

Joint Resolution Recommending a Hiring Freeze and the Elimination of Administrative Stipends to Avoid Laying off Teaching Faculty

Whereas, the mission of ECU is to serve as a national model for public service and regional transformation in this poverty-stricken part of the state, and

Whereas, the March 20 Value Statement of the UNC Board of Governors unequivocally calls on all constituent institutions to give academic instruction the top priority in the present circumstances, and

Whereas, ECU is planning to eliminate as many as 147 teaching faculty and staff positions, and

Whereas, there has been a lack of transparency in how the administration has arrived at its priorities and decisions, and

Whereas, the present faculty and staff have performed commendably in driving an increase both in enrollment and in research productivity over the last period;

Therefore be it resolved that the ECU Faculty Senate officers and the ECU-AAUP recommend that ECU eliminate administrative stipends, which cost the university approximately \$4 million per year, and

Be it further resolved that the ECU Faculty Senate officers and the ECU-AAUP call on the administration and the ECU Board of Trustees to immediately implement a (faculty, staff, and administrative) hiring freeze, with the only exception being to hire replace current faculty vacancies in order to preserve the quality of instruction in active degree programs, and

Be it further resolved that the ECU Faculty Senate officers and the ECU-AAUP request that the ECU administration clearly state the university's budget-cutting priorities and actively involve faculty in budgetary decisions by following the in-place shared governance procedures and policies outlined in the ECU Faculty Manual, the UNC Code, and the UNC Board of Governors Value Statement, and

Be it further resolved that the ECU Faculty Senate officers and the ECU-AAUP request that the Board of Trustees and the ECU administration bring their budgeting priorities in line with the March 20 Values Statements of the Board of Governors and that the Board of Trustees and ECU Administration affirm that financial exigency be used only as a last resort.