The NC State Model is an articulation of the attributes of an institution of higher learning and intellectual aspirations within a world culture best described as a culture of continual reconfiguration. The NC State Model, as a guiding document, has been adopted by the College of Design Administrative Council.
1. An Enabling Community
   **Valuing Individuals**
   Students, staff, faculty and administrators are valued members of the College community and considered fundamental to its future development. Individual achievement is characterized by specified outcomes and incentive planning that both values and rewards individual performance.

2. A Free Mix of Interests
   **Fostering Partnerships**
   There is a free mix of academic, community, industry and government interests within the College. Individual scholarship and the fluidity of multi-disciplinary and cross-functional activities characterize key relationships fostering partnerships between the College community, society, industry and government.

3. Functional Capability
   **Problem Focused**
   The College, with the perspective of scholarship, is problem focused, responsive to customer-client needs and able to anticipate the issues of industry, society and government. These issues are addressed through the ability of the College of form multi-disciplinary/cross-functional thematic program groupings as needed.

4. No Firewalls on Campus
   **The Integration of Teaching, Research, Creative Activity and Extension**
   The College facilitates scholarship through the integration of teaching, research, creative activity and extension among faculty and staff across disciplinary boundaries. The elimination of firewalls between people and disciplines and the recognition of the diversity and value of responsibilities people assume promotes the integration and transference of knowledge within the College and to the complex community to be served.

5. An Agile Administrative Environment
   **Nurturing Internal Innovation and External Partnerships**
   The College actively fosters intellectual innovation, entrepreneurship, and non-traditional approaches in all of its mission activities. Therefore, it requires an administrative environment that balances flexibility, productivity and accountability. The College is user-friendly in serving the needs of its own students, faculty, staff and those of its external partners. All aspects of the College internal infrastructure – such as policies, business services, facilities planning/management, financing and budget administration – are designed to support dynamic programs. These programs are intended to induce creative solutions, avoid the wasteful use of time and allow intelligent risk taking.

6. An Environment Where Teaching and Learning Flourish
   **Relating Academic and Individual Learning Paths**
   The College community is committed to providing students with innovative and individualized educational experiences that join academic and life-long learning aspirations. The leadership practices of individuals must be nurtured to promote the understanding of contemporary political, economic and social skills. Teaching will flourish in an environment that easily adapts to the changing needs of society.

7. An Environment of Reconfiguration
   **Relating the Fundamental Nature of Work and Education**
   Work accomplished in society has become increasingly dependent on continually reconfiguring social networks. Such reconfiguration must be reflected in the continual organization and reconfiguration of knowledge. The era in world society dependent on fixed duties and responsibilities has come to a close. Fixed configuration within the College is an equivalent liability. This is an environment that places value on diverse intellectual positions related to world cultural traditions.