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## The University of North Carolina Mission Statement

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The mission of the University is shaped in large measure by statutory mandates by which public higher education is created. Article IX of the Constitution of the State declares:

Sec. 8. Higher education. The General Assembly shall provide a system of higher education, comprising The University and such other institutions of higher education as the General Assembly may from time to time create, in the most wise . . . .

Sec. 9. Benefits of public institutions of higher education. The General Assembly shall provide that the benefits of The University and other public institutions of higher education, as created, shall be extended to the people of the State free of expense.

This constitutional mandate for a public system of higher education is further defined in Chapters 115 and 116 of the General Statutes. Chapter 115 provides for a statewide network of community and technical colleges which offer two-year college transfer and technical and vocational education. Chapter 116 of the statutes, as amended by the General Assembly, provides in Section 3 that:

The board of trustees of the University of North Carolina shall be redesignated, effective July 1, 1972, as the 'Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina.' The Board of Governors shall continue as a body politic and corporate and by the name of the University of North Carolina, with perpetual succession and a common seal.

Section 4 of the statute provides for the University of North Carolina to be one of the 16 public senior institutions in the state.

The Higher Education Reorganization Act of 1971, which consolidated under one governing board, asserted the basic objective of the University of North Carolina: to foster the development of a coordinated system of higher education, to improve the quality of that education, to extend its benefits, and to encourage an economical use of resources.

Central to the process of strategic planning is the clarification of the University as a whole and the role and scope of the various units within that overall mission. As a part of the comprehensive strategic planning process, the Board of Governors adopted a general mission statement, with minor modifications, was given statutory authority by the General Assembly amended Chapter 116-1 of the General Statutes, following as the official mission statement of the University of North Carolina:

#### Statement of Mission

The University of North Carolina is a public, multi-institutional service of North Carolina and its people. It includes constituent institutions and other educational, research, and service organizations. Each shares in the overall mission of the University. The mission is to discover, create, transmit, and apply knowledge to the needs of individuals and society. This mission is accomplished through instruction, which communicates the knowledge and skills necessary for individuals to lead responsible, productive lives.

satisfying lives; through research, scholarship, and creative activities, which advance knowledge and enhance the educational process; and through public service, which contributes to the solution of societal problems and enriches the quality of life in the State. In the fulfillment of this mission, the University shall seek an efficient use of available resources to ensure the highest quality in its service to the citizens of the State.

Teaching and learning constitute the primary service that the University renders to society. Teaching, or instruction, is the primary responsibility of each of the constituent institutions. The relative importance of research and public service, which enhance teaching and learning, varies among the constituent institutions, depending on their overall missions.

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