The University of North Carolina
Federal Policy & Programmatic Funding Priorities
Fiscal Year 2009

As approved by Public Affairs Subcommittee on Federal Affairs on December 10, 2007

The Board of Governors is grateful to the North Carolina Congressional Delegation for its consistent support for the over 200,000 students that attend the University of North Carolina. This document, developed in collaboration with the Chancellors and their staff, outlines the University's collective Federal policy and funding priorities for Fiscal Year 2009.

	Priority	Actionable Items
1	**Increase Funding for Student Financial Aid, Campus-Based Aid & Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs**	**Department of Education: Student Financial Aid** Increase Pell Grant Maximum Award per Student **Department of Education: Campus-Based Aid** Federal Perkins Loans, Federal Work-Study, Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants (SEOG), TRIO & GEAR UP, Leveraging Educational Assistance Partnership (LEAP), Javits Fellowships, Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need (GAANN) **Department of Education: International Education and Foreign Language Studies Programs** Domestic, Overseas, and Institute for International Public Policy **Department of State: Educational and Cultural Exchange Programs** The Fulbright Program, Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship Program, Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act
2	**Higher Education Act Reauthorization** Status: Under Extension.	General Administration staff and the Federal Relations Council will work with the North Carolina Congressional Delegation to develop provisions favorable to the University of North Carolina in the HEA reauthorization. UNC initiated programs: Simplified FAFSA, Data Pilot Program, Campus Safety Refinements & FSU in graduate Title III list.
3	**More and Better Teachers** **Critical Agencies & Programs for UNC:** ED: Office of Innovation and Improvement ED: Institute of Education Sciences ED: Teacher Incentive Fund National Science Foundation (NSF)	**Provisions in No Child Left Behind (NCLB) should:** 1. Support NCLB Title II which encourages university-school partnerships that focus on teacher and school leader professional development, new teacher support, and teacher retention; 2. Support provisions that recognize and support the vital role played by schools of education in the recruitment, preparation and retention of teachers; develop appropriate measures of the success of those programs, emphasize teaching and teacher quality and strengthen support for recruiting and retaining teachers especially in high need licensure areas (mathematics, science, middle grades, and special education) and high need schools; 3. Support legislative initiatives to create or expand loan forgiveness and/or tuition reimbursement programs for undergraduate, graduate, and career change programs that are designed to increase the supply of teachers, particularly in mathematics and science; 4. Expand the Transition to Teaching program with increased funding for campus-based programs; 5. Support the development and utilization of longitudinal data systems to facilitate data driven decision making that will enable improved articulation, accountability, teacher quality, leadership development, student performance research and decision making. 6. Support language that authorizes Yale Teacher Professional Development Institutes. 7. Retain the Arts in the definition of core academic subjects of learning and reauthorize the Arts in Education Programs of the U.S. Department of Education.

4	**Economic development outreach grant awards & centers** **Critical Programs for UNC:** DoC: Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) USDA: Cooperative Extension USDA: Economic Dev. Admin. USDA: CSREES SBA: SBIR SBA: SBTT SBA: SBTDC	**National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility:** Support the North Carolina collaborative effort to host a Department of Homeland Security/Department of Agriculture/Department of Health and human Services facility for threat characterization, forensics, and detection to defend both animal and public health. **South East Crescent Authority:** Support legislation to create a federal regional authority to make grants for projects in the southeast crescent region. The South East Crescent Authority region shall include all parts of the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida that are not eligible for assistance from the Appalachian Regional Commission or the Delta Regional Authority. **Lumbee Recognition Act:** Support efforts to Federally recognize the Lumbee Indian Tribe. Such recognition will allow UNC-Pembroke to qualify for additional funds only available to universities with federally-recognized tribal populations.
5	**Increase Federal support for university-based research** **Critical Agencies for UNC:** National Institutes of Health (NIH): National Science Foundation (NSF) Department of Education (ED) Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS): *HBCU Grant Program* Department of Defense (DoD) Nat'l Astronomical and Science Administration (NASA): *Space Grant* Nat'l Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA): *Sea Grant* Department of Energy Office of Science (DoE) Department of Agriculture (AG) Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	**Competitiveness Agenda:** Continue to support President Bush's call to action for more aggressive investment by businesses in research and development, double the Federal support for vital basic research over ten years, and improve math and science education for America's students. **NIH Funding:** Support a minimum increase of 5 percent annually for the National Institutes of Health and the continued funding of programs that support research infrastructure at HBCUs. **Superlattice Funding:** Work to include Superlattice Project funding in the President's annual budget request for the Department of Defense Microelectronics Activity. **Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) at NOAA:** Work collaboratively to fund the Southeast United States Regional Association in IOOS through the President's annual budget request for NOAA in addition to the annual appropriations process. **National Undersea Research Program (NURP):** Support the continued funding of the NURP program at NOAA, which enables UNCW to operate the southeast regional center, Aquarius. **Aquaculture Research and Development:** Support increased funding for the NOAA aquaculture program, thereby enabling research dedicated to stock enhancement. Further, support Congress' call to action for the NOAA National Sea Grant Program to expand and enhance its seafood technology capabilities. **Southeast Regional Climate Center:** Support inclusion of a specific line item for the National Regional Climate Centers in the President's annual budget request for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. **Alternative Energy Research and Development:** Increase university-based research for alternative energy research and development including biobased fuels at DoE and at the USDA. **National Children's Study:** Support the continued funding of the National Children's Study at the NIH that sustains the UNC-CH led Vanguard Centers in Duplin and Rockingham counties. **NSF Funded Research at Minority Serving Institutions:** Support increased funding for NSF programs which seek to build productive capacity and output within institutions with significant enrollments of minority populations underrepresented within science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM): Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP), Alliances for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP), Centers for Research Excellence in Science and Technology (CREST), and Historically Black Colleges and Universities Undergraduate Program (HBCU-UP). **Minority Health Research: (NCCU, NCA&T, WSSU, FSU, ECSU, UNC-CH, UNCG)** Support the continued funding of research and training programs at the NIH to improve the public health of minority populations, particularly through the BBRI program at NCCU, the Center for Health Disparities in Underserved Populations at NCA&T, the Center in Innovation in Health Disparities at WSSU, the Research Center for Health Disparities at FSU, the Minority International Research Training Program at ECSU, the TRIAD Project for Health Disparities at UNCG, and the Minority Health Project at UNC-CH.

		Bayh-Dole: Support a legislative change to the Bayh-Dole reauthorization bill that enables universities to take an equity position versus receiving revenue from licensing agreements. **Educational Research**: Support continued funding of the National Research Center for Rural Education for Rural Education Support (NRCRED) that addresses improved teaching and learning and student achievement in rural school nationwide. Also support and strengthen NIH (NICHD) and Department of Education (IES, OPEPD) programs in educational research, evaluation, and policy, especially in: high-need areas – literacy, math, science, and special education; teacher quality; and teacher education programs. **UNC Photonics Consortium Initiative:** Support optics and photonics research by DOD and NSF that will strengthen the ongoing effort to commercialize optics and photonics technologies in North Carolina. **Stem Cell Legislation:** Support legislation to expand federal funding for stem cell research and to establish additional stem cell lines. **Increase Funding for Fundamental Space Biology and Physical Sciences for Human Support Research & Technology:** Work with OMB and Congress to increase funding for Fundamental Space Biology and Physical Sciences within the NASA budget.
6	**Improve access, quality and cost-effectiveness of health care for North Carolinians** **Critical Funding for UNC:** Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act Section 811, Advanced Education Nursing, Section 846A, the Nurse Faculty Loan Program Title VII, AHEC & Allied Health Funding, Minority Faculty Fellowship Program	**Medicare/Medicaid Physician Payments:** Support fair and adequate payment rates for physicians, and efforts to tie reimbursement rates to reasonable measures of quality over the entire health care sector. **Diagnosis Related Groups (DRG) Refinements:** Work to ensure that the severity case mix reimbursement is adequate for teaching hospitals as the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services moves from a charge-based methodology to a cost-based methodology. **Medicare and Medicaid Reform:** Work to protect the long-term solvency of Medicare and Medicaid through ongoing legislative reform efforts. **State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) Reauthorization:** Support the reauthorization and expansion of the SCHIP program. 123,000 North Carolina children are served by this program annually. **Pharmacist Recruitment:** Support legislation to recruit and retain pharmacists in underserved areas (e.g., loan repayment and scholarship programs) and to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide federal funds to pharmacy schools for technology upgrades and building expansions, renovations, and repairs. **Dentistry Recruitment:** Support legislation to increase dental Medicaid reimbursements and to recruit and to retain dentists in underserved areas (e.g., loan repayment programs).
7	**Information Technology** **Critical Programs for UNC:** Commerce: NTIA, Public Telecommunications Facilities Program (PTFP)	**Patent Legislation: S**upport the development of a patent system which provides substantive review of patent applications consistent with current knowledge of technological developments and the cautious application of intellectual property law to products so as not to deter innovation in production. **Net Neutrality:** Include language in the Telecommunications reauthorization legislation that prohibits anticompetitive discriminatory behavior, permits differential access pricing based on differential performance or quality of service and prohibits the imposition of new surcharges, separate from access charges, for transporting data over networks. **Copyright Legislation:** Oppose any new federal mandates that require specific technologies that restrict the downloading and redistribution of copyrighted material. Work to provide an understanding of methods to restrict access of copyrighted works to authorized faculty and students as required under the TEACH Act. **Copyright Infringement and the Value of P2P File Sharing:** Support the development of innovative peer-2-peer systems in support of research and education. The university supports the requirements of the law and will protect its network resources through measures including policy, education, and network management. **Open Access to Research:** Support legislation or regulatory action that mandates public access to taxpayer-funded research at the NIH and other federal agencies.
8	**Public Service and Engagement** **Critical Agencies for UNC:** Department of Defense (DoD) Department of State (State)	**The Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation Act of 2007:** Work to enact the Simon bill in order to increase participation in quality study abroad programs, encourage diversity in student participation in study abroad and internationalize U.S. higher education by making study abroad a cornerstone of undergraduate education. **Environmental Finance Center:** Restore supporting language in the annual EPA Appropriations report, and include $5 million in funding for the Environmental Finance

	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Department of Agriculture (USDA) Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) ED: Ready to Learn Television National Endowments for the Arts and the Humanities (NEA & NEH)	Center Network program at the Environmental Protection Agency. **Citizen Solider Support Center**: Support inclusion of a specific line item for North Carolina's Citizen-Soldier Support Program in the President's annual budget request for the Department of Defense. **Centers for Public Health Preparedness:** Restore funding for the Centers for Public Health Preparedness program in the President's annual budget request for the Centers of Disease Control.
9	**Immigration Reform**	**Provisions in Immigration Reform Legislation should:** • Allow for a new visa category for graduate students pursuing academic disciplines related to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) and who choose to stay in the United States to work in a related field. • Maintain the dual intent provision for H-1B visa applicants. • Maintain access to the H-1B program for foreign medical residents and fellows. • Ensure that negative, unintended consequences are avoided in any changes to the green card system. • Allow H-1B dependent employer provisions to apply to all employers.
10	**Tax Issues**	**Mandatory Endowment Payout:** Oppose any federal mandate that requires universities to "payout" a percentage of their endowments. **Extend the IRA Charitable Rollover:** Make the IRA rollover permanent, remove the current $100,000 annual limit on donations, make all charities eligible to receive donations, and provide IRA owners with a planned giving option starting at age 59½. **Expand Hope and Lifetime Learning Credit:** Make the Hope and Lifetime Learning tax credits refundable and expand the eligible expenses they cover to include fees such as room, board, and books. **Charitable Deductions for Non-Itemizers:** Support legislation that would allow all donors to deduct the full value of their charitable gifts and oppose the establishment of a floor below which charitable contributions would not be deductible. **Student Loan Interest Deduction:** Support legislation that repeals the limitations on the maximum allowable deduction of interest paid on qualified student loans and increases the income levels that trigger the eligibility phase-out to between $100,000-$115,000 ($200,000-$230,000 for joint returns). Also exclude amounts received as part of a scholarship, fellowship or grant from taxable income if used for qualified higher education expenses for undergraduate and graduate students. **Tax-Exempt Status for Hospitals:** Work with Congress and the Hospital community to determine common definitions and reforms in such areas as community benefit, charitable care, charges to the uninsured and debt collection.
11	**Farm Bill Reauthorization** Status: Due for Authorization	**Protect and Preserve Cooperative Extension Program/Rural Development:** North Carolina has one of the strongest cooperative extension and rural development networks in the nation as a result of its rural economic roots and diverse agriculture and forestry production. **Preserve and enhance formula funds** (**Hatch, Smith-Lever and McIntire-Stennis**): North Carolina is the largest recipient of Hatch formula funding for USDA cooperative research and extension and receives the second-largest Smith-Lever formula allocation. **Support the proposed Create-21 Initiative:** Create21 would substantially increase the amount of competitively awarded research funds focused on agriculture, forestry and rural development. 20 percent of North Carolina's population is involved in agricultural and forestry sector of the economy. **Kannapolis ARS Authorization:** Authorize funding for the Kannapolis project in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Agricultural Research Service (ARS). **NBAF Authorization:** Support language to authorize the NBAF program and the ability for federal researchers to conduct hoof and mouth disease research on the U.S. mainland.