INTRODUCTION

The *Statistical Abstract of Higher Education in North Carolina, 2004-05* has been compiled to give a detailed statistical view of higher education in North Carolina. This abstract presents both past and current (2004-05 academic year) information. It is designed to provide legislators, educators, and other interested citizens of North Carolina with a statistical account of higher education in this State. From this abstract, the reader can gain some knowledge about who is being educated, where they are being educated, and the resources supporting their education.

The data reported herein were compiled from online forms from the individual institutions by the Strategy Development and Analysis Division of Office of the President of the University of North Carolina in the summer and fall of 2004 for processing during the 2004-2005 academic year. The forms are designed to satisfy both Federal and State data requests (see Appendix A).

The staff of the Strategy Development and Analysis Division makes every effort to verify the validity and reliability of the data reported by the institutions. The ultimate responsibility for the accuracy of the data, of course, lies with the individual institutions since they originate the reports on which this abstract is based. In certain instances discrepancies may appear to be present, when in reality the data reported may reflect different interpretations of definitions by respondents in different institutions. Wherever possible, these apparent discrepancies are explained by footnotes. For example, because of its unique student body, which consists of both college and high school students, data for North Carolina School of the Arts may not be directly comparable to other institutions in some tables in which they are presented. If a comparison or a trend study is conducted, please notice that East Coast Bible College was closed on August 31, 1999. Anson Community College changed its name to South Piedmont Community College in the fall of 1999. Beginning in 2000 and 2001, University of North Carolina and private institutions enrollment data combine both resident and extension credit respectively. Cabarrus College of Health Sciences has begun offering baccalaureate degrees and has been moved from the "Junior Colleges" category to the "Senior Colleges and Universities" category.