



The University of North Carolina

Summary of 2012-13 Legislative Policy Items

Eliminate unnecessary or duplicative reporting requirements.

The University submits more than 50 reports on a monthly, quarterly, annual, or bi-annual basis to the General Assembly and various state agencies. We propose elimination of the reports that are outdated and no longer needed.

Increase Board of Governors' authority relative to the disposition of property for a period of not more than 10 years.

Currently, the University has authority for the acquisition by lease of real estate for a term of 10 years or less. Campuses request authority for the disposition of real estate by lease under the same parameters. The Board of Governors can enter in to dispositions by lease for Centennial and Millennial campuses for a period of 10 years or less without going through the State Property Office. However, the leases still must go to the Governor and Council of State for final approval. Broadening the scope of the existing authority to mirror the authority the University already has for acquisitions by lease would enable campuses to be responsive to corporations, research and government entities interested in locating in leased space on campuses.

Authorize UNC campuses to administer all student fees in Institutional Trust Fund accounts.

Revenues from fees are used exclusively to carry out the function for which the fees are charged. Currently some fees are permitted to be deposited and administered in Institutional Trust Fund accounts while others are in the General Fund. The University proposes that all student fees be deposited in Institutional Trust Fund accounts to improve planning and promote sound business practices.

Consolidate the employment authority for all University faculty and staff under the UNC Board of Governors.

UNC currently employs approximately 47,000 individuals whose personnel policies and procedures are developed and managed by two separate systems with differing rules and regulations. One group is managed and directed by the Office of State Personnel (for positions subject to the State Personnel Act) and the other group (for faculty and other positions exempt from the Act) is under the authority of the UNC Board of Governors. This legislative proposal would enable the development of a single consolidated personnel system for UNC, administered by the Board of Governors. The General Assembly has previously enacted similar successful personnel consolidation measures for the Community College System, the UNC Healthcare System, the General Assembly, ECU Clinical Support Services, and other entities.

Restore management flexibility needed to manage budget reductions and to retain and recruit university employees.

Allow for salary flexibility within the University's delegated budget management authority to recruit and retain university employees.

Authorize participation in the Optional Retirement Program by all University employees.

Most university employees only have one option to invest for their retirement, the defined benefit pension plan known as the Teachers' and State Employees' Retirement System. In 1972, the university created the Optional Retirement Program (ORP), a defined contribution, to give faculty and administrators the option to participate in a retirement program with portability and self-directed investment features. We propose to give all university employees access to the ORP to provide more flexible options to save for retirement.

Authorize UNC to purchase fiduciary liability insurance for the management of the Optional Retirement Program and the UNC 403(b) Plan.

Since the creation of the ORP and 403(b) Plan, assets have grown to \$4B. UNC General Administration is responsible for managing the portfolio of investment and prudent management requires coverage for fiduciary liability.

Authorize the extension of existing professional liability insurance to include claims against health care providers in their official capacity as University employees.

Authorize the extension of existing professional liability insurance to include claims against health care providers in their official capacity as University employees, including health care employees in Student Health Centers.

Authorize ECU to retain rental receipts from health care service providers co-located in campus facilities to improve patient access to health care.

In order to improve patients' access to high quality care, and thus improve patient outcomes and patient satisfaction, ECU periodically enters into joint health care ventures with external health care providers. The best practice model is for these external providers to co-locate on campus and make rental payments for the use of facilities at ECU. Allowing the university to retain lease payments on joint ventures with health care service providers offers an indirect opportunity to support the needs of the Brody School of Medicine and the medical needs of indigent patients in the east.

Provide flexibility to establish campus-wide smoking policies.

Community College and public schools have the authority to prohibit smoking on their campuses. Current authority for the university limits smoking prohibitions to within 100 feet of buildings. Granting the university the same authority as other educational institutions will enable campuses to establish campus-wide smoking policies to better manage the risk of fire, litter and promote health.