BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 30, 2023 Contact: Sara Schmidt, Director of Communications Phone: 828.641.0450 Email: <u>schmidtsd@brevard.edu</u>

Brevard College Awarded Grant for \$2.25 Million

Brevard College announced today that they have been chosen to receive a U.S. Department of Education Title III Grant in the amount of \$2.25 million over the next five years. The grant funds the College's continued growth of student success efforts and initiatives, with a particular focus on the success of new college students.

"For the past six years, the College has invested in improving our student success initiatives, adding programs, staff, and partnerships that have resulted in a 13%-point increase to our first-year student retention rate," said Brevard College President Bradley J Andrews. "This grant builds upon that success and empowers our talented staff and faculty to take student success to the next level."

Already recognized by U.S. News as the #2 ranked college in the South for excellence in undergraduate teaching, the College's emphasis on improving retention and graduation rates, through advising and student support services, have accelerated in recent years.

"This grant funding enables us to build staff, program, and system advancements in the areas that most directly support our new students in their first year of college," said Dr. Debbie D'Anna, Brevard College's Vice President for Student Life and Services.

The U.S. Department of Education Title III Strengthening Institutions Grant program is a competitive process focused on institutions who are increasing their capacity to serve low-income students.

Brevard College is consistently recognized as one of the best liberal arts colleges. The College's focus on experiential learning, small class sizes, and location in the mountains of Western North Carolina near Asheville makes Brevard a top choice college for students around the world.

END