

APPENDIX C

Management Flexibility – Increase in Purchasing Benchmark for the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Western Carolina University

The guidelines for Special Responsibility Constituent Institutions (SRCI) authorize the Board of Governors to set separate purchasing benchmarks for each SRCI at levels up to \$500,000. Essentially, each institution may secure goods and services for amounts not exceeding the established benchmark using institutional procedures rather than routing bids through the Division of Purchase and Contract in Raleigh.

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro and Western Carolina University have conducted self-assessments of their purchasing capabilities and, as a result of their assessments, request an increase in their respective benchmarks. The University of North Carolina at Greensboro requests an increase in its purchasing benchmark to \$500,000 from \$150,000. Western Carolina University requests an increase in its purchasing benchmark to \$250,000 from \$100,000. In accordance with the Board's guidelines, the Vice President- Finance has consulted with the Director of Purchase and Contract and the State Budget Officer to determine that these benchmarks are appropriate for each of these institutions.

It is recommended that the purchasing benchmark for the University of North Carolina at Greensboro be set at \$500,000 and the purchasing benchmark for Western Carolina University be set at \$250,000, effective April 1, 2004.