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For Immediate Release

January 9, 2019

**Emerging Issues Forum to examine interconnections and discuss myths of
Rural and Urban NC**

ReCONNECT Rural and Urban Forum to convene subject matter experts in Raleigh, February 11.

RALEIGH—The Institute for Emerging Issues (IEI) “ReCONNECT Rural and Urban” Forum is scheduled for Monday, February 11, 2019 9 a.m. at the Raleigh Marriott City Center. While there is a common and growing perception of a divide between rural and urban North Carolina, the truth is we are highly interconnected.

ReCONNECT Rural and Urban, the second forum in the ReCONNECT NC series will examine the interconnectedness of rural, suburban, and urban economies, and discuss strategies to more effectively promote and leverage these connections for increased success. Five community initiatives from across the state who are actively working on successful efforts to address shared challenges have been selected to present at the forum. These community initiatives are: Project Empathy (Transylvania County), Project 40 (Durham, Orange, Vance, Warren and Wake Counties), Carolina Core (17 counties in central NC), Growing Outdoors (seven counties in western NC) and Stem SENC (13 counties in southeastern NC).

Speakers include Governor Roy Cooper, Laura Lane, President, Global Public Affairs for UPS, Dennis Alvord, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Regional Affairs, U.S. Economic Development Administration, Juliana Menasce Horowitz, Associate Director of Research, Pew Research Center and a host of legislative leaders, NC State Faculty, philanthropists and other subject matter experts. You can register by visiting iei.ncsu.edu/reconnectnc/rcru/

The registration fee is \$275. IEI wants and needs every voice to join and engage in the conversation, scholarships (free tickets) are available to increase geographic, demographic and economic representation at our Rural and Urban Forum.

About the Institute for Emerging Issues

The Institute for Emerging Issues (IEI) at North Carolina State University is a nonpartisan public policy organization focused on the state’s vibrancy and economic competitiveness. Since 1986, the Emerging Issues Forum has attracted leaders in business, education and public policy to discuss issues with profound implications for North Carolina’s future prosperity. For more than three decades, the Forum has helped catalyze the policy reforms, public investments and other proactive responses required to build an enduring capacity for progress in North Carolina.

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