

**Resolution on Capital Funding and Faculty Salaries
for consideration by the Faculty Senate**

WHEREAS low-cost education in North Carolina has proven to be an engine of progress, and

WHEREAS Article IX. Section 9 of the North Carolina Constitution states "The General Assembly shall provide that the benefits of The University of North Carolina and other public institutions of higher education, as far as practicable, be extended to the people of the State free of expense.", and

WHEREAS the University of North Carolina's share of the overall State budget has shown a decline from 17.4% in the mid 1980's to 13.3% for 1999-2000, and

WHEREAS the UNC General Administration has identified over 6 billion dollars of needed capital improvements in the University system, and a General Administration study of faculty salaries indicates that average faculty salaries of the UNC system are not competitive with peer institutions, and

WHEREAS the University of North Carolina expects an enrollment increase of 40,000 students during the next decade with an anticipated increase of 12% for ECU by 2003; applications at some institutions are already up 10-20% over those received by this time last for the Fall of 1999, and

WHEREAS tuition increases may deprive some qualified students access to higher education; East Carolina University serves an economically deprived region of the State where many citizens are in the poor or lower-middle income brackets, and

WHEREAS we should be encouraging more North Carolina students to seek higher education, not fewer — our economy today demands more education beyond high school,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we the Faculty Senate of East Carolina University

- Urge our representatives in the General Assembly to exercise their constitutional responsibility to support the University system by allocating funds for capital improvements, and sufficient faculty salary increases to make the constituent members of the UNC system competitive with peer institutions in other states, and
- Urge President Broad to support the tuition increases for faculty salary increases and increased need-based student financial aid for ECU, UNC-Wilmington, and UNC-Charlotte in the same manner she has supported those tuition increases for UNC-Chapel Hill and NC State University, and
- Urge the University to implement and monitor safeguards to ensure that tuition increases don't have the effect of denying access to higher education for those qualified North Carolina students whose family incomes are in the poor or lower-middle income brackets.