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# The University of North Carolina

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UNC FACULTY ASSEMBLY

[unconfacultyassembly.northcarolina.edu](http://unconfacultyassembly.northcarolina.edu)

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North Carolina School of the Arts

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University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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Winston-Salem State University

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## MEMORANDUM

DATE: July 17, 2007

TO: UNC Faculty Senate Chairs

FROM: Brenda L. Killingsworth, *Brenda Killingsworth*  
Faculty Assembly Chair

REF: University of North Carolina Tomorrow: *Leading, Connecting, Transforming*  
**Request for Faculty Perspectives**

Dear Faculty Senate Chairs:

Hope you are enjoying your summer break. With our summertime activities and vacations ongoing, the work of the UNC Tomorrow Commission is ongoing so I want to keep you apprised of the developments to date. Here are a few items for your information, use, and action:

1. The Commission has completed its campus visit schedule. The Commission's first campus visit was held on April 19, 2007 at UNC Charlotte. Other visits in April included NCSSM, NCCU and FSU. In May these campuses were visited: ASU, WCU, NCA&T, UNCG, ECU, ECSU, UNCP, UNCW, NCSA, WSSU, NCSU and UNCCH. The Commission completed its site visit schedule on June 6 at UNCA.

The meetings were attended by President Bowles, Chairman Phillips, UNC Administrators, and several UNC Tomorrow Commissions, including myself. As the Executive Director, Norma Mills Houston, noted in her letter to you dated May 17, you and your colleagues are encouraged to participate in the initiative. A number of you were able to attend your campus meetings and some of you have shared your thoughts with me already. Please continue to share with me your thoughts and to stay apprised of the UNC Tomorrow developments by visiting the Commission's website (<http://www.nctomorrow.org>). It includes timelines, schedules, reports, blogs (which are going *live* today!), opportunity to subscribe to the mailing list, and other resources.

2. Attached are General Discussion Questions that the campus was asked to provide feedback. (*see attached*). If you did not get the chance to attend your campus visit, have not yet shared your perspective with me, and/or would like to share additional comments with the UNC Tomorrow Commission, please send me your comments **by Friday, July 27** (preferably mapped to the questions provided in the attached document so that it will be easier for us to compile. Of course, you don't need to comment on all of the questions, just the ones you

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believe are most pertinent to your faculty). We welcome your written comments and suggestions on a continual basis, but especially prior to the campus reports being completed. Please send your comments to both Sue Carpenter ([sac@northcarolina.edu](mailto:sac@northcarolina.edu)) and me ([killingsworthb@ecu.edu](mailto:killingsworthb@ecu.edu)). We expect the campus reports to be completed by early to mid-August. These reports will be posted on the UNC Tomorrow Commission website.

3. The Regional Listening Forum schedule is slated to begin in September, 2007. This forum is designed to gain input from the public, rather than from the university community. We want to have a broad cross-section of participants from your community attending your regional forum. Please feel free to share with us any persons or groups of persons you believe should be invited to participate in these forums. As with your comments based on the questions cited in point 2 above, please forward your suggestions to both Sue and me.

We need your knowledge, expertise and commitment to make this initiative successful. Please keep your faculty apprised of the activities and findings of the Commission. And please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions pertaining to the foregoing. Thank you.

*Enclosures*

cc: Harold L. Martin  
Norma Houston

BK/sc

## University of North Carolina Tomorrow Campus Visits Questions for Discussion

During the planning phase of the UNC Tomorrow initiative, President Bowles, BOG Chairman Phillips (schedule permitting) and members of the UNC Tomorrow staff will visit each campus to fully discuss the goals, process, and outcomes of the initiative with Chancellors, their leadership teams, elected faculty and student representatives, and other faculty, staff, and campus members whom the Chancellors believe valuable to involve in these conversations.

An important component of the UNC Tomorrow initiative will be identifying those ways in which campuses are *already* responding to the needs of their region and our state as a whole. Part of this process will involve compiling information on *what* campuses are already doing; another part is identifying *how* campuses currently determine those needs.

To begin the process of determining those ways in which campuses are already responding to regional and statewide challenges, the UNC Tomorrow campus visit will include a discussion of *what* campuses are doing currently to respond to regional and statewide challenges, *how* each campus currently identifies those challenges to which it responds, and any barriers that may exist which inhibit the campuses' responsiveness to present and future challenges. Listed below are some general questions intended to frame this discussion:

### *What regional and statewide challenges are campuses currently responding to?*

1. What programs and curricula do you have that respond to specific needs?
2. How are those programs and curricula delivered?
3. What research and scholarship activities are employed to address specific needs?
4. How are research and scholarship activities applied to address specific needs?
5. What types of public service programs and activities currently exist, and what needs are they intended to address?
6. How are those public service programs and activities organized and applied within the sectors or communities they are intended to benefit?
7. How do you currently track and collect information about your campus' efforts in these areas? To what use do you put this information?

*How do campuses currently identify regional and statewide challenges?*

1. How do you currently identify needs of your region/the state that you are in a position to meet? (i.e., advisory committees, surveys, public forums, trustee input, research, etc.)
2. How and to what degree are identified needs prioritized within your academic and program planning processes?
3. How do you incorporate external input/communications into your internal planning processes?
4. To what extent do you conduct "proactive" research to identify long-range trends in anticipation of future needs that you can meet?
5. What barriers/disincentives do you see that prevent your campus from being more proactive in identifying and meeting needs (not just being reactive, but being proactive)?
6. Who do you view as your "stakeholders"? Your "region"?
7. How do you communicate with your external stakeholders about resources available to them within your campus? What processes/portals are available on campus for external stakeholders to utilize in accessing internal resources?
8. How do you assess your "impact" on your region/the state as a whole? How do you categorize it and quantify it? How do you communicate it?

*General questions:*

1. What are you currently doing to encourage creativity, interdisciplinary collaboration, and innovation on your campuses?
2. Are there barriers to your achieving greater success in these areas that you would like to see addressed?
3. How do you approach teaching or developing "soft skills" among your students (such as critical and creative thinking, communications, complex problem solving, innovation, teamwork and collaboration, leadership, etc.)?
4. How do you determine the skills students need to be successful in today's economic and social environment; what skills have you identified; and what programs / curricula do you have in place to foster development of those skills?
5. What is your current enrollment growth potential, both on-campus and off (i.e., distance learning, etc.)? What limitations do you face in your growth potential?

6. What methods of delivery of programs and curricula are you considering in anticipation of significant increases in enrollment growth projections?

As indicate above, these questions are intended to frame the discussion, but by no means to limit it. Campuses are encouraged to use these questions as a general template for the campus visit discussion, and to bring to the table additional information that you believe will be informative on this topic.