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Fs mtg.

## Faculty Assembly Meeting -- February 19, 1999

The Chair of the Faculty Assembly, Lolly Gasaway, reported that two letters had been to UNC President Molly Broad since the last meeting.

- **Request to Amend Public Records Law to Protect Research on Computers.** The first letter requested that the General Administration support the Faculty Assembly's request to amend the public records law to protect research on computers (Dick Robinson).
- **Encourage Board of Trustees to Add Faculty Chair as a Non-voting Member.** The second letter requested Molly Broad to encourage universities to include the Chair of the Faculty as a non-voting member of the Board of Trustees (BOT). To date, 2 universities have Faculty Chair's serving on the BOT, UNC-Pembroke and Appalachian State University. Two other universities are moving forward to include the Faculty Chair. To date, ECU's BOT has not responded favorably to this request. Molly Broad stated that she would meet with the Chancellors again to encourage them to request that each BOT consider adding the Faculty Chair as a non-voting member.

Three tasks forces have been created to address pressing UNC-wide issues:

- **Grievance Procedures Task Force** was established by the Faculty Assembly to address concerns by faculty regarding the effectiveness of grievance procedures within the system. *Brenda Killingsworth* has been appointed to serve on this task force. The Board of Governors also expressed concern on grievance procedures and is establishing a BOG task force. The members of this Faculty Assembly Grievance Task force will be appointed to the larger Board of Governor's Grievance task force.
- **University Copyright Task Force** will be established to follow up on the symposium held last fall by the Faculty Assembly. Faculty representatives, GA staff, lawyers, and others will be appointed. ECU will be represented by *George Bailey*. A final report from the committee is expected by March 2000.
- **Financial Aid Task Force** will also be established. North Carolina is one of just a few states that do not provide support for financial aid. General Administration would like to see this changed. This task force will look at need-based aid, merit-based aid, and best practices around the country.

Regarding Major Initiatives for the 1999-2001 biennium, Molly Broad stressed three initiatives:

- **Planning for Enrollment Growth.** Front and center on the General Administration's agenda is Planning for Enrollment Growth. Efforts are underway to align projected growth with physical capacity of campuses and ensuring this growth is consistent with an institution's mission. She stressed that projections using simple extrapolation is not a reasonable approach. Each campus was requested to indicate it's ideal enrollment without considering capital restrictions. She indicated that even these "ideal enrollment projections" did not reconcile with the projections for enrollment the UNC system will face in the next decade. One problem area is that most universities want to serve more graduates when most of the growth will be in undergraduates.
- **10-Year Capital Plan.** The second initiative involved putting together a 10-year capital plan. Some of you will recall that Eva Klein and Associates visited each of the campuses in an effort to document the needs. The resulting evidence showed that the UNC system was seriously undercapitalized. Most notably, many of the science buildings in the UNC system were very outmoded. She noted that many Chancellors choose wisely to have legislators touring the UNC system meet in their old science buildings -- opening their eyes to the serious problems facing the system. Given that the UNC system currently has this multi-billion dollar capital problem, and we are about to enter a period of dramatic increase in enrollment, the problem will only become more serious without adequate response. General Administration will present alternative means of financing -- basically recommending that the state and institutions use debt instruments to fund these capital initiatives. Molly Broad also noted that the State of NC has one of the highest bond ratings of the states so there is room for debt financing.
- **Proposal for Adjusting Tuition.** The third initiative that General Administration has undertaken is a proposal for adjusting tuition. This proposal has been sent to the Board of Governors. The Board of Governor's will meet in March to decide on tuition increases.
  - **Undergraduate Tuition.** The proposal recommends an increase in undergraduate resident tuition ranging from \$38 to \$72 (representing a 4.9% increase in tuition). Molly Broad noted that



affordability is a key policy issue that acknowledged by GA when setting tuition (she noted that the per capita income, a key element used when setting affordable tuition, grew by 4.9% last year).

- **Graduate Tuition.** In NC, resident graduate students are charged the same tuition as undergraduates but at peer institutions graduate students are charged 8% higher at comprehensive institutions to 15% at Research intensive institutions. General Administration is requesting increases over the next four years to reduce that gap while still keeping resident graduate tuition near the bottom of the list of peer institutions. For non-resident graduate students, GA wants tuition to be in the middle of the pack of comparable peer institutions. At the moment our out-of-state graduate student tuition is higher than comparable peer institutions. GA is requesting that the tuition be raised by \$38 to \$72, mirroring the in-state undergraduate tuition increase request.

### UNC-System Budget Requests

President Broad reviewed the Governor's Budget as well as the UNC-system Budget Request. She noted that, for the most part, Governor Hunt's budget had deferred non-recurring costs, pending the resolution of court-ordered and statutory nonrecurring liabilities of the State. Please refer to the attached budget for detail. The last page includes a comparison of the UNC requests and the Governor's Recommendations. Below is a summary of key points of the budgets.

- **Recommended Salary Increase Funds.** 3% for all state employees plus 2% for faculty only to improve the competitiveness of the UNC system in retaining faculty (Labeled "Rewarding Teaching Excellence"). SPA employees would receive a .5% one-time bonus. While President Broad is pleased with Governor Hunt's proposal she recognizes that we are not in a position to catch up with our peer institutions. The original UNC request was for 6% plus an additional 1% for teaching excellence.
- **Recommended Expansion and Improvements.**
  - **Access.** Governor Hunt's recommendation includes funding for the UNC's regular term enrollment changes as well as funding for the PATHWAYS initiative, a collaborative effort to improve the College Going Rate of North Carolina students. Governor Hunt's recommendation does *not* include funding requests for:
    - Distance Education/Extension Enrollment Changes,
    - New Degree Programs,
    - Transition of ECU to Doctoral II Status, or
    - Additional Need-based Student Financial Aid.
  - **Productivity and Efficiency.** The one non-recurring UNC budget requests that the Governor recommends is the Strategic Initiatives Reserve. Governor Hunt's recommendation does *not* include funding requests for:
    - Information Technology,
    - Improvements at Smaller Universities for Operating Efficiencies, or
    - UNC-General Administration Organizational Changes.
  - **Competitiveness.** Noted earlier in the Recommended Salary Increase Funds section. Governor Hunt's recommendation does *not* include funding requests for:
    - Distinguished Professors Endowment Trust Funds,
    - Professional Development/Teaching and Learning Centers,
    - Graduate Assistants Tuition Remissions, or
    - Libraries.
  - **Collaborative University/Schools Program.** Recognizing a need to address the projected need of another 80,000 teachers in the coming decade, Governor Hunt has proposed funding to support collaborative efforts between the university and schools. However, the funding is only approximately one-third of the original UNC-system request.
  - **Public Service and University Outreach.** Only approximately 6% of UNC's requested public service/university outreach budget has been recommended for funding by Governor Hunt. No funding recommendation was included for Area Health Education Centers as requested by UNC.
  - **Other Expansions and Improvements Not Included in the UNC Request.** Governor Hunt's has recommended aid to students attending NC private colleges and universities as well as a Center for Alcohol Studies Endowment Fund.
- **Recommended Tuition Increase.** *The amount of the tuition increase reverts back to the state.*



- **Recommended Reductions.** Governor Hunt has recommended a 0.5% decrease in operating budgets for the 16 campuses and UNC General Administration.

**Reserve for Salary Reduction -- Positions Vacated by Retirees.** The Governor's budget recommendation includes a reduction in salary of departments by 30% of the salaries of the positions vacated due to retirement during the 1999-2000 fiscal year. This recommendation excludes public school teachers, employees whose salaries are set by statute, and teaching faculty at the University and Community Colleges.

**Other Notes:**

- **Executive Committee.**
  - **Possibility of hiring freeze** to deal with budget problems. On whom and on what duration we don't know.
  - **Committee Nominations.** Development Committee Chair nominations -- *Allan Rosenburg* has been nominated as chair. Elections will occur at the next Faculty Assembly meeting.
- Faculty Welfare Committee. Asks President Broad to seek legislative action
- **Resolution Concerning the Academic Calendar.** The UNC Association of Student Governments has passed a resolution requesting that President Molly Broad and the Board of Governors reduce the number of class days from the current 75 days to 72 days per semester, with Reading Days allowed to count as class days. They noted that the national average is 70 days per semester. The UNC Faculty Assembly passed a resolution in support.