UNC Tomorrow Commission
Initial Areas of Focus

At its August 23, 2007 Commission meeting, the UNC Tomorrow Commission identified specific areas of focus to inform its future work in identifying the major issues facing North Carolina to which UNC should respond. These areas of focus were identified through break-out sessions centering around three major areas and developed with input from members of the UNC Tomorrow Scholars Council.

Higher Education, Energy & Environment, and Technology & Innovation

- Greater collaboration among campuses in energy conservation and research
- More incentives for faculty to engage in service to support K-12
- Ensuring that our campuses stay globally competitive
- Using universities to facilitate cooperative collaborations with K-12

Workforce & Economics

- Soft skills development at all degree levels and across disciplines
- Leadership for rural economic development
- Strengthen UNC's mission of economic development and engagement
- Strengthen UNC's role in K-12 education collaborations
- Aging population creates economic imperative for increasing educational attainment of minorities, especially Hispanics, males in general, and African American males in particular
- Rewards and incentives for "engaged" faculty

Health, K-12, Social Issues

- Shortages in quality, University trained professionals (ex. teachers, health care…)
- Mixture of STEM and soft skills training for all UNC graduates
- Innovative recruitment of teachers (pipeline and diversity barriers)
- Loss of diversity from the pipeline between K-12 and University enrollment
- Increased collaboration between UNC and K-12
- Preparation of engaged citizens/graduates
- Enhance the image of the University/"tell our story"