

of engineering in regional development plans in the Triad area.

The consultants also considered the issue of enrollment projections for the planning period. They noted that, while there are wide differences in the figures submitted by the sixteen institutions, collectively they amount to a 21.1% increase over the ten-year period. When examined against the demographic projections provided by the Office of State Budget and Management, as well as the demographic and enrollment experience in the past decade, they concluded that this estimate, in aggregate, is reasonable.

During their deliberations, the consultants observed several precepts which they considered good public policy for The University and the State of North Carolina. These precepts are commended to the President and the Board of Governors as they carry out their decision-making responsibilities.

1. Institutional Diversity has always characterized American higher education, and it should continue to do so. Not all universities are alike, nor should they be. Neither the demands of the labor market, the needs of society, nor the funding capacity of the taxpayers require or permit such a result.
2. Access to higher education at both the undergraduate and masters level is especially important. This involves working with the K-12 and Community College systems to better prepare students for the undergraduate program. On another front, such a policy for North Carolina calls for the expansion of masters degree capabilities in the comprehensive universities or for expansion of The University's graduate centers.
3. Quality is the critical ingredient in all effective education. It should not be diluted by over-expansion when funds, equipment, or facilities are inadequate to the task.
4. Good Management is essential, particularly in the application of priorities, and thus in the judicious use of resources. Changes in curricula and research will always be essential to keep up-to-date, but the counterpart of change is the elimination of out-dated or lower priority programs.
5. Inter-Institutional Cooperation is important now and will be increasingly so in the future, particularly at the doctoral level. Mounting high quality doctoral programs is so expensive that expansion of that capability is difficult to justify when the demand for doctoral graduates can largely be met by existent programs.