

BOARD OF TRUSTEES**THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT GREENSBORO**

February 19, 2009

INFORMATION: Proposed Request to Plan a School of Pharmacy and Doctor of Pharmacy Degree Program

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The University of North Carolina at Greensboro plans to establish a research-oriented School of Pharmacy that would offer the Pharm.D. degree along with other graduate degrees. Over time, the offerings are likely to grow to include the Ph.D. in Pharmacy, a dual Pharm.D./Ph.D. program, a dual Pharm.D./MBA program, and perhaps a program in Nanopharmacology in collaboration with the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering.

In addition to the enthusiasm for this proposal at UNCG, strong support has also been expressed by Action Greensboro, the Greensboro Partnership, Greensboro Economic Development Alliance, several local foundations, and the area's health care agencies. Action Greensboro Phase II has identified higher education as a significant economic driver for the community and has committed to advocate for the proposed School of Pharmacy and "to see that it is located in downtown Greensboro." The Joseph M. Bryan Foundation, Weaver Foundation, and other local foundations have committed to work closely with UNCG and the Greensboro Partnership to locate and secure a suitable site for the school with private funds. The Moses Cone, Wake Forest University, Forsyth Medical, High Point Regional, and Lexington Memorial health systems have also expressed their support for a School of Pharmacy at UNCG.

The Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum will be a four-year program that will meet accreditation standards for the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE). The last three semesters will consist of clinical experiences. In the planning for these clinical experiences and their location, every effort will be made to be sensitive to clinical site relationships of the three existing schools of pharmacy in North Carolina.

An academic and research program in pharmacy would enhance the research profile of UNCG while addressing one of the primary goals of UNC Tomorrow, economic development of the Triad, region and state of North Carolina. UNCG has existing strengths that would support the establishment of a pharmacy program and also benefit from the existence of such a program. These include excellent undergraduate and graduate programs in the sciences, the Ph.D. program in Medicinal Biochemistry, the Center for Drug Discovery, the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering, and exemplary academic programs in Nursing, Public Health and Business/Economics. UNCG has strong collaborations with the Moses Cone Health System and the Wake Forest University School of Medicine as well as strong support from the Greensboro Economic Development Alliance. Recruitment of pharmacy students from the highly diverse undergraduate population at UNCG would help address the underrepresentation of ethnic minorities in the pharmacy profession. It is also planned that UNCG's pharmacy program will focus special attention on providing pharmacists to meet the needs of rural communities.

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