AGENDA ITEM

B-1. Consideration of Student Success Definition – Benchmark I ................... Anna Nelson/Junius Gonzales

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 Student Success 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 definition now includes a provision for the “timely acquisition of a degree.” President Spellings and the Strategic Planning Committee both strongly agree with this addition. 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.
STUDENT SUCCESS

Student Success is a multifaceted construct of positive intellectual, personal, and social transformation facilitated by the University. It includes:

- The timely acquisition of a degree;
- The development of competencies – critical thinking, life-long learning, technological mastery, resilience, flexibility, and collaboration, among others – for a meaningful engagement in 21st century life including but not limited to the workforce.

Suggestions from the Strategic Planning Committee:

Add “communication skills, skills relevant to workforce needs,” after the phrase “critical thinking” and before “life-long learning” in the list of competencies.