

**AGENDA ITEM**

B-1. Consideration of Access Definition – Benchmark I.....Kate Henz/Tom Shanahan

**Situation:** Benchmark I of the strategic planning process requires each Committee to develop and agree upon a definition for its assigned strategic priority area. The Committee reviewed and revised a draft definition of Access at its July 28, 2016, meeting.

**Background:** Through the strategic planning process, which is currently underway, the Board of Governors seeks to develop a set of goals to drive the work of General Administration and constituent institutions for years ahead. The Board of Governors aims to approve a small set of system-wide goals this fall, which will form the basis for the University of North Carolina’s strategic plan.

**Assessment:** The attached version of the definition is a revision of what the Committee submitted after its July meeting, based on suggestions from the Chancellors at their August 30 meeting. The revisions are mainly formatting changes. The first sentence omits a reference to pursuing an education that meets student’s “needs and goals” that was found in the Committee’s original version. This definition is intended for use by the Board and other constituencies in establishing a common understanding of what this strategic priority entails and the importance of the strategic priority to the University.

**Action:** This item is for discussion and approval by informal vote.

## **DRAFT DEFINITION**

### **ACCESS**

*Access is the opportunity for all North Carolinians who are prepared for the associated rigorous learning experiences to pursue a university education.*

*Providing North Carolinians access and encouragement to pursue higher education is not confined solely to helping students gain admittance to college. It also includes:*

- *Providing multiple access points into the University;*
- *Academic, financial, cultural, and other knowledge-based services to help all students – but particularly for those who are underserved for any reason – to aspire to, enroll in, and graduate from institutions that meet their interests and capabilities.*

#### **Suggestions from the Strategic Planning Committee:**

None