

## APPENDIX X

### Management Flexibility – Increase in Purchasing Benchmarks for East Carolina University, North Carolina State University, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke

As a result of action by the General Assembly in 2003, the Board of Governors approved a change in the guidelines for Special Responsibility Constituent Institutions (SRCI) authorizing purchasing benchmarks for each SRCI at levels up to \$500,000 as set by the Board. 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.

East Carolina University, North Carolina State University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill have conducted a self-assessment of purchasing capabilities and, as a result of their assessments, request an increase in their respective benchmarks to \$500,000 from \$250,000. The University of North Carolina at Pembroke has also conducted a self-assessment of purchasing capabilities and requests an increase in its benchmark to \$150,000 from \$35,000. In accordance with the Board's guidelines, the Vice President for Finance has consulted with the Director of Purchase and Contract and the Director of the Budget to determine an appropriate benchmark for each of these institutions.

It is recommended that the purchasing benchmark for East Carolina University, North Carolina State University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill be set at \$500,000 for each campus, effective December 1, 2003. It is further recommended that the purchasing benchmark for the University of North Carolina at Pembroke be set at \$150,000, also effective December 1, 2003.