Action Item

Request to Discontinue the Center for Geographic Information Science

Background Information

The Center for Geographic Information Science (CGIS) was approved by the Board of Trustees on April 5, 2006 as a research center housed with the Department of Geography in the College of Arts and Sciences. During the 2011-12 academic year, the center began reporting to the Office of Research and Economic Development as a university-wide center. The purpose of the CGIS is to use geospatial technology and the utilization of concepts and applications in Geographic Information Science to address the understanding of issues and problems related to health and society. It provides a unique research environment for understanding health-related and geographic issues while giving students an arena for active learning and discovery.

Following discussions regarding future directions for the center among the center director, the Department of Geography, the VC for Research and Economic Development and the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, it became apparent that a center structure is not needed to accomplish its goals and the center structure should be dissolved. The current director, Dr. Rick Bunch, will oversee the phase-out of any activities previously associated with the center into existing structures within the Department of Geography and will return to the department as a full-time faculty member beginning in the 2015-16 academic year. The center currently has no budget, no staff, receives no state funds, and has no existing contracts/grants that are affiliated with it.

Any ongoing future activities previously associated with the center will be planned and organized within the Department of Geography. Therefore, it is requested that the CGIS be discontinued effective September 11, 2015.

Recommended Action

That the Board of Trustees of The University of North Carolina at Greensboro approve the discontinuation of the Center for Geographic Information Science.

Dana Dunn
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor