



On October 24, 2022, UNC Charlotte was pleased to host a delegation from our newest international exchange partner, the Hochschule Niederrhein University of Applied Science in Krefeld, Germany. While on campus, the representatives from Hochschule Niederrhein, Dr. Thomas Grünewald, President; Dr. Marion Halfmann, Chief Internationalization Officer; and Dr. Norman Lupa, Dean of the Faculty of Mechanical and Process Engineering, participated in a memorandum of understanding signing ceremony to memorialize the student and faculty exchange agreement with Charlotte Chancellor Sharon L. Gaber, Ph.D; Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Joan Lorden, Ph.D., Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs; and Rob Keynton, Ph.D., Dean of the William States Lee College of Engineering.

Hochschule Niederrhein is one of the largest and most well regarded universities of applied science in Germany. This exchange partnership is particularly important to UNC Charlotte as it supports expanding the internationalization of our STEM fields as well as provides the College of Engineering with an opportunity to expand its global footprint while offering students and faculty new and innovative international opportunities for study and research.

As well, Charlotte is home to nearly 240 German companies, so providing our engineering students with these specific international experiences will add great value to our graduates seeking positions in local German firms.

While on campus, the German visitors also met with faculty members from the Department of Languages and Culture Studies, toured the EPIC high bay laboratory and Duke Energy Smart Grid & Flexible Energy lab, Duke Building, the Center for Precision Metrology, the machine shop, and the Alan D. Kulwicki Motorsports Laboratory, in addition to meeting with numerous faculty members from the W.S. Lee College of Engineering and with Office of International Programs' staff.

The Hochschule Niederrhein representatives were also accompanied by Mayor Frank Meyer from the City of Krefeld and other Krefeld city officials. The city of Charlotte and Krefeld are celebrating 35 years of their Sister Cities relationship, and Hochschule Niederrhein, with two Krefeld campuses, enjoys a strong relationship with the city.





