



MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS  
Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs

February 20, 2020 at 11:00am  
University of North Carolina System Office  
Center for School Leadership Development, Room 128  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

**AGENDA**

**OPEN SESSION**

- A-1. Approval of the Minutes of January 16, 2020 ..... Anna Nelson
- A-2. Digital Learning Accelerator Program..... James Ptaszynski
- A-3. Academic Affairs Update ..... Kimberly van Noort
- A-4. Proposed Revisions to Section 700.1.1 of the UNC Policy Manual ..... David English
- A-5. Long-Range Plan..... Kimberly van Noort
- A-6. GEAR UP Grant..... Shun Robertson
- A-7. Adjourn

## DRAFT MINUTES

January 16, 2020 at 12:30pm  
University of North Carolina System Office  
Center for School Leadership Development, Room 128  
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

This meeting of the Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs was presided over by Chair Anna Nelson. The following committee members were in attendance: Steven B. Long, N. Leo Daughtry, Mark Holton, Adam Schmidt, and Dwight Stone.

Chancellors participating were Johnson Akinleye, Nancy Cable, Todd Roberts, and Elwood Robinson. Chair of the UNC Faculty Assembly David Green was also in attendance.

Staff members participating included Kimberly van Noort and David English from the UNC System Office.

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### OPEN SESSION

#### 1. Call to Order and Approval of OPEN Session Minutes (Item A-1)

Chair Nelson called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 16, 2020.

Chair Nelson reminded all members of the committee of their duty under the State Government Ethics Act to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict of interest. She asked if there were any conflicts or appearances of conflict with respect to any matter coming before the committee. No members identified any conflicts at the time.

Chair Nelson called for a motion to approve the minutes of December 13, 2019.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs approve the open minutes of December 13, 2019 as distributed.

**Motion:** Steven B. Long

**Motion carried**

#### 2. Academic Affairs Update (Item A-2)

Dr. van Noort gave an update on the Academic Affairs Division, which included a summary on personnel searches.

#### 3. UNC System Degree Program Consolidation and Discontinuations (Item A-3)

The Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs reviewed and discussed degree program discontinuations for the following:

## **University of North Carolina at Charlotte**

- Master of Arts in Gerontology

## **The University of North Carolina at Greensboro**

- Educational Specialist in Intermediate Recognition

To correct a misnomer contained within the submitted Board of Governors materials regarding name of the degree from UNCG, official minutes will reflect the name of the degree to be discontinued is an “EdS in Counseling”.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs approve the above request to discontinue the degree programs and recommend approval to the Board of Governors for a vote through the consent agenda.

**Motion:** Mark Holton

**Motion carried**

### **4. Strategic Plan Progress Update (Item A-4)**

Strategy and Policy Division provided an update on the latest data, trends, and highlights related to each institution’s performance under the 2017 strategic plan, *Higher Expectations*. The plan outlines robust goals focused on access, affordability, student success, and economic impact across the System.

### **5. Minimum Admissions Requirements (MAR) Pilot Evaluation Report (Item A-5)**

The Board of Governors Policy 700.1.1 establishes minimum admissions requirements for entry as a first-time student at any constituent institution of the University of North Carolina (UNC) System. This report provides the evaluation results of a pilot program that allowed select institutions to adopt a sliding scale for admissions.

### **6. Proposed Revisions to Section 700.1.1 of the UNC Policy Manual (Item A-6)**

Revisions are proposed to update the MAR policy to provide additional flexibility to constituent institutions in making admissions decisions.

### **7. UNC System Peer Institution Study Update (Item A-7)**

The Board of Governors is responsible for making final determination on the lists of peer institutions for each of the 16 constituent universities. These lists are updated periodically, with the two most recent revisions being made in 2011 and 2006. Information will be provided to the committee on the progress on the 2020 update to constituent institution peer lists.

### **8. Licensure Program Approvals (Item A-8)**

The Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs reviewed and discussed licensure approval for the following:

- St. Andrews University/Webber International University has applied to offer a Bachelor of Science in Occupational Therapy Assisting; a Bachelor of Science in Sports Performance, Health, and Fitness; and a Bachelor of Arts in Health Services Administration.
- Thales College has applied to offer a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts.
- Walden University has applied to offer a Doctor of Nursing Practice.
- West Coast Ultrasound Institute seeks a limited license to conduct clinical rotations for a single student in North Carolina.

**MOTION:** Resolved, that the Committee on Educational Planning, Policies, and Programs approve the above licensure applications as presented and recommend it to the full Board of Governors for a vote through the consent agenda.

**Motion:** N. Leo Daughtry

**Motion carried**

#### **9. Annual Report on the North Carolina Teaching Fellows Program (Item A-9)**

The Teaching Fellows Program is a competitive, merit-based program that offers forgivable loans for service to highly-qualified students committed to teaching special education or a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics) field in a NC public school. A summary of the annual report was provided.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned 1:59 p.m.

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N. Leo Daughtry, Secretary



## AGENDA ITEM

A-2. UNC System Digital Learning Accelerator ..... James Ptaszynski

**Situation:** The committee will hear a presentation that summarizes the UNC System Digital Learning Accelerator. The Accelerator creates shared services to support the growth of sophisticated online learning across the System and the creation of new programs that target North Carolina’s pressing economic needs (e.g., Cybersecurity) and underserved populations (e.g., military, veterans, rural).

**Background:** UNC System universities are increasing the reach and size of their online degree programs. However, progress on this front has been uneven, and many institutions experience gaps in their current online course development capabilities.

**Assessment:** A solution is a shared resource service at the System level that will provide additional capacity and implementation expertise that some universities lack. This internal resource for constituent universities would require a system investment; however, the cost would be less than trying to build the needed capacities across 16 universities. This shared resource will be known as the “UNC Digital Learning Accelerator” (the Accelerator). The Accelerator will leverage, and not duplicate, many of the existing resources and prior investments we already have at the System Office. This includes the UNC Online platform as well as personnel who work in academic affairs, data and analytics, and licensing. We will build on top of an existing, solid, foundation rather than starting anew. The UNC Digital Learning Accelerator will serve as a shared resource across the UNC System, providing guidance in distance learning policies, strategies, and best practices. The Accelerator will function by collaborating with UNC System institutions, internal partners, and external partners to assess, design, deliver, and support online learning programs through faculty development, course production, research, and recruitment.

**Action:** This item is for information only.



## AGENDA ITEM

A-3. Academic Affairs Update..... Kimberly van Noort

- Situation:** The committee will hear an update on recent activities involving academic affairs.
- Background:** The spring semester is underway at each of our seventeen University of North Carolina System institutions.
- Assessment:** Information will be provided to the committee on recent updates in Academic Affairs at the UNC System Office and across the seventeen institutions.
- Action:** This item is for information only.



## AGENDA ITEM

A-4. Proposed Revisions to Section 700.1.1 of the UNC Policy Manual ..... David English

**Situation:** Section 700.1.1, Policy on Minimum Requirements for First-time Undergraduate Admissions Minimum Course Requirements, establishes the minimum academic standards that a student must satisfy in order to be considered for undergraduate admission to a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina System. Revisions are proposed to update the policy and provide additional flexibility to constituent institutions in making admissions decisions.

**Background:** The Board of Governors has adopted minimum entrance requirements for the UNC System since 1988. The first set of requirements includes the minimum set of required courses a student must complete at the secondary level in order to be considered for admission. This currently includes four mathematics courses, four English courses, three science courses, two social science courses, including U.S. History, and two courses of instruction in a language other than English.

In 2008, the Board also adopted a minimum weighted high school grade point average (GPA) and SAT or ACT score to be considered for admission. Those minimum admission requirements were phased in over a period of four years, and currently are set at a minimum weighted high school GPA of 2.5 and a combined SAT score of 880 or ACT composite score of 17.

It is proposed that the current policy be revised from a minimum 2.5 weighted high school GPA and SAT score of 880 or ACT of 17 to a minimum 2.5 weighted high school GPA or SAT score of 1010 or ACT of 19. This would provide the constituent institutions with additional flexibility in considering GPA, SAT, and ACT scores, while maintaining an expectation of completing a rigorous set of high school courses.

**Assessment:** The proposed changes are consistent with the current UNC System Strategic Plan and educational research.

**Action:** This item requires a vote by the committee, with a vote by the full Board of Governors through the consent agenda at the next meeting.

700.1.1

Adopted 02/10/84

Amended 04/12/00

Amended 04/11/03

Amended 07/01/07

Amended 01/11/08

Amended 02/27/15

Amended 04/15/16

Amended 07/29/16

Amended / /20

**Policy on Minimum Eligibility Requirements for Undergraduate Admission for First-time Undergraduate Admissions Minimum Course Requirements for the University of North Carolina**

I. Purpose. In addition to the requirement that students should hold a high school diploma or its equivalent, the University of North Carolina (UNC) Board of Governors has, since 1988, established minimum course requirements for undergraduate admission, including a fourth unit of mathematics to any constituent institution. These requirements serve to provide a common set of minimum standards to be considered for admission as an undergraduate student. Exceptions and special considerations to these minimum entrance eligibility requirements are provided in Section 700.1.1.1[R], 700.1.1.2[R], 700.7.1, and 700.7.1[R] of the UNC Policy Manual. Any constituent institution may set admissions requirements that exceed the minimums established in this policy upon the approval of their Board of Trustees. are summarized below.

II. High school diploma. All students should hold a high school diploma or its equivalent.

III. Minimum Course Requirements. The following courses must be completed at the high school level, although those courses may be completed at an earlier time (e.g., middle school).

A. English: four course units emphasizing grammar, composition, and literature.

A-B. Mathematics: four course units in any of the following combinations:<sup>1</sup>

1. Algebra I, algebra II, geometry, and one unit beyond algebra II; or
2. Algebra I, algebra II, and two units beyond algebra II; or
3. Common core math I, II, and III, and one unit beyond common core math III; or
4. Integrated math I, II, III, and one unit beyond integrated math III; or-
5. NC Math 1, 2, 3, and one unit beyond NC Math 3 identified as meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> level mathematics requirement for admission to UNC System Institutions



~~B-C.~~ Science: three course units, including:

1. Life or biological science (e.g., biology); and
2. Physical science (e.g., chemistry, physical science, physics); and
3. One Laboratory course.

~~C-D.~~ Second language: two course units of a language other than English.

~~E.~~ Social Studies: two course units, ~~s~~, including one unit in U.S. history.<sup>2</sup>

~~II-IV.~~ High School Grade Point Average and Standardized Test Scores. Students must meet either the minimum high school grade point average (GPA), or standardized test score in order to be considered for admission. All applicants for admission, except those exempted by current UNC policy or regulation, must submit a standardized test score, even if they satisfy the minimum eligibility requirement through the high school GPA.

A. High school GPA: A minimum weighted GPA of 2.5; or

B. Standardized test scores: A composite ACT score of 19, or combined SAT (mathematics and evidence-based reading and writing) of 1010.

C. Chancellor's Exceptions: The maximum number of chancellor's exceptions is limited to one percent of the total number of applicants accepted as first-time undergraduates each year. A chancellor's exception may be applied to the SAT/ACT minimum requirement or the high school HSGPA minimum requirement.

~~III.~~ \_\_\_\_\_

~~IV.~~ \_\_\_\_\_

~~V.~~ \_\_\_\_\_

~~VI.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ Six course units in language, including:

~~VII.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ four units in English emphasizing grammar, composition, and literature, and

~~VIII.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ two units of a language other than English.

~~IX.~~ \_\_\_\_\_

~~X.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ Four course units of mathematics, in any of the following combinations:

~~XI.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ common core I, II, III

~~XII.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ algebra I and II, geometry, and one unit beyond algebra II,

~~XIII.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ algebra I and II, and two units beyond algebra II, or

~~XIV.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ integrated math I, II, and III, and one unit beyond integrated math III.

~~XV.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ (The fourth unit of math affects applicants to all institutions except the North Carolina School of the Arts.) It is recommended that prospective students take a mathematics course unit in the twelfth grade.

~~XVI.~~ \_\_\_\_\_

~~XVII.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ Three course units in science, including:

~~XVIII.~~ \_\_\_\_\_ at least one unit in a life or biological science (for example, biology),

~~XXIX. — at least one unit in physical science (for example, physical science, chemistry, physics), and~~  
~~XX. — at least one laboratory course.~~  
~~XXI. —~~  
~~XXII. — Two course units in social studies, including one unit in U.S. history, but an applicant who does not have the unit in U.S. history may be admitted on the condition that at least three semester hours in that subject will be passed by the end of the sophomore year.~~

~~XXIV. —~~

~~XXV. —~~

~~XXVI. — II. — Articulation with Graduation Requirements in the North Carolina Public High Schools.~~

~~XXVII. —~~

~~XXVIII. — Following the Board's change in minimum course requirements, the North Carolina State Board of Education revised the requirements for high school graduation by offering four courses of study: (1) career, (2) college tech prep, (3) college prep, and (4) occupational. These requirements are summarized below. Option 3 tracks the UNC minimum course requirements closely.~~

~~XXIX. —~~

~~XXX. —~~

<del>XXXI. — NC Course of Study Graduation Requirements</del>				
<del>XXXIII. —</del>	<del>XXXIV. —</del>	<del>XXXV. —</del>	<del>XXXVI. —</del>	<del>XXXVII. —</del>
<del>XXXIX. —</del>	<del>XLII. —</del>	<del>XLV. —</del>	<del>XLVIII. — COLLEGE- PREP</del>	<del>LI. —</del>
<del>XL. —</del>	<del>XLIII. — CAREER</del>	<del>XLVI. — COLLEGE-</del>		<del>LII. —</del>
<del>XLI. — Content- Area</del>	<del>XLIV. — Course of Study</del>	<del>XLVII. — Course of TECH PREP</del>	<del>XLIX. — Course of Study (UNCLIV. — Course of Study</del>	<del>LIII. — OCCUPATIONAL Course of Study</del>
<del>LVI. — English</del>	<del>LVIII. — 4 credits</del>	<del>LX. — 4 credits</del>	<del>LXII. — 4 credits</del>	<del>LXIV. — This course of study shall be made available for certain students with disabilities who have an IEP, beginning with first time ninth graders in 2000- 2001.</del>
<del>LVII. — I, II, III, IV</del>	<del>LIX. — I, II, III, IV</del>	<del>LXI. — I, II, III, IV</del>	<del>LXIII. — I, II, III, IV</del>	
<del>LXVI. — Mathemat- ics</del>	<del>LXVII. — 3 credits Including Algebra I</del>	<del>LXVIII. — 3 credits LXIX. — Alg. — I, Geometry, LXX. — Alg. II or LXXI. — Alg. — I, Technical- Math I &amp; II LXXII. — or Integrated LXXIII. — Mathemat- ics I, II</del>	<del>LXXV. — 3 credits LXXVI. — Alg. — I, Alg. — II, Geometry (or higher level math course for which Alg. II is prerequisite) (Recommen</del>	<del>LXXVIII. —</del>

<del>LXXX. Science</del>	<del>LXXXI. 3 credits LXXXII. a physical science course Biology earth/env. science</del>	<del>LXXXIII. 3 credits LXXXIV. a physical science course LXXXV. related to career pathway</del>	<del>LXXXVI. 3 credits LXXXVII. a physical science course LXXXVIII. a life or biological course</del>	<del>LXXXIX.</del>
<del>XCI. Social Studies</del>	<del>XCII. 3 credits Govt./Econ. (ELPS) XCIII. US History World Studies</del>	<del>XCIV. 3 credits Govt./Econ. (ELPS) XCV. US History World Studies</del>	<del>XCVI. 3 credits Govt./Econ. (ELPS) XCVII. US History World Studies XCVIII. (UNC admission policy requires 2 courses to</del>	<del>XCIX.</del>
<del>CI. Second Language</del>	<del>CII. Not Required</del>	<del>CIII. Not Required</del>	<del>CIV. Not Required Recommended at least 2 course units in one second</del>	<del>CV.</del>
<del>CVII. Computer Skills</del>	<del>CVIII. A specific course is not required but students must demonstrate</del>	<del>CIX. A specific course is not required but students must demonstrate</del>	<del>CX. A specific course is not required but students must demonstrate proficiency through state testing</del>	<del>CXI.</del>
<del>CXIII. Health &amp; Physical Ed.</del>	<del>1 credit Health/Phys.</del>	<del>CXV. 1 credit Health/Phys. Ed.</del>	<del>CXVI. 1 credit Health/Phys. Ed.</del>	<del>CXVII.</del>
<del>CXIX. Career/Technical</del>	<del>CXX. 4 units of credits CXXI. Select courses appropriate for career pathway.</del>	<del>CXXII. 4 units of credits Select courses appropriate for career pathway to include a</del>	<del>CXXIII. Not required</del>	<del>CXXIV.</del>

<del>CXXVI. Arts Ed. (Visual Arts, Ed.)</del>	<del>CXXVII. Not required (local decision)</del>	<del>CXXVIII. Not required (local decision)</del>	<del>CXXIX. Not required (local decision)</del>	<del>CXXX. —</del>
<del>CXXXII. Electives or other requirements</del>	<del>CXXXIII. 2 Elective Credits and other credits designated by the LEA</del>	<del>CXXXIV. 2 Elective Credits and other credits designated by the LEA</del>	<del>CXXXVI. 6 Elective Credits and other credits designated by the LEA</del>	<del>CXXXVIII. —</del>
<del>CXL. Total</del>	<del>CXLI. Depends on local</del>	<del>CXLII. Depends on local</del>	<del>CXLIII. Depends on local</del>	<del>CXLIV. —</del>

~~CXLVI. —~~

~~CXLVII. —~~

~~CXLVIII. III. — Minimum Admissions Requirements (MAR). —~~

~~CXLIX. All applicants for first-time admission must meet minimum high school GPA and SAT/ACT scores. The minimum SAT (mathematics and critical reading) required for admissions is 800 on tests administered prior to March 2016 and the corresponding concordance score, as determined by the College Board, for versions administered March 2016 and beyond, or a composite ACT score of 17. The minimum high school GPA for first-time undergraduates is 2.5 (weighted).~~

~~CL. —~~

~~CL. — IV. — Chancellor's Exceptions. —~~

~~CLII. — The maximum number of chancellor's exceptions is limited to one percent (1%) of the total number of applicants accepted as first-time undergraduates each year. A chancellor's exception may be applied to the SAT/ACT minimum requirement and/or the HSGPA minimum requirement.~~

~~CLIII. —~~

~~CLIV. — IV. — Graduates of Cooperative Innovative High Schools (Early College). —~~

~~CLV. V. — Beginning with the 2016-2017 admissions application cycle for enrollment in the 2017-2018 academic year, each UNC constituent institution must offer to any student who graduated from a cooperative innovative high school program with an associate degree and who applies for admission to a constituent institution the option of being considered for admission as a first-time (freshman) or as a transfer student.~~

A. — The constituent institution shall also provide written information to the student regarding the consequences that accompany each option and any other relevant information that may be helpful to the student when considering which option to select.

B. — Beginning March 1, 2017, the Board of Governors shall report annually regarding the number of students who graduated from a cooperative innovative high school program with an associate degree and which option was chosen by those students when applying for admission to a constituent institution.

~~C.B. —~~

~~VI. — Other Admissions Requirements. —~~

~~All applicants for admission to any campus, except those exempted by current campus and/or UNC policies and regulations, must submit a standardized test score. For additional information on admissions, see Sections 700.1.1.1 [R], 700.1.1.2 [R], and 700.7.1 [R] of the UNC Policy Manual.~~

VII. Notification of Stakeholders and Educational Policymakers.

\_\_\_\_\_The president is directed to develop plans and further recommendations to inform key stakeholders and education policymakers of the changes in requirements. ~~The president may establish regulations to implement this policy.~~

VIII. Other Matters

A. Effective Date. The requirements of this policy shall be effective for first-time students enrolling in the fall of 2021 (including students who attended the institution for the first time in the prior summer term) and beyond.

B. Relation to Federal and State Laws. The foregoing policy as adopted by the Board of Governors is meant to supplement, and does not purport to supplant or modify, those statutory enactments which may govern or relate to the subject matter of this policy.

A.C. Regulations and Guidelines. This policy shall be implemented and applied in accordance with such regulations and guidelines as may be adopted from time to time by the president.

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<sup>1</sup> Students applying to the University of North Carolina School of the Arts must only complete three mathematics courses in order to be eligible for admission.

<sup>2</sup> An applicant who does not have the unit in U.S. history may be admitted on the condition that at least three semester hours in that subject be passed by the end of the sophomore (second) year.

700.1.1

Adopted 02/10/84

Amended 04/12/00

Amended 04/11/03

Amended 07/01/07

Amended 01/11/08

Amended 02/27/15

Amended 04/15/16

Amended 07/29/16

Amended \_\_/\_\_/20

### **Policy on Minimum Eligibility Requirements for Undergraduate Admission for the University of North Carolina**

I. Purpose. The University of North Carolina (UNC) Board of Governors has, since 1988, established minimum requirements for undergraduate admission to any constituent institution. These requirements serve to provide a common set of minimum standards to be considered for admission as an undergraduate student. Exceptions and special considerations to these minimum eligibility requirements are provided in Section 700.1.1.1[R], 700.1.1.2[R], 700.7.1, and 700.7.1[R] of the UNC Policy Manual. Any constituent institution may set admissions requirements that exceed the minimums established in this policy upon the approval of their Board of Trustees.

II. High school diploma. All students should hold a high school diploma or its equivalent.

III. Minimum Course Requirements. The following courses must be completed at the high school level, although those courses may be completed at an earlier time (e.g., middle school).

A. English: four course units emphasizing grammar, composition, and literature.

B. Mathematics: four course units in any of the following combinations:<sup>1</sup>

1. Algebra I, algebra II, geometry, and one unit beyond algebra II; or

2. Algebra I, algebra II, and two units beyond algebra II; or

3. Common core math I, II, and III, and one unit beyond common core math III; or

4. Integrated math I, II, III, and one unit beyond integrated math III; or

5. NC Math 1, 2, 3, and one unit beyond NC Math 3 identified as meeting the 4<sup>th</sup> level mathematics requirement for admission to UNC System Institutions

C. Science: three course units, including:

1. Life or biological science (e.g., biology); and

2. Physical science (e.g., chemistry, physical science, physics); and
3. One Laboratory course.

- D. Second language: two course units of a language other than English.
- E. Social Studies: two course units, including one unit in U.S. history.<sup>2</sup>

IV. High School Grade Point Average and Standardized Test Scores. Students must meet either the minimum high school grade point average (GPA) or standardized test score in order to be considered for admission. All applicants for admission, except those exempted by current UNC policy or regulation, must submit a standardized test score, even if they satisfy the minimum eligibility requirement through the high school GPA.

- A. High school GPA: A minimum weighted GPA of 2.5; or
- B. Standardized test scores: A composite ACT score of 19, or combined SAT (mathematics and evidence-based reading and writing) of 1010.
- C. Chancellor's Exceptions: The maximum number of chancellor's exceptions is limited to one percent of the total number of applicants accepted as first-time undergraduates each year. A chancellor's exception may be applied to the SAT/ACT minimum requirement or the high school GPA minimum requirement.

V. Graduates of Cooperative Innovative High Schools (Early College). Each UNC constituent institution must offer to any student who graduated from a cooperative innovative high school program with an associate degree and who applies for admission to a constituent institution the option of being considered for admission as a first-time (freshman) or as a transfer student.

- A. The constituent institution shall also provide written information to the student regarding the consequences that accompany each option and any other relevant information that may be helpful to the student when considering which option to select.
- B. Beginning March 1, 2017, the Board of Governors shall report annually regarding the number of students who graduated from a cooperative innovative high school program with an associate degree and which option was chosen by those students when applying for admission to a constituent institution.

VI. Notification of Stakeholders and Educational Policymakers. The president is directed to develop plans and further recommendations to inform key stakeholders and education policymakers of the changes in requirements.

VII. Other Matters

- A. Effective Date. The requirements of this policy shall be effective for first-time students enrolling in the fall of 2021 (including students who attended the institution for the first time in the prior summer term) and beyond.

B. Relation to Federal and State Laws. The foregoing policy as adopted by the Board of Governors is meant to supplement, and does not purport to supplant or modify, those statutory enactments which may govern or relate to the subject matter of this policy.

C. Regulations and Guidelines. This policy shall be implemented and applied in accordance with such regulations and guidelines as may be adopted from time to time by the president.

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<sup>1</sup> Students applying to the University of North Carolina School of the Arts must only complete three mathematics courses in order to be eligible for admission.

<sup>2</sup> An applicant who does not have the unit in U.S. history may be admitted on the condition that at least three semester hours in that subject be passed by the end of the sophomore (second) year.





## AGENDA ITEM

A-5. Long-Range Plan ..... Kimberly van Noort

**Situation:** The Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina is charged by N.C. Gen. Stat. (G.S.) 116-11.1 with the responsibility to “...prepare and from time to time revise a long-range plan for a coordinated system of higher education.”

**Background:** When the University of North Carolina System was redesignated in 1972 to include all 16 public four-year institutions of higher education, one of the primary responsibilities of the Board of Governors was to ensure the development of a well-planned and coordinated system of higher education.

The UNC System developed and adopted periodic long-range plans from the mid-1970’s through the mid-2000’s. The traditional long-range plan was gradually replaced by the development of more aspirational strategic plans. While the various strategic plans have helped ensure long-term visioning in the UNC System, they have not historically included detailed linkages with planning and operations in the way the earlier long-range plans had.

It is recommended that the UNC System develop a new long-range plan that supports the ongoing implementation of the objectives identified in the current strategic plan, *Higher Expectations*. The first step toward developing the long-range plan, the identification of new peer institutions, is currently underway. The next step will be to review and revise the mission of each constituent institution.

**Assessment:** Development of an updated long-range plan is consistent with North Carolina General Statutes and UNC Policy. It also supports and reinforces the strategic goals and objectives identified in the current UNC System Strategic Plan, *Higher Expectations*.

**Action:** This item is for information only.



## AGENDA ITEM

A-6. GEAR UP Grant ..... Shun Robertson

**Situation:** The University of North Carolina System Office has been awarded a new seven-year, \$25.7 million Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP) grant from the U.S. Department of Education. This is the fourth statewide GEAR UP grant that the UNC System has secured since 2000.

**Background:** GEAR UP is a national college access initiative funded by the U.S. Department of Education, aimed at increasing the number of low-income students enrolled at and succeeding in postsecondary education. As a state grantee, GEAR UP North Carolina disseminates information about college access across the state. At designated target school districts, located in financially-disadvantaged areas, GEAR UP reaches students to get them motivated and on track to pursue post-secondary education. Its work with 12th graders aims at helping them transition from high school to postsecondary education.

**Assessment:** GEAR UP will use a two-part strategy to serve students in fifteen high schools across multiple school districts. Beginning in 2020, services will be provided to 6th and 7th grade students and their families in five middle schools (one per district). Their respective feeder high school will also receive GEAR UP priority services. These services include customized instruction to improve math and science preparation, afterschool and summer academic enrichment, and access to STEM and computer science apprenticeship opportunities. These students and their families will continue to receive services as they complete high school and their first year of postsecondary education.

In addition to targeting the five feeder high schools, priority services will also be provided in ten additional high schools across multiple school districts. Special consideration will be given to high schools with low rates of college enrollment. Twelfth graders and their families will receive just-in-time support, such as financial aid counseling, college advising, and college match and fit counseling. Students will also receive student coaching during their first year of postsecondary education.

By 2026, GEAR UP North Carolina will provide academic preparation and college exploration services to nearly 35,000 students and their families.

**Action:** This item is for information only.