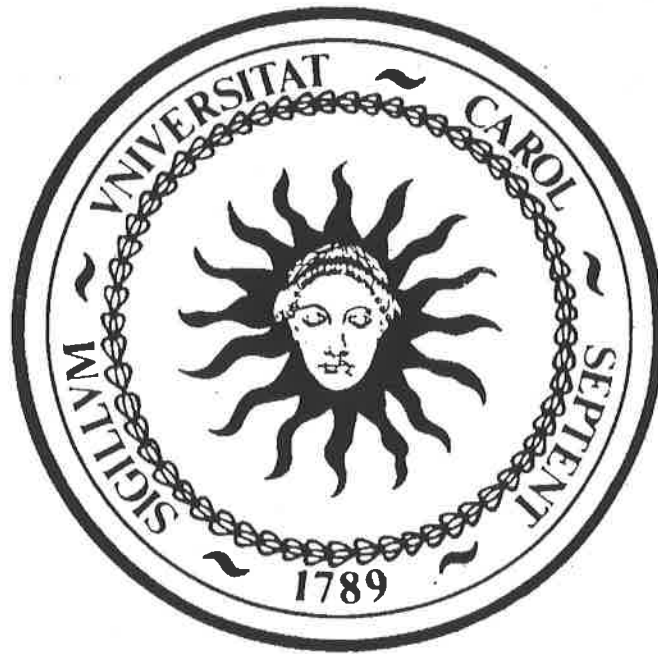


**Report to the
2005 North Carolina General Assembly
Joint Legislative Education Oversight Committee**



**The University of North Carolina
Strategic Initiatives Reserve
2003-04**

March 1, 2005

First appropriated in 1999, the Strategic Initiatives Reserve is used by the University to capitalize on systemwide opportunities and address systemwide issues and concerns. This funding enables the President to explore new initiatives and foster collaboration and partnerships among the campuses. For the 2003-04 fiscal year, the North Carolina General Assembly appropriated \$4,000,000 for the Strategic Initiatives Reserve. Projects and collaborative efforts funded from this Reserve are identified below.

UNC Bond Program – Oversight and Compliance – \$2,125,000

In the 2000 legislative session, the North Carolina General Assembly authorized a referendum on the November 2000 ballot for voters to approve \$3.1 billion in higher education construction bonds, \$2.5 billion to be invested in the 16 UNC campuses and affiliated entities. Seventy-three percent of North Carolina's voters approved the proposed bond issue in November of that same year. Since that time, the statutorily created Higher Education Bond Oversight Committee, the UNC Board of Governors, the President, and the 16 chancellors have stood accountable for expediting the construction. To provide effective oversight of the program, funds from the Strategic Initiatives Reserve were allocated to secure construction expertise, ensuring that projects are on schedule and that cash flow availability is matched to campus needs. Improving the use of Historically Underutilized Businesses is also an important initiative and funds have been directed towards this goal. The Reserve further provided for four construction audits to ensure that funds are spent appropriately and that campuses are effectively utilizing the improved construction delivery methods authorized by the General Assembly. Additionally, funds were used to purchase and install Primavera Enterprise, the industry standard in multi-project construction management and cash flow analysis software.

UNC Coastal Studies Institute – \$500,000

Strategic Initiatives Reserves were used to provide funding to undertake research, offer educational opportunities, and provide community outreach programs that embrace the unique history, culture, and environment of the maritime counties of northeastern North Carolina through the establishment of the UNC Coastal Studies Institute. Research at the Institute will focus on 1) maritime history and nautical archaeology, 2) coastal processes, 3) estuarine ecology, and 4) tourism and coastal resource management. The Institute is integrally involved with programs at East Carolina University, Elizabeth City State University, North Carolina State University, UNC-Chapel Hill, and UNC Wilmington.

Joint PharmD Program with Elizabeth City State University and UNC Chapel Hill – \$500,000

Strategic Initiatives Reserves were used to provide funding to identify the feasibility and operation requirements to establish a joint PharmD program between Elizabeth City State University and UNC-Chapel Hill. The initiative will identify and develop cooperative partnerships to leverage each campus's facilities, faculty and distance education applications to maximize UNC's investment on this instructional endeavor.

UNC Economic Development Initiative – \$200,000

Funding from the Strategic Initiatives Reserve was used to provide the requirements document to guide the design and implementation of the UNC Economic Development Portal. The requirements document outlines an enterprise-based system that will link academic resources in North Carolina with the business community to support economic development and growth across the state.

UNC Education Partnership Initiative – \$200,000

The University provided funding to foster sponsored program funding and assistance for new and existing K-12 educational programs including the following: 1) strengthening the mathematics and science curriculum; 2) assisting North Carolina and the Institute of Education Sciences in establishing the Center on Rural Education, Center for Low-Performing Schools, and Mid-Continent Regional Education Lab initiatives; 3) assisting with UNC public school research expansion initiatives, and 4) assisting with the Education Research Conference program implementation on Accountability and Data Warehousing in Higher Education.

UNC Department of Defense Research Initiative – \$350,000

Strategic Initiatives Reserves were used to assist UNC in developing and implementing a comprehensive, long-term strategy and initiative that establishes the NC Partnership of public and private universities as a major source of Department of Defense research in North Carolina. The initiative will support State economic development with the creation of job opportunities in existing industries, transporting industry that moves to the State to leverage research being completed and associated human capital, and new/startup companies that result from the research being completed in the State.

Unified Data Model – \$125,000

The University provided funding to begin the development of the University of North Carolina Unified Data Model for executive information and decision support functions, to serve all sixteen campuses as well as the President's Office. The data warehouse will consolidate financial data from SCT Plus and Banner, and PeopleSoft product lines – the financial systems in place or to be in place at all sixteen campuses. The data warehouse will serve UNC executive, senior financial, and research staff members in analyzing the University's overall performance and program outcomes.