

October 20, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: Chancellors

FROM: James B. Milliken

RE: Request for Information for BOG 2004 Federal Agenda

While the Federal FY04 appropriations process is far from complete, we need to begin developing the Board of Governors 2004 Federal Agenda. Toward this end, the Office of the President is seeking from the campuses their federal priorities for the coming year. We hope to identify and develop strategies around those issues/programs/projects at the federal level that are fundamental to the mission of the university and its constituent institutions. I would ask that you submit this information to my office no later than Monday, December 1, 2003.

Similar to our request last year, the information provided by the campuses will serve as the basis for the Board of Governors' 2004 Federal Agenda and continued interaction between the University's federal relations staff and the constituent campuses and affiliate organizations on the priority topics listed by each organization.

Through communications with the Federal Relations Council and at meetings of the Chief Academic Officers, Chief Research Officers and Sponsored Programs and Research Council, Bob Samors, Associate Vice President for Federal Relations, and I are discussing the importance of campus participation in this process and outlining the type of information we are seeking. I also want to communicate directly with you to encourage you and your campus to begin thinking about these issues as soon as possible.

In keeping with the strategy we have used in the past, we hope that the BOG federal agenda will continue to complement many of the priority areas articulated in the 2003-2005 Biennial Budget Request considered this year by the General Assembly, and include such areas as biotechnology/genomics, marine and environment sciences, information technologies, teacher preparation, and economic development. Further, we strongly recommend that you give strong consideration to how your campus agenda intersects with priorities articulated by the Bush Administration and Congress (e.g.,

combating terrorism; science, mathematics, and engineering education; nanotechnology; high-end computing; environmental assessment and prediction; climate change; and molecular understanding of life processes). We anticipate that a portion of the Board's federal agenda will reflect the role that the University can play in homeland security, reauthorization of the Higher Education Act, and the continuing effort to improve K-12 education. Each individual priority topic should be submitted to my office on the attached form.

I'm sure it goes without saying that in order to ensure that the University's efforts in Washington are as successful as possible, we expect that each campus and affiliate response to the Office of the President will include any priorities that you plan to discuss with members of the North Carolina delegation.

The following is a brief summary of the anticipated steps involved in developing the BOG agenda and the essential role that each campus plays in that effort. Also attached is a copy of the 2002 UNC federal agenda, and a compilation of the individual priority issues identified by the campuses and affiliates last year, to provide you with some additional context for this request.

The steps we envision that this process will include are:

- Identification by each campus of three to five academic or research areas of consequence to the institution in which federal policies, programs and/or projects are critical. For the University's priorities to have the greatest chance of success, we hope to focus the agenda in areas identified as having high priority to the state and nation, as well as initiatives that involve multiple institutions.

The specific fields should fall under the overall priority areas identified by the Board of Governors: Access, Intellectual Capital Formation, K-16 Education, Creation and Transfer of Knowledge, Internationalization, and Transformation and Change (which again could include such topics as biotechnology/genomics, information sciences and technologies, health sciences, K-12 education, environment and marine sciences, terrorism/bioterrorism and homeland security, among others.) (*Campus responses received by Office of University Affairs by December 1, 2003*).

- Grouping campus priorities into appropriate categories or topic areas and developing clear and succinct messages to convey to Capitol Hill, the federal agencies and Washington based higher education advocacy organizations: (*Office of University Affairs, December 2003*).
- Presentation of these priorities to the Public Affairs Committee of the Board of Governors and Board (*Public Affairs Committee presentation January 2004; Board of Governors consideration, February 2004*).

Further, we anticipate that the agenda that we will ultimately advance will encompass a variety of different approaches, including:

- Supporting federal department, agency or program funding that is vital to University goals;
- Supporting inter-institutional initiatives that are crucial to the educational and/or research mission of the university and are in areas of importance to the state and nation;
- Highlighting specific campus initiatives that are targeted at areas of strategic importance to the university, state and nation; and
- Focusing on specific rules or regulations that could help or hinder the University in accomplishing specific high priority objectives;

In addition, all of the information submitted by each campus will serve as the foundation for continuing interaction with the UNC federal relations office throughout the coming year, even if a campus priority does not emerge as a university-wide priority.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. Please do not hesitate to contact Bob Samors or me if you have any questions.

#### Attachments

cc: President's Cabinet  
Affiliate Directors  
Federal Relations Council