APPENDIX I

**Request for Authorization to Establish a Bachelor of Science Degree in
Information Technology at UNC-Pembroke**

Introduction

UNC-Pembroke notified UNC-GA of its intent to plan a BS in Information Technology degree (CIP 11.0103) in March 2006. UNC-Pembroke requests authorization to establish the degree in August 2007.

Program Description

The proposed program will provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary for them to: explain and apply appropriate information technologies and methodologies to help an organization achieve its goals and objectives; manage the information technology resources of an organization; anticipate the changing direction of information technology and evaluate and communicate the likely utility of new technologies; and understand and contribute to the scientific, mathematical and theoretical foundations on which information technologies are built. The program will incorporate some existing Computer Science and Mathematics courses as well as develop new Information Technology courses. In contrast to some programs that are more theoretical, the program will emphasize practical hands-on training that will prepare them to enter the information technology workforce.

Program Need

The development of this degree is timely with regard to the shortfall of trained professionals in information technology in the region and state-wide. The proposed degree is viewed as a means to enhance economic development in the region and State. Recent graduates have indicated a need for additional, more specific training to qualify for better jobs, and the program will provide the additional knowledge and skills necessary to make graduates more competitive. It is anticipated that the program will enroll 20 to 28 students by its fourth year.

Resources

Most courses will be taught by the existing Computer Science faculty although one additional tenure-track member will be hired with enrollment funds. The Oxendine Science Building has been recently renovated and expanded with increased lecture, laboratory, and office space. Current technology available is entirely adequate and grant funding will be sought for future equipment needs.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the UNC-Pembroke request to establish a BS in Information Technology degree (CIP 11.0103) in August 2007.