Date

Dear Parents:

By now you probably have heard about our tuition increase that was approved in July and will take effect for the Fall Semester 2010 at UNCP. The Board of Trustees and I have tried to soften the effects of the increase by phasing it in over two years.

The 2010-11 increase of $250 was approved by UNC President Erskine Bowles on July 14 after the North Carolina General Assembly authorized a tuition increase in its budget bill. This $250 increase is in addition to the already approved tuition increase of $113 for UNCP’s students. The tuition increase will be used to help offset the impact of state budget cuts and protect academic quality. Lawmakers authorized an increase up to $750 a year. As a result of this bill, UNCP will increase tuition $250 this year and $218 next year. Twenty percent of our increase will be set aside to help students who receive financial aid. The additional financial aid from the tuition increase will be used to replace and/or decrease student loans and help fill the gap between the cost of attendance and students financial aid need as identified by the federal government.

We will also continue to tighten our belts. The tuition increase covers only about half of our $2.5 million in budget reductions. I regret that we are relying on parents and students to make up our deficit. However, we have no other choice. We have cut deeply and more cuts would affect quality. As Chancellor, it is my responsibility to safeguard the academic integrity of this institution.

UNC Pembroke has a reputation for offering one of the most affordable college educations in North Carolina and the entire U.S. That continues to be true as our study of 19 peer institutions in the U.S. shows that UNCP remains the most affordable.

I am sure you have questions, suggestions and comments on this matter. I hope you will take the time to submit your comments in the online Suggestion Box on our budget site (uncp.edu).

I hope you understand the action we have taken. Although it may be a burden on our students, in the long run, it is an action that benefits their education. Thank you for your continued understanding and patience during this challenging global economy.

Sincerely,

Kyle R. Carter
Chancellor