



THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

JAMES MOESER
Chancellor

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March 13, 2007

Mr. Ernie Patterson
Chair, Employee Forum
CB #3488

Dear Ernie:

I write in response to three recent Employee Forum Resolutions: #07-01 concerning the upcoming open enrollment period for state employees under the State Health Plan; #07-03 honoring former Forum Chair, John Heuer upon his retirement; and #07-04 endorsing a proposal to provide free tuition for children of UNC-Chapel Hill faculty and staff employees.

Regarding Resolution #07-01, I agree that the upcoming March 1 to March 31 open enrollment period will deprive state employees of full knowledge of the premium rates and any coverage changes that will apply to the next plan year. This circumstance is unreasonable on its face and steps should be taken to ensure that it does not re-occur in subsequent years. I plan to share with President Bowles the Employee Forum's perspectives on this circumstance, and encourage efforts by UNC General Administration and Staff Assembly to work with the State Health Plan and the North Carolina General Assembly to remedy this.

Regarding Resolution #07-03, I fully concur and join the Employee Forum in extending appreciation and best wishes to John Heuer as he embarks on retirement.

Finally, regarding Resolution #07-04, I agree that a tuition benefit for employees and staff is a thoughtful and laudable concept. However, we continue to investigate the feasibility of funding it through private donations, as suggested in the proposal, rather than through other means. None of the five universities cited in the proposal as having a tuition benefit uses private contributions to fund it, and universities that have sought private funding for similar programs have not been successful, University of Virginia being a prime example. So please consider that I fully concur in the endorsement of a tuition benefit for faculty and staff, but do not yet concur that private fundraising is the optimal funding model.

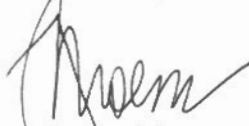
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Thank you for the Employee Forum's continuing work on behalf of University employees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Moeser', written over a circular stamp or watermark.

James Moeser

JM:bl

cc: Bernadette Gray-Little
Matt Kupec
Richard L. Mann
Claire F. Miller
David R. Perry

Moeser/patterson8