I. Item Title: Resolution on System Wide Core Competencies

   a) Brief Description: Affirmation of the Resolution from UNC Faculty Assembly-Highlights indicate additions from WCU Faculty Senate

   Whereas, the five-year strategic plan, "Our Time, Our Future: The UNC Compact with North Carolina" has defined as a major priority the implementation of system-wide assessments of academic core competencies; and
   Whereas, the UNC Strategic Directions General Education Council has, after considerable deliberation, recommended Critical Thinking and Written Communication as system-wide core competencies most appropriate for assessment; and
   Whereas, the Faculty Assembly has resolved that the University of North Carolina, under the imprimatur of its constituent faculty, must offer a general comprehensive education (as articulated in Resolution 2012-00); and
   Whereas, the Faculty Assembly has also resolved that an effective curriculum is essential to the development of critical skills necessary for students to become productive citizens and leaders of North Carolina, and that faculty recognize these core competencies as vital to student success (as articulated in Resolution 2012-07); and
   Whereas, the core competencies of Critical Thinking and Written Communication are widely recognized by faculty as expressions of a general comprehensive education and as fundamental requirements for successful mastery in all academic disciplines; and
   Whereas, economic leaders in North Carolina and nationwide agree that Critical Thinking and Written Communication are fundamental to career success as cited in the Listening Sessions Summary (Strategic Directions Initiatives 2013-2018, Appendices); and
   Whereas, our regional accrediting agency, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS), periodically and comprehensively examines and affirms the quality of educational programs and requires that the institution place primary responsibility for the content, quality, and effectiveness of the curriculum with its faculty; and
   Whereas, the development and implementation of any new assessment mechanism would necessarily require additional resources; and

   Therefore, Be It Resolved That the WCU Faculty Senate endorses the General Education Council’s choice of Critical Thinking and Written Communication as two system-wide core competencies for the UNC system; and
   Be It Further Resolved That all core competencies adopted by the UNC system must be approved by the faculty of the constituent institutions on their respective campuses as required by their responsibilities for curricular matters; and
   Be It Further Resolved That the faculty at the constituent institutions must have primary responsibility for the development and administration of assessment instruments consistent with the missions of their respective campuses; and
   Be It Further Resolved That the UNC System must provide meaningful and concrete administrative, clerical, and budgetary support for the future development and administration of assessments associated with these system-wide general education competencies.

   b) Initiated by: UNC Faculty Assembly Delegate – Rebecca Lasher, and General Education Council Member for UNC – Erin McNelis

II. Faculty Senate Action: ☑ approved ☐ not approved ☑ other Affirmed date: 11/21/13

   Vote: X Voice Vote, Unanimous

   FS Secretary signature: Rebecca Lasher date 11-21-2013

III. Provost: ☑ for information ☑ Recognition of Receipt

   ☑ for action.......... ☑ approved ☐ not approved

   Comments:

   Person responsible for Implementation: N/A

   Provost signature: Date 12-4-13

IV. Chancellor: ☑ for information ☑ Recognition of Receipt

   ☑ for action.......... ☑ approved ☐ not approved

   Comments:

   Chancellor signature: Date 12-29-13