Special Committee on Military Affairs October 23, 2014

This meeting was attended by, among others, Raiford Trask, Scott Lampe, Jim Holmes, Ann Maxwell, Dick Taylor, Tommy Harrelson, Hannah Gage, Joan Perry, and Robert Bruce (Director of the Friday Center)

I. <u>Approval of Minutes</u>. Mr. Holmes offered a motion to approve the minutes. Scott Lampe seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by voice vote.

II. <u>In-state tuition for military personnel.</u> Vice President Rhinehardt shared that the federal government has enacted statute that forces states to offer in-state tuition to certain veterans and their spouses or dependents. General Administration staff are working with Members of the General Assembly to draft the appropriate state-level statute to ensure that North Carolina conforms with the federal law.

## III. Director Robert Bruce: The Friday Center and UNCore

*Robert Bruce, Director of UNC-Chapel Hill affiliated William and Ida Friday Center, presented information on the Center's course offerings.* Four types of online courses are offered: Self-paced online courses, self-paced courses correspondence, part-time classroom studies (face-to-face), Carolina courses online (not self-paced).

Mr. Bruce shared that approximately 8,000 students are enrolled annually (not unduplicated). Courses are created after 1) Department approval; 2) Faculty training; 3) Institutional design (paired with a team of course/computer experts); 5) College approval (a college committee examines for general education requirement satisfaction).

Grading policy: Faculty members decide grading policy.

## A. Current Demographics

- Historically, ~65% of those enrolled were non-UNC students
- Now, due to changes in the tuition policy that allows UNC-CH students to take courses at no additional cost, the percentage of UNC-CH students enrolled has increased
- Age: Carolina courses have 75% < 25 years, Self-paced courses have 75% >25
- Ethnicity: Need further research, but appropriate to North Carolina's demographics (18% enrolled are African American, 21% of NC residents African American)
- Location: Distributed throughout the state with much higher numbers close to the Friday Center
- B. UNCore

The Friday Center partners with nine UNC system schools to compose the Friday Center Consortium. Consortium institutions develop flexible UNC general education courses, serve North Carolina citizens, and accelerate degree completion for active duty military.

The Friday Center has performed a gap analysis of offered general education coursework. The analysis reveals that very few gaps exist in general education offerings, but further analysis is needed to identify areas in which we should expand course offerings.

The *UNCore* is the Friday Center's new marketing initiative that targets active duty service members.

Next steps for the Friday Center's UNCore:

- Expand consortium to more system schools
- Accelerate course creation
- Research flexible models (courses completed in 5-6 weeks)
- Invest in outreach and marketing (currently working with a 3<sup>rd</sup> party organization to revamp website)
- Establish benchmarks
- Aiming for SPRING 2015 LAUNCH

The Chairman thanked Mr. Bruce and the staff at UNC-Chapel Hill for presenting an important resource for active duty service members.

Mr. Holmes moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ann Maxwell. The meeting was adjourned.