

**Report to the Senate  
Interim Provost  
September 11, 2006**

Welcome back! The year is off to a busy and a good start. We have a very large new class of faculty that brings additional great credentials, good experience, and enthusiasm to the campus. Please join me in helping these new members of our community to have an exciting and fulfilling experience during their first year and subsequent years at ECU.

Some of the issues that we can address together during this year are the following:

**PROMOTION AND TENURE**

We need to bring the good work done by the committee to fruition. This will serve as a solid base from which to work to improve our promotion and tenure procedures. There are additional changes and improvements that could be made, but let us get the foundation set so that we can move forward and have these basic revisions in place by 2008-09.

**WORKLOAD**

As mentioned in my report in May, there has been continuing concern expressed regarding faculty workload. As I mentioned also in comments to each of the colleges this fall, we need to undertake a review of workload no matter how troublesome that might be. We have to get in place a method to not only provide individuals with expectations but also to have a consistent means of monitoring what we are doing for our own records as well as for those who are providing funds to support our faculty. We soon will have an evaluation of how we distributed full-time faculty effort last year and that will provide a starting point for us to have a meaningful discussion this fall.

**COMPUTERS**

We hope that you are finding the computers very helpful. I am teaching a course this semester and using one myself. They do not come with infused knowledge for the user, do they? They have a lot of capabilities and we should try to explore how to better use them to increase our own learning and that of our students. Like most things related to computers, we will need to work with them awhile to see what they can do and what problems arise for us. Subsequently, by sharing information with our colleagues, we will begin to realize their potential. There will be workshops throughout the year to help you get the most from these new computers; please take advantage of the opportunities.

**SACS**

Let me add my thanks to all who have worked so hard to put together the SACS compliance document.

We look to be in good order and should be proud of our institution as well as of our colleagues who have crafted this document for us from the departmental level through the leadership team. Are we perfect? No, but this compendium does provide us with information on how we can improve. We will need to begin work addressing those issues before the SACS team arrives. The report also turns out to be a wonderful guidebook of how we do business at ECU. I recommend it as essential reading for every member of the faculty and administration.

Looking forward to working with you for what has all of the makings of a very good year.

Jim Chapman