

## APPENDIX J

### Request for Authorization to Establish a Master of School Administration Degree at North Carolina Central University

#### Introduction

North Carolina Central University notified the UNC Office of the President of its intent to plan a Master of School Administration degree (CIP# 13.0405) on March 25, 2002. The university requests authorization to establish the program in June 2002.

#### Program Description

The proposed Master of School Administration program will be conducted within the framework of the *School Leaders Licensure Standards*, developed under the auspices of the Council of Chief State School Officers. The program of studies has been designed to emphasize active learning based on real problems that principals encounter as they work to transform schools. Member school districts of the NCCU-School Teacher Education Partnership will recommend and sponsor prospective school leaders to the program, and educators from other school districts may apply. Students will complete a year-long internship, submit a professional portfolio for evaluation, and pass a comprehensive exam that includes performance measures comparable to the licensing examination required by North Carolina.

#### Program Need

North Carolina faces a shortage of school administrators due to the state's growing school enrollments that necessitate more schools and the imminent retirement of a large number of current administrators. The shortage is exacerbated by more stringent licensing standards and a reduced number of institutions authorized to offer school administration training programs. The result is a shrinking reserve pool of licensed administrators, fewer graduates of North Carolina training programs, and increasing numbers of out-of-state trained administrators being hired. Another significant consequence is the declining number of minority school administrator graduates. In 1989-1990, principal/assistant principal certificates were issued to 180 minority graduates compared to only 72 receiving such certificates in 1999-2000. During the same 10-year period, minority public school enrollment rose to 37 percent of the total, reinforcing the need for school leaders trained to understand diverse cultural experiences and achieve success for culturally diverse students. NCCU anticipates enrollment of 140 part-time students by the fourth year of the program.

#### Resources

The NCCU School of Education moved into a new "technology ready" building in August 2000. Current faculty are adequate to begin the program, and school restructuring has freed a faculty position to lead the program. Additional funding will come from internal reallocations and enrollment growth funding.

#### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the request to establish a Master of School Administration degree at North Carolina Central University effective June 1, 2002.