Dear Chancellor Moeser and the Task Force for the Better Workplace,

The Chancellor’s Task Force for a Better Workplace was charged with advising the Chancellor on action steps to improve the UNC-Chapel Hill workplace. The Task Force developed a series of thirty-four short, medium, and long-term recommendations to this effect. These recommendations were assigned to various university individuals and working groups to develop proposals to implement these recommendations.

The Task Force Monitoring Committee was formed from the chairs of the Task Force subcommittees and is chaired by Tommy Griffin, co-chair of the Task Force and chair of the Employee Forum. The Monitoring Committee has been charged with monitoring the progress of proposals developed in response to the Task Force’s recommendations. The first meetings of the Monitoring Committee focused on operational issues: what do we do, how do we do it, how do we replace student members lost to the attrition of graduation. Proposals responding to the recommendations have been sent to the Monitoring committee via Associate Vice-Chancellor for Human Resources, Laurie Charest. Special thanks are due Laurie Charest for her time and efforts in assuring the success of this process. The committee reviews these proposals for satisfying the specific Task Force recommendation. Those proposals, which satisfy the recommendations, are accepted and sent forward to the Chancellor for action. Those, which do not appear to satisfy the recommendations, are returned via Human Resources with comments to the author(s) for revision.

At the initiative of Laurie Charest, several proposals dealing with similar issues were reassigned to selected individuals and workgroups to consolidate the proposals into one comprehensive proposal aimed at addressing needs on a campus wide basis. These include:

- The development of a comprehensive, integrated campus Wellness Plan incorporating reinstating wellness classes, healthy lunch alternatives and access to health screenings.
- A comprehensive technology proposal addressing staff computer literacy and accessibility, as well as the computer loan program.
- An overall proposal combining the recommendations related to staff training and counseling initiatives. The inclusion of the North Carolina Community College system in providing needed training in a variety of areas is being explored.

Student participation on the Monitoring Committee was felt to be essential as it was a significant voice in developing the Task Force recommendations. As our two student members each held offices, Campus-Y President and Senior Advisor to Student Government, it was agreed that the two student positions on the Monitoring Committee should continue to be filled with the current occupants of these elected positions.
The Task Force Monitoring Committee has been the recipient of many excellent proposals, many of which are currently being acted upon. Attached to this report is a spreadsheet, prepared by Laurie Charest, showing each recommendation, its priority, who it was assigned to, what personnel and financial resources it will require, and its current status. You will note that most proposals have been received, accepted, and passed on to the Chancellor’s office for funding determinations. A few proposals have been received giving several options for implementation. As with the other proposals, as these have been accepted, they have been sent forward with the knowledge that the Chancellor’s budget committee will be able to choose the options that best meet the intention of the Task Force’s recommendations within their budget restrictions.

While the spreadsheet summarizes the status of the recommendations, we would like to highlight several proposals that are already being implemented:

• The number one priority of a Campus Ombudsman is being pursued. Two positions have been created – a part-time faculty position and a full-time EPA Non-Faculty position. A search committee has been formed and is currently reviewing applications for these positions. Space has been located for this office and the Chancellor has allocated $10,000 from his bonus for office start up.
• The Campus-Y computer literacy initiative is up and running. While it does not address all the campus needs for computer training, it forges a strong relationship between our students and the broader University community.
• A Summer Work Fair to identify summer jobs for the children of university employees was held April 30, 2004 at the Friday Center. All university departments were asked to participate and provide summer hiring opportunities for any temporary summer jobs that their families might apply for. Over two hundred participants attended.
• The Chancellor has donated $15,000 from his 2003 bonus for the purchase of new computers to jump-start the Computer Loan Initiative.
• The Student Government has created and funded an annual Student Undergraduate Staff Award. The first recipient of this award, which was presented on April 13, 2004, was Jefferey “Butch” Garris of Mebane, production manager for the Carolina Union. He received $1,000.

Thus far, the TFMC has focused primarily on reviewing the proposals that meet the short-term recommendations. As mentioned, the next step is for the Chancellor’s budget committee to review the proposals and choose the options that best meet the intent and priorities of the Task Force’s recommendations within their budget limitations.

Many individuals on campus have been inquiring about the status of the recommendations from the Task Force. Laurie Charest is working with others on campus to develop a communication plan. We will share that with you when it is received. In addition, the TFMC would like to suggest that the Chancellor reconvene the full Task Force in the fall for a progress update and a discussion of next steps regarding medium
and long-term priorities. We feel it is important to continue the Task Force in the important process of identifying which proposals to recommend for implementation.

There are still many difficult decisions to be made. There are still procedural issues to be addressed. We are accepting these challenges and moving forward with a commitment to representing the Task Force and remaining true to its goals and priorities. We welcome any feedback. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Tommy Griffin, Chairman
Peter DeSaix
Amy Gorley
Meredith Flowe
Martha Fowler
Bobbie Lesane
Alexi Nunn