BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In 2002, Chancellor Patricia Sullivan commissioned a task force of faculty, staff, and students to study research related to student retention and graduation and to evaluate the needs at UNCCG. In 2003 the group published a Retention Task Force Report, which included current practices and research in higher education and a comparison of UNCG’s status at that time. The Report included twenty-two recommendations for enhancing student success and improving retention and graduation rates.

In 2007, a review of progress toward those recommendations was undertaken by Ellen Robbins and Jen Day Shaw. With the assistance of numerous others who are responsible for programming and services, the status of progress was evaluated. The attached chart condenses the twenty-two recommendations into seven similar categories and includes a summary of progress to date relating to those categories.

Throughout the coming academic year, a Retention Plan will be crafted as a part of an Enrollment Management Strategic Plan which will address:

1. a coordinating framework/theoretical orientation for the plan;
2. the needs of varied student populations as determined by assessment data and the literature;
3. the programs that are successfully contributing to student retention and graduation;
4. the factors that are missing or that act as barriers to student success;
5. recommendations to address barriers; and
6. measurable goals for student retention and graduation, current achievement levels and timeline for goal attainment.

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