South Fork River Enhanced with Carbon, Sulfur and Iron Substrates. Presented at the 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the North Carolina Academy of Science (NCAS), Elon, NC.

**Pillar, G.D.**, J. Braswell, S.W. Henderson, M.S. Harper and D. McGavran. 2010. Food for Thought: A Collaborative Effort to Incorporate Food and Agriculture into a Liberal Arts Curriculum. Presented at the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Annual Conference, State College, Pennsylvania.

**Pillar, G.D.** 2007. Influence of Clay Minerals and Humic-Clay Complexes on 2,4,6-Trinitrotoluene (TNT) Retention in Soils. University of North Carolina – Charlotte, Charlotte, NC.

**Pillar, G.D.**, K. Karnok and S.J. Thien. 2006. Perceptions, Utilization and Training of Graduate Student Teaching Assistants in Introductory Soil Science Courses. Presented at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Annual Conference, Vancouver, Canada.

**Pillar, G.D.**, P.F. Hendrix and K. Xia. 2005. Impact of Earthworm Activity on the Transformation and Distribution of 2,4,6-Trinitrotoluene in Soils. Presented at the Annual ASA-SSSA-CSSA Meetings, Salt Lake City, UT.

**Pillar, G.D.** and K. Xia. 2005. Interaction of 2,4,6-Trinitrotoluene with Clay Minerals and Humic-Clay Complexes. Presented at the Annual ASA-SSSA-CSSA Meetings, Salt Lake City, UT.

**Pillar, G.D.** K. Xia and P.F. Hendrix. 2004. Fate of 2,4,6-Trinitrotoluene in Soil Aggregates Influenced by Earthworm Activity. Presented at the Annual ASA-SSSA-CSSA Meetings, Seattle, WA.

Xia, K., **G. Pillar** and A. Bhandari. 2004. Fate of Personal Care Products and Other Organic Chemicals in Biosolids. Presented at the Sustainable Land Application Conference, Buena Vista, FL.

**Pillar, G.D.** and K. Xia. 2003. Impact of Size Fractionation Methods on Properties of Soil Aggregates. Presented at the Annual ASA-SSSA-CSSA Meeting, Denver, CO.

Xia, K. and **G.D. Pillar**. 2003. Anthropogenic Organic Compounds in Biosolids. Presented at the Annual ASA-SSSA-CSSA Meetings, Denver, CO

**Pillar, G.D.** and S.J. Thien. 2000. Impact of Animal Waste Compost on Turf Soil Quality. Presented at the Annual ASA-SSSA-CSSA Meeting, Minneapolis, MN.

Cecchi, A.M., W.C. Koskinen, **G.D. Pillar**, K. Haider and H.H. Cheng. 1999. Sorption-Desorption of Phenolic Acids in Soil. Presented at the Annual ASA-SSSA-CSSA Meetings, Salt Lake City, UT.

## PARTIAL LIST OF PRESENTATIONS

Invited Scholarly Presentations (29)

- Pillar, G.D.** 2022. Future of Higher Education for Small Liberal Arts Colleges, Presented at North Carolina Wesleyan College, Rocky Mount, NC
- Pillar, G.D.** 2016. Sustainability and Global Food Security: Paradox or Necessity?, Invited Opening Plenary at the World View 2016 Community College Symposium “From Local to Global: Exploring Environmental Sustainability”, University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill
- Pillar, G.D.** 2016. The Vital Role of Science Literacy in Developing a Sustainable World, Presented at the World View 2016 Community College Symposium “From Local to Global: Exploring Environmental Sustainability”, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill
- Pillar, G.D.** 2015. Recipe for Disaster: Hollywood Science and Scientific Literacy, Presented at the World View Global Environment and Sustainability Symposium, University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill, Charlotte, NC
- Pillar, G.D.** 2015. Feeding 9 Billion and Beyond: The Importance of Scientific Literacy in Global Food Security, Presented at the World View Global Environment and Sustainability Symposium, University of North Carolina—Chapel Hill, Charlotte, North Carolina
- Pillar, G.D.** 2015. *The Soil Scientist: An Unexpected Career at a Liberal Arts University*, Presented at the Department of Soil Science Seminar Series, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina.
- Pillar, G.D.** 2014. 9 Billion People and Beyond: Engaging Middle & High School Students in Evaluating the Environmental Impact of Population Growth, Presented at the World View Partners Workshop Program, University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill, Charlotte, North Carolina
- Pillar, G.D.** 2014. Sustainable Food Security in a Hot, Crowded, Underfed and Overfed World, Presented at the World View Global Education Leaders Program, University of North Carolina, Chapel-Hill, North Carolina.
- Pillar, G.D.** 2014. Impact of Global Climate Change and Population Growth on our Global Food System, Presented at the Great Decisions Lecture Series hosted by the Office of International Programs at the University of North Carolina- Charlotte, Charlotte, North Carolina
- Pillar, G.D.** 2013. International Food Issues, Panel presentation presented at along with B. Schanbacher for the International Law Society, Duke Law School, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina.
- Pillar, G.D.** 2012. Seven Billion and Counting: The Role of Population Growth in Addressing Global Food Security Challenges. Presented at the World View Community College Symposium “*Population and Migration: A World on the Move*”, University of North Carolina, Chapel-Hill, North Carolina.
- Pillar, G.D.** 2012. Our Global Food System: Sustainability and the Next Food Revolution. Presented at the World View Global Education Leaders’ Program, University of North Carolina, Chapel-Hill, North Carolina  
*Similar presentation with same title given in 2011 at the World View Global Education Leaders’ Program at the University of North Carolina and in 2010 at the World View’s Partners’ Workshop in Waxhaw, North Carolina.*
- Pillar, G.D.** 2012. Agricultural and Land Use Considerations for Biofuels: A Sustainable Agriculture Perspective, Presented at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual BioEnergy Symposium, IDEAS (Infrastructure, Design, Environment and Sustainability) Center, University of North Carolina—Charlotte, Charlotte, NC.
- Pillar, G.D.**, 2011. Nature’s Green Thumb: How Going Green Will Produce a Sustainable Global Food System, Presented at the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeastern World Affairs Institute, Black Mountain, North Carolina
- Pillar, G.D.** 2011. Global Food Issues: A Micronesian Case Study, Presented at Poplar Ridge Farm-to-Table Dinner and Speaker Series, Waxhaw, North Carolina.
- Pillar, G.D.** 2010. Understand the Global Food System: Security, Sustainability and the Future of Food, Presented at the IB Schools of North Carolina 2010 Fall Roundtable, Winston Salem, North Carolina.

## PARTIAL LIST OF PRESENTATIONS

Invited Scholarly Presentations (29 - continued)

**Pillar, G.D.** 2010. The Path to Sustainable Eating, Presented at the Poplar Ridge Farm-to-Table Dinner and Speaker Series, Waxhaw, North Carolina.

**Pillar, G.D.** 2010. What the World Eats: Our Global Food System and the New Food Revolution, Presented at the “*Food Really Matters*” Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute Multicultural Fair, Hickory, North Carolina.

**Pillar, G.D.** 2009. How Domestic Policies Affect Our Local and Global Food System, Presented to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Food Policy Council, Charlotte, North Carolina.

**Pillar, G.D.** 2009. Global Food Insecurity: Sustainability and the Next Food Revolution, Winthrop University – International Education Week, Rock Hill, South Carolina.

**Pillar, G.D.** 2009. Global Food Insecurity: Opportunities and Challenges, Presented to the Charlotte Economics Club, Charlotte, North Carolina.

**Pillar, G.D.** 2009. The Global Food Crisis: Sustainability and the Next Food Revolution, Presented at the Poplar Ridge Farm-to-Table Dinner and Speaker Series, Waxhaw, North Carolina.

**Pillar, G.D.** 2009. Sustainability of the Global Food System, Presented at the Charlotte World Trade Association, Charlotte, North Carolina.

**Pillar, G.D.** 2009. Opportunities and Challenges for Tomorrow’s Global Food System, Presented at the 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeastern World Affairs Institute, Black Mountain, North Carolina.

**Pillar, G.D.** 2009. Global Food Supply and the Future of Food, Presented at the Great Decisions Lecture Series, Office of International Programs at the University of North Carolina – Charlotte, Charlotte, NC.

**Pillar, G.D.** 2007. Recipe for Disaster: Hollywood and Science, Presented at the Queens University of Charlotte Raleigh Alumni Chapter Event, Raleigh, North Carolina.

Workshops and Panel Discussions (4)

Bowers, S. and **G.D. Pillar**. 2018. Sketchnoting in the Classroom: Doodles with Brain Power. Presented at the 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Collegiate Honors Council (NCHC) Conference, Boston, MA

Morrachian, M.E., **G.D. Pillar**, A. Mignery, M. Roberts and M. Pitser. 2009. “*FRESH: New Thinking About What We’re Eating*”, viewing and post screening discussion, Winthrop University, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009., Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Collins, G., A. Newton, D. Boekelheide and **G.D. Pillar**. 2009. “*FRESH: New Thinking About What We’re Eating*”, viewing and post screening discussion, Central Piedmont Community College, November 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009., Charlotte, North Carolina

**Pillar, G.D.** and R. Perkins. 2008. Stop Treating Soil Like Dirt! Exploring the Amazing Properties of Soil, Presented at the 2008 NSTA Regional Conference, Charlotte, NC

Campus-Wide Teaching, Learning and Faculty Development Presentations (15)

Queens University of Charlotte,

Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL), 2008-2012

Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence (CAFÉ), 2013 - present

Daniel, J. and **G.D. Pillar**. 2017. Myth Busters: The Truth About Peer Tutoring and Supplemental Instruction, Presented at the 2017 Summer Teaching Showcase

**Pillar G.D.** 2017 Educational Technology Lightning Round, Presented at the Wired Wednesday Faculty Development Series

**Pillar G.D.** 2017 Engaging Students and Transforming Your myCourses Site with Interactive Graphics, Presented at the Hayworth Center for Online Learning Webinar Series

**Pillar G.D.** 2017 Digital Writing: From Notetaking to Instructional Tool, Presented at the Wired Wednesday Faculty Development Series

## PRESENTATIONS (continued)

- Pillar G.D.** 2017 The Fine Points of Presentation Technologies, Presented at the Wired Wednesday Faculty Development Series
- Pillar G.D.** 2016 Living up to (Un)realistic Expectations: Student Perceptions of Learning and Time on Task, Presented at the Teaching and Learning Faculty Development Series
- Pillar G.D.** 2016 Swivl Your HIPs, Presented at the Wired Wednesday Faculty Development Series, Center for the Advancement of Faculty Excellence (CAFÉ)
- Pillar G.D.** 2016 Technology Enhanced Active Learning - An Introduction to the Active Learning Classroom, Presented at the Wired Wednesday Faculty Development Series
- Pillar G.D.** 2016 Developing Your Dossier and Self-Reflective Statement, Presented at the New Faculty Seminar Series
- DiMaio, L., **G.D. Pillar**, and B. Robinson. 2016. Incorporating Authentic Research Experiences into Undergraduate Courses, Presented at the 2016 Summer Teaching Showcase
- Pillar, G.D.** 2012. Best Practices and Ideas for Incorporating Multimedia in Online and Hybrid Courses. Presented at the Lightbulb Workshop Series
- Pillar, G.D.** and J. McClelland. 2008. Technology Update: Clickers and Web Tools. Presented at the Lightbulb Lunch Workshop Series
- Pillar, G.D.** 2008. Revisiting Your Teaching Philosophy. Presented at the Lightbulb Workshop Series
- Pillar, G.D.** 2008. Using Portfolios for Self-Assessment: The Teaching Portfolio, Presented at the 2008 Faculty Advance
- Pillar, G.D.** and C. Clark. 2008. Intentional Learning: The Scoop from the 2008 American Association of Colleges and Universities (AAC&U) Annual Meeting, Presented at the Professional Speaking Series

## MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS

Podcasting**Host & Creator, *The Bulldog Mindset***

Gardner-Webb University Podcast Network | 2025–present

*The Bulldog Mindset* is a lively, insightful podcast that dives into the student experience, academic life, and leadership at Gardner-Webb University. Featuring engaging faculty interviews, student perspectives, and thought-provoking discussions, each episode unpacks what it means to learn, grow, and succeed as part of the GWU community. Interactive segments like *Office Hours*, *The Learning Curve*, and *Bulldogs Beyond* highlight academic challenges, career preparation, and the hidden gems of campus life. As host and producer, I lead content development, conduct interviews, and shape each episode's narrative to reflect the spirit and mission of Gardner-Webb.

**Frequent Contributor, *The EdUp Experience: Accreditation Insights***

The EdUp Experience Podcast Network | 2024–present

A focused spin-off of *The EdUp Experience, Accreditation Insights* is hosted by Dr. Laurie Shanderson and explores topics related to institutional quality, accreditation standards, and academic excellence. As a regular guest and contributing co-host, I help demystify the complex world of accreditation while also facilitating conversations on broader trends in higher education, leadership perspectives, and the future of academic innovation. These episodes aim to make accreditation and related topics more accessible and actionable for higher education professionals.

**Guest & Guest Co-Host, *The EdUp Experience***

The EdUp Experience Podcast Network | 2024–present

I've appeared as a guest and guest co-host on *The EdUp Experience*, the flagship show of the EdUp Network and one of the leading podcasts in higher education. Hosted by Dr. Joe Sallustio and Elvin Freytes, the podcast features dynamic conversations with university presidents, innovators, and changemakers. My contributions have focused on academic leadership, institutional culture, and the evolving role of faculty and staff in shaping student success.

A complete list of podcast episodes is available upon request or via my professional website.

## MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS (continued)

### TV (News)

- Guest expert on WSOC (local ABC affiliate) - provided expertise in 3 related segments December 28th, 2018 **“New Tests: Chemical linked to thyroid issues not detected at Lake Norman High School”** December 27th, 2018 **“New Tests: Chemical causing thyroid cancer not detected at high school”** December 17th, 2018, **“Iredell Water Testing: Chemical linked to thyroid issues detected in water at Lake Norman High School, expert says”**.
- Guest expert on WSOC (local ABC affiliate)- November 27th, 2018, provided expertise in segment **“Contaminated soil removed from Charlotte transportation hub”**.
- Guest expert on WSOC (local ABC affiliate) - August 27th, 2018, provided expertise in segment **“CMS to test more schools for lead contamination starting Monday”**.
- Guest expert on WCNC (local NBC affiliate) - August 2nd, 2018, provided expertise in segment **“The Defenders: Dozens of CMS schools report high lead levels”**.
- Guest expert on WCNC (local NBC affiliate) – April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2016, provided testing and expertise in segment **“Get McGinty: What’s in that dirty looking water?”**
- Guest expert on WSOC-TV (local ABC affiliate) –April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2014, provided expertise in segment **“Local restaurants feeling pinch as food prices climb”**.
- Guest expert on Time Warner Cable News (local Channel 14) – March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2014, provided expertise in segment **“Milk prices to increase more than 40 cents across U.S.”**
- Guest expert on Time Warner Cable News (local Channel 14) – February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014, provided expertise in segment **“Businesses hope to avoid hit from storm”**
- Guest expert on WCCB-TV (local WB affiliate) – February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014, provided expertise in segment **“Charlotte Area Chemical Dumps Raise Environmental Concerns”**
- Guest expert on Fox46 Carolinas (local FOX affiliate) – January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014, provided expertise in segment **“Where Are the Bees?”**
- Guest expert on WCNC News Channel 36 (local NBC affiliate) – May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2012, student research project highlighted in piece **“Toxic chemical on your receipts may be harmful”**.
- Guest expert on WCNC News Channel 36 (local NBC affiliate) – April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012, provided expertise in segment **“Battery Testing: Which brand is best?”**
- Guest expert on WBTV News Channel 3 (local CBS affiliate) – July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010, provided expertise in segment **“Local Food is Tasty Business”**
- Guest expert on WCNC News Channel 36 (local NBC affiliate) – November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2009, provided expertise in segment **“What’s really in your food?”**
- Guest expert on WCNC News Channel 36 Investigators (local NBC affiliate) – September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2008, provided expertise in segment **“Local spa treatment put to the test”**

### Print/Online (Newspaper)

- Authored piece **“Everybody Eats”** for the Summer 2011 edition of Queens Magazine
- Interviewed, profiled and featured in the TechEd section by the Charlotte Observer – February 27, 2011 for the story **“Queens’ Master of Disaster”** covering my Honors course focused on uncovering the science and myths in movies and TV
- Interviewed by the Mountain Island Weekly – January 13, 2010 for the story **“Health Officials: Don’t eat lake catfish”**

### Radio

- Guest on Charlotte Talks with Mike Collins, 90.7 WFAE NPR news talk radio – January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2009, discussed global food supply



## ACADEMIC &amp; COMMUNITY SERVICE

Gardner-Webb University

Provost Council	2025-present
Council of Deans	2025-present
Graduate Council	2025-present
Undergraduate Curriculum Committee	2025-present
Professional Education Committee	2025-Present

Queens University of Charlotte

Title IX Advisory Committee	2024 - 2025
Title IX Advisory: Policy Sub-Committee	2024 - 2025
Sustainability Action Advisory Council	2023 - 2025
QEP Leadership Committee	2022 - 2025
QEP Steering Committee	2022 - 2025
President's Cabinet	2017 - 2025
Provost Council	2017 - 2025
Faculty/Deans Council	2017 - 2025
Academic Policy Committee	2017 - 2025
Student Qualifications Committee	2017 - 2025
Emergency Operations Team (EOT)	2017 - 2025
Behavioral Assessment Team (BAT)	2017 - 2025
Division 1 Transition: Academics	
Taskforce Co-Chair	2022 - 2023
Graduate Council	2017 - 2023
COVID Response Team	2020 - 2023
CAFE Director Search Committee, Chair	2018, 2022
Library Director Search Committee	2019
Blair College Dean Search Committee, Chair	2021 - 2022
General Education Committee	2017 - 2020
Academic Committee, Board of Trustees	2017 - 2020
Yes/And Initiative Taskforce	2017 - 2019
University Faculty Personnel Committee	2016 - 2017
CAFE Steering Committee	2008 - 2016
College of Arts and Sciences	
Dean Search Committee	2016
CAFE Director Search Committee	2013, 2015
Digital Learning Committee	2014-2015
Online Programs Implementation Team	2012
Physics Faculty Search Committee, Chair	2011-2012
Creative Writing Faculty Search Committee	2007-2008
Technology & Web Committee	2007
LMS Selection Sub-Committee Chair	2007
Environmental Science & Chemistry Dept. Webmaster	2006 - 2011
Environmental Science Faculty Search Committee	2006 - 2007

Professional Organizations, Societies & Journals

Southern New Hampshire University

Advisory Board – Graduate (M.S.) Program in Higher Education Administration (HEA), 2023-2024

Southern Association Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC)

Substantive Change On-Site Review Committee, 2023      Annual Meeting Planning Committee, 2023

National Science Foundation Advanced Technical Education Project Team, 2017

#1601636—Chemistry and BioEnergy Technology for Sustainability Industrial Advisory Board

North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA), 2006-2016

NACTA Journal Reviewer, 2006-2016

Teacher Recognition Committee, 2006-2012

Editorial Journal Committee, 2006-2016

Book Review and Instructional Media Committee Chair, 2009-2011

Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems and Community Development, 2010-present

Journal Reviewer, 2010-present

Community Organizations

Charlotte Mecklenburg Food Policy Council, 2009-2016, 2021-2024

Advisory Board (Founding Member), 2012-2016, 2021-2024

Governing Board (Founding Member), 2009-2012

Partners in Out-of-School Time (POST) Leaf &amp; STEM Advisory Council, 2009-2012