

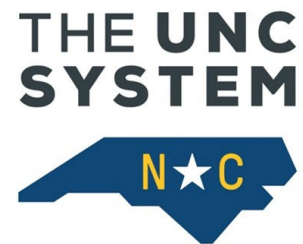
AN NC CHAMBER EVENT

Education & Workforce Conference

AUGUST 21, 2025
DURHAM, NC

Mary Varghese
Vice President, Strategic Initiatives
University of North Carolina System

Mary Varghese serves at the UNC System Office overseeing military affairs, workforce development, and economic development. Her role involves ensuring military student success, overseeing workforce alignment initiatives, and partnering on economic development opportunities to advance NC.



Prior to joining the UNC System Office, Mary served as a higher education consultant to colleges and universities across North America advising on financial strategy and strategic planning. In her time in higher education, she's visited hundreds of college campuses (a favorite hobby!) and has a special heart for the universities in North Carolina. "Universities in the UNC System are different-in-kind: I see strong hearts and strong minds - and that's a key asset for us."

Mary earned her MBA from Harvard Business School and her bachelor's in accounting from Chapman University. She and her husband reside in Raleigh.