

APPENDIX AA

DATE: October 28, 2002

TO: Board of Governors Committee on Educational Planning, Policies and Programs

FROM: Gretchen M. Bataille

SUBJECT: Affirmation of Mission and Goals of the North Carolina Center for International Understanding (NCCIU)

This purpose of this memo is to request that the Board of Governors affirm the status of North Carolina Center for International Understanding (NCCIU) as an integral and important part of the University of North Carolina and approve its mission and goals.

Historical Perspective

Established at the University of North Carolina in 1979 by Governor James B. Hunt, Jr., the program was originally named The Friendship Force of North Carolina. It was affiliated with Friendship Force International, a project supported by former President Jimmy Carter. The director reported to the Vice President for Research and Public Service in UNC-General Administration. Its programs provided North Carolina citizens opportunities for short-term international homestay experiences throughout the world and brought international guests from many countries to North Carolina for individual homestay experiences. The program gradually expanded to 14 North Carolina cities and communities.

In 1988, the Board of Governors changed the organization's name to the North Carolina Center for International Understanding and its mission and programs were expanded, as described below.

Since its inception, NCCIU has sent over 7,200 North Carolinians to 46 countries and has received over 4,200 international citizens in North Carolina. In addition to its sending and receiving programs, the international school partnership program has developed and assisted Internet partnerships in 298 North Carolina classrooms, affecting over 9,000 students, with partnerships in 50 countries. NCCIU also conducts cross-cultural training programs. Over 350 North Carolinians have participated.

Mission

NCCIU provides international experiential education programs to address challenges facing policy leaders, K-12 educators, and citizens. Its mission is to prepare North Carolinians to live and work effectively with people of other cultures.

Global forces are shaping North Carolina's future as never before, and the world is essential to North Carolina's self interests. Through outcome-oriented international study programs, NCCIU empowers state and local policymakers and university and public school educators to respond to global challenges facing North Carolina, including rapidly changing demographics, school improvement, and bridging the achievement gap.

NCCIU accomplishes this educational mission in many ways:

International Exchanges. Three broad audiences participate in NCCIU's exchange programs each year: educators, policymakers, and citizens.

Educators. Educator programs target K-12 teachers and administrators and as well as educational and University policymakers and address some of North Carolina's pressing challenges such as changing demographics, a culturally diverse school population, improving science and math education, and school choice.

Policymakers. Policymaker programs provide resources and educational experiences to state and local leaders, university officials, and others in communities most impacted by changing demographics.

Citizens. Citizen exchanges are centered in seven North Carolina communities and educate adults about other cultures.

Internet partnership programs. This program links classroom teachers in North Carolina with teachers and classrooms throughout the world for project-based learning activities.

Cross-cultural training. With a focus on the Latino/Hispanic population, NCCIU has provided training for the Division of Motor Vehicles driver license examiners, police departments, and school systems and plans to take this program statewide.

University partnerships. Through its many partnerships and collaborations, NCCIU draws on the resources of UNC, including collaborative seminars and use of faculty as expert presenters at planning and follow-up workshops.

Relevance to Institutional Mission of UNC

NCCIU contributes to all three areas of the University mission: teaching, research, and public service.

Teaching. Teaching faculty from UNC schools are integral to pre-departure workshops, lecturing on history, culture, demographics, education, art, etc. Faculty also play a role in curricular design of programs abroad and are resources for international groups which come to North Carolina. NCCIU extends the faculty outreach beyond the student population to audiences of policymakers, educators, and citizens.

Research. NCCIU relies on UNC research for building its curricula and designing its programs. The Center also engages in research to meet specific program needs, including a community of origin study for new Latino immigrants and development of best practices abroad when designing programs. NCCIU hires UNC students for internships in conducting this research and for special projects.

Public Service. NCCIU extends the mission of the University beyond students, to the target audience of state and local policymakers (elected and appointed), educators, and citizens. Because NCCIU addresses challenges our state is facing through fact-finding study programs abroad, its programs play an important role in increasing the world view of North Carolinians and helping leaders develop far-reaching results for their classrooms, schools, and communities.

In particular, NCCIU collaborates with UNC faculty and programs in support of the strategic directions of the University:

K-16 Education. NCCIU has created innovative ways to provide high quality professional development opportunities to university officials, schoolteachers and leaders while providing an international perspective that links North Carolina to the world.

(A) School Improvement. Our schools must strive toward the highest international standards. NCCIU programs send educators abroad to study priority issues such as school choice, classroom diversity, math and science education, workforce preparation, North Carolina's connections to the world, and teacher mentoring.

(B) Closing the Achievement Gap. From federal guidelines for No Child Left Behind to recent North Carolina court cases, it is clear that schools must narrow the achievement gap. NCCIU designs and leads programs which give school systems the knowledge they need to develop action plans to improve performance of the rapidly growing Latino student population.

(C) Preparing Students to Compete in a Global Economy by Developing Cross-Cultural Awareness. Because all teachers and students cannot go abroad, NCCIU

utilizes the Internet for mutual learning between international and North Carolina students. Partners work together on projects drawn from the curriculum of each classroom.

In support of this strategic direction, NCCIU has worked with programs within the North Carolina Center for School Leadership Development, including partnering with the Principals' Executive Program to hold pre-departure workshops for all educator groups and with the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching to hold follow-up seminars for all educator groups.

Internationalization. NCCIU promotes an international perspective to policy leaders and citizens through its exchanges; in particular, its programs address the following areas defined within the Board's Internationalization strategic direction:

(A) Changing Demographics. North Carolina has the country's fastest-growing Latino population. NCCIU systematically educates state and local leaders about the driving forces behind immigration and its impact on our communities. County teams, including state legislators, mayors, county commissioners, law enforcement officers, health, business, university, and education leaders, build networks to respond to the challenges to government services and community relations. Participants implement new strategies and programs in education, legislation, policy, health, public safety, and community outreach issues.

(B) Global Perspectives. North Carolinians are increasingly affected by events throughout the world. Almost one in 10 North Carolinians are now foreign born. Citizen exchanges, NCCIU's oldest program, provide North Carolina with an infrastructure of knowledgeable citizens who are helping North Carolina make this transition peacefully.

In support of this strategic direction and to strengthen its programs, NCCIU has developed long-standing relationships within the University. NCCIU representatives sit on the University Council of International Programs (UCIP), composed of international representatives from all the constituent campuses. NCCIU provides internship experiences and practica for students in the UNC system and utilizes the expertise of professors throughout the University system to prepare participants for their experiences.

Programmatic examples of recent partnerships within the University system include:

- UNC Chapel Hill School of Journalism. Co-sponsor, Seminar on Understanding the Latino Community for Publishers, Editors, General Managers, News Directors, and Reporters.
- Consortia for Latin American Studies at UNC Chapel Hill and Duke University. Seminar co-sponsor and regular sharing of resources.
- Frank Porter Graham Center. Co-sponsor, North Carolina and Sweden: Best Practices in Early Childhood Development.
- University Center for International Studies. Co-sponsor, North Carolina Teach Asia Network.
- North Carolina School of Science and Math. Co-sponsor, Math/Science Study Program in the Netherlands.

In addition, NCCIU collaborates regularly with the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction, Public School Forum of North Carolina, many public school systems, and international partners throughout the world.

Administrative Structure

The director for NCCIU is appointed by the President upon the recommendation

of UNC's Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs. The director reports to the Associate Vice- President for Academic Affairs.

Advisory Council

An advisory council exists to support the work of NCCIU and to help raise funds for the organization. Three UNC representatives sit on NCCIU's advisory council ex-officio (a member of the Board of Governors, the Associate Vice-President for Academic Affairs, and the Vice President for University School Partnerships). A faculty member from the Kenan Institute for Private Enterprise currently serves as an appointed member of the Council.

Sources of Funding

NCCIU is funded through a combination of state funds, foundation funds, contracts, and grants. Granting agencies include Burroughs Wellcome Fund, William R. Kenan Charitable Trust, Sara Lee Branded Apparel, Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, and many local and community foundations.

Location

NCCIU is located at 412 N. Wilmington Street in Raleigh in an office belonging to the State of North Carolina.