

# LONG SIGNATURE SHEET



UNC CHARLOTTE

Proposal Number: GRAD ~~SCHE~~ 3-29-2013

Proposal Title: Establishment of a Bachelors-Masters Program

Originating Department: The Graduate School

TYPE OF PROPOSAL: UNDERGRADUATE \_\_\_\_\_ GRADUATE \_\_\_\_\_ UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE X  
 (Separate proposals sent to UCCC and Grad. Council)

DATE RECEIVED	DATE CONSIDERED	DATE FORWARDED	ACTION	SIGNATURES
			Approved	<u>DEPARTMENT CHAIR</u>  Johnna W. Watson
			Approved	<u>COLLEGE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR</u>  Dr. Susan Sell
			Approved	<u>COLLEGE FACULTY CHAIR</u>  Print name:
		4/3/13	Approved	<u>COLLEGE DEAN</u>  Dr. Thomas Reynolds:
			Approved	<u>UNDERGRADUATE COURSE &amp; CURRICULUM COMMITTEE CHAIR</u> (for undergraduate courses)
4-3-13	5-7-13	5-9-13	Approved	<u>GRADUATE COUNCIL CHAIR</u> (for graduate courses) 
			Approved	<u>FACULTY GOVERNANCE SECRETARY</u> (noting Faculty Council approval on Consent Calendar)
				<u>FACULTY EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</u> (if decision is appealed)

**University of North Carolina at Charlotte**

**New Undergraduate and Graduate Proposal**

**The Graduate School**

**Title:** Establishment of a Bachelors-Masters Program for Academically Qualified Undergraduate Students

**Summary**

The Graduate School proposes to establish a framework for a new Bachelors-Masters Program through which exceptional undergraduate students may enroll concurrently in certain undergraduate and graduate programs. Programs in the College of Engineering have expressed a strong interest in the Bachelors-Masters Program, and an example of such a program in Mechanical Engineering is attached.

Students will begin graduate work in the senior year of undergraduate enrollment although they will be mentored throughout the Bachelors-Masters Program. The Program will allow students to complete the bachelor's degree and the master's degree in approximately five years, with the two degrees awarded simultaneously after successful completion of all program requirements. The Bachelors-Masters Program may also be accelerated in which up to 12 hours earned at the graduate level may be substituted for required undergraduate hours at UNC Charlotte. If this generic proposal is approved by the Faculty Council and the Graduate Council, the program faculty who subsequently wish to participate in the Bachelors-Masters Program will complete and submit the (attached) *Application for a Bachelors-Masters Program* to the Dean of the Graduate School for consideration and approval, after which the Graduate Council and Faculty Council will be notified.

**Minimum Admission Requirements:** Students applying for admission for the Pre-Bachelors-Masters Program must have a minimum high school GPA  $\geq 3.75$  (on a 4.0 scale) and provide a minimum score of 1700 on the SAT; they will be considered for admission to their undergraduate program of study and the Pre-Bachelors-Masters Program by the Undergraduate Admissions Office.

Enrolled freshmen in the Pre-Bachelors-Masters Program will be contacted by the Graduate School in the fall semester of the freshman year with instructions to formally apply to the Bachelors-Masters Program by the March 15<sup>th</sup> application deadline. To be considered for admission to the Bachelors-Masters Program, applicants must submit the online application for graduate admission including a Statement of Purpose. Applicants must also present three (3) strong recommendations in support of the application; at least one recommendation must be from their high school teacher and another from a UNC Charlotte faculty member.

Applicants admitted to the Bachelors-Masters Program will be identified as such in Banner. Applicants denied admission to the Bachelors-Masters Program or those freshmen identified as Pre-Bachelors-Masters Program students who do not apply for full admission to the Bachelors-Masters Program will have the Pre-Bachelors-Masters Program designation removed from their curriculum in Banner.

Continuing Enrollment Requirements: Bachelors-Masters Program students must maintain a strong academic record at the undergraduate and graduate levels with a minimum UGPA  $\geq 3.0$  and GGPA  $> 3.0$ ; additionally, they must exhibit stellar performance in all field experiences, research, and coursework. Students who do not maintain the minimum GPA will be placed on probation from the Bachelors-Masters Program the first semester and will be dismissed from the graduate program at the end of the second semester. Students will be subject to the same policies that pertain to other matriculated undergraduate and graduate students.

Financial Aid and Tuition: Bachelors-Masters Program students will be considered for undergraduate financial aid and funding prior to completion of 121 semester hours of undergraduate credit; afterwards, they may be considered for graduate financial assistance. In the fourth year of study when the first graduate course is taken, students will be considered "undergraduate" students and will be charged undergraduate tuition and fees. In the Bachelors-Masters Program, typically in the fifth year, when only graduate coursework is taken, students will be charged graduate tuition and fees and can hold a graduate assistantship.

Support: Academic programs are expected to engage Bachelors-Masters Program students continuously throughout their undergraduate and graduate programs. Towards this end, students will be provided excellent advising, mentoring, and financial support, as well as opportunities to participate in research.

### **Proposed Catalog Copy**

Bachelors-Masters Program. Exceptional high school and undergraduate students may be accepted into a Bachelors-Masters Program whereby they simultaneously pursue the baccalaureate and master's degrees and gain invaluable mentoring and research experience along the way. The Bachelors-Masters Program may also be accelerated in which up to 12 hours earned at the graduate level may be substituted ("double counted") for required undergraduate hours. A list of Bachelors-Masters Programs may be found online at <http://graduateschool.uncc.edu>.

In those programs offering this option, an applicant may be accepted to the Pre-Bachelors-Masters Program directly from high school with a minimum GPA  $\geq 3.75$  (on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum score of 1700 on the SAT. Enrolled students will apply for full admission to the Bachelors-Masters Program in the spring semester of their freshmen year. They must submit an online application for graduate admission and Statement of Purpose as well as three (3) strong recommendations in support of the application; at least one recommendation must be provided by a high school teacher and another from a UNC Charlotte faculty member who taught the applicant in the fall semester. The application and supporting documents must be submitted to the Graduate Admissions Office by March 15<sup>th</sup> of the freshman year. Enrollment will be based on program capacity, and certain programs may have more stringent admission policies.

NOTE: Students admitted to a Bachelors-Masters Program (undergraduate + graduate degrees) are not eligible to hold a graduate assistantship until their final year of study when they are only taking graduate courses. In the Bachelors-Masters of study when only graduate courses are taken, students will be considered "graduate" students and will be charged graduate tuition and fees.

### **Justification**

The goal of the Program is to recruit academically talented high school and undergraduate students to graduate programs at UNC Charlotte, and to support them through to graduation from both the undergraduate and graduate programs of study. The Bachelors-Masters Program will benefit undergraduate and graduate programs in fields where the master's degree is considered the entry-level credential, and will also allow the University to attract and retain some of the brightest undergraduates to our programs of study early in their academic career.

### **Impact**

Both undergraduate and graduate students will be served by the Bachelors-Masters Program, and it will provide an excellent venue to encourage under-represented students to engage in study beyond the undergraduate degree in the very early stages of their undergraduate programs. In particular, the Bachelors-Masters Program will enable faculty in academic programs to mentor young scholars and provide them with experiential and research opportunities throughout their tenure at UNC Charlotte. Successful programs should positively impact retention and graduation rates of both undergraduate and graduate programs. Because of the commitment to participate in the dual undergraduate/graduate Bachelors-Masters Program, we anticipate that the enrollments will be fairly small in order for graduate faculty to mentor and support students. Undergraduate advisors will have to be involved in the program development to effectively advise students in course selection, and the Graduate and Undergraduate Admissions Offices (domestic and international), Office of Student Financial Aid, Office of the Registrar, and the Graduate Academic Affairs Office will all be active participants in the recruitment, admission, enrollment and graduation of the Bachelors-Masters Program students.

### **Resources Required to Support Proposal**

1. Personnel: No new personnel will be required to implement the Bachelors-Masters Program, although existing staff in the administrative units mentioned above as well as faculty and advisors will be required to dedicate some time to establish and run the program.
2. Physical Facility: None
3. Equipment and Supplies: None
4. Computer: None
5. Audio-Visual: None
6. Other Resources: Recruitment materials, both electronic and print, will need to be developed to recruit students.
7. Sources of Funding: No additional sources required unless academic programs wish to support Bachelors-Masters students with stipends for summer research.

### **Consultation with Library and Other Units**

Library Consultation: A library consultation was not performed given that resources to support the undergraduate and graduate programs already exist.

Consultation with other departments or units: The Bachelors-Masters Program proposal was provided to Ms. Kathi Baucom, retired Associate Provost for Enrollment Management; Mr. Tony Carter, Director of Student Financial Aid; Ms. Tina McEntire, Associate Vice Provost for Enrollment Management; Ms. Claire Kirby, Director of Undergraduate Admissions; Mr. Christopher Knauer, Registrar; and members of the Graduate Enrollment Management [GEM] Workgroup, comprised of Associate Deans in the academic colleges and other members of the University community; and Dr. Janet Levy. The consultations resulted in modifications to the proposal that culminated with the Bachelors-Masters Program as presented herein.

### **Initiation and Consideration of the Proposal**

The Bachelors-Masters Program proposal was developed in early 2010 after interest in such a program was expressed by faculty in the College of Engineering. Further, the idea and proposal were vetted through the Graduate Enrollment Management Workgroup, and the Graduate Council first considered the idea in fall 2010. All involved groups provided feedback that resulted in the proposal herein.

### **Attachments**

Correspondence from consultations with various constituencies is attached in support of the proposal.

# Application for a Bachelors-Masters Program

Originating Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

## Program

On behalf of the Department of \_\_\_\_\_, we request permission to implement a Bachelors-Masters Program in \_\_\_\_\_.  
Exceptional undergraduate UNC Charlotte students enrolled in certain undergraduate programs, as noted below, may be accepted into the Master of \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ and begin work toward a graduate degree before completion of the baccalaureate degree as stipulated below.

## Goal

The goal of the Bachelors-Masters Program is to recruit academically talented high school and undergraduate students to graduate programs at the University, and to support them through to graduation.

## Mechanism

Students will begin graduate coursework in their senior year, although they will be mentored throughout the Bachelors-Masters Program. The Bachelors-Masters Program will allow students to complete the bachelor's degree and the master's degree in less time than pursuing them singularly, and *the two degrees will be awarded simultaneously* after successful completion of all program requirements. Students will only be eligible to participate in commencement ceremonies upon completing the requirements for both the bachelor's and the master's degrees.

This Bachelors-Masters Program may also be accelerated in which up to \_\_\_ hours (no more than 12) earned at the graduate level may be substituted for required undergraduate hours. In other words, up to \_\_\_ hours of graduate work may be "double counted" toward both the baccalaureate and graduate degrees.

***Please attach a sample of the Bachelors-Masters Program curriculum to this request.***

## Application and Admission Requirements

An applicant may be accepted to the Pre-Bachelors-Masters Program directly from high school with a minimum GPA  $\geq 3.75$  (on a 4.0 scale) and a minimum score of 1700 on the SAT. Enrolled students will apply for full admission to the Bachelors-Masters Program in the spring semester of their freshman year. They must submit an online application for graduate admission and the Statement of Purpose as well as three (3) recommendations in support of the application. At least one recommendation must be provided by a high school teacher and another from a UNC Charlotte faculty member who taught the applicant in the fall semester. The application and supporting documents must be submitted by March 15<sup>th</sup> of the freshman year. Enrollment will be based on program capacity, and certain programs may have more stringent admission policies.

**Continuing Enrollment Requirements**

Students must:

- Maintain a strong academic record at the undergraduate and graduate levels, respectively (Cumulative GPA >= 3.0)
- Students who do not maintain the minimum GPA will be placed on probation the first semester and will be dismissed from the graduate program at the end of the second semester.
- Meet all deadlines for licensure (if relevant) and graduation
- Exhibit stellar performance in all field experiences, research, and coursework

**Financial Aid and Tuition**

Students may:

- Be considered for undergraduate financial aid and funding prior to completion of 121 semester hours of undergraduate credit.
- Afterwards, students may be considered for graduate financial assistance.
- Students will be charged graduate tuition and fees after completion of all baccalaureate courses, generally beginning in the fifth year of study.

**Support**

The academic program is expected to engage students continuously throughout their undergraduate and graduate programs. Towards this end, the following advising, mentoring, research, and financial support will be provided to participants in the Bachelors-Masters Program:

- Advising: \_\_\_\_\_
- Mentoring: \_\_\_\_\_
- Research: \_\_\_\_\_
- Financial: \_\_\_\_\_

**Program Approval**

Date Received	Date Considered	Date Forwarded	Action	Signature
				Graduate Program Director
				Department Chair
				Graduate Dean

**Application Submission**

Please submit this Application for a Bachelors-Masters Program to: Dr. Thomas Reynolds, Dean of the Graduate School, 210 Cato Hall.

## 5 Year B.S/M.S Program

The University of North Carolina at Charlotte will offer an integrated five-year Bachelor of Science and Master's Degree program for our outstanding students in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines. Students can take advantage of this well designed program and obtain a bachelor's degree at the end of four years and a Master's degree at the end of the fifth year. One of the purposes of the program is to attract our top students to graduate programs to make them globally competitive. In addition, this type of program will also help attract our top domestic students to graduate programs in fields where the domestic enrollment is stagnant. Many of our top students do not consider graduate programs because of the extra time involved. Industry on the other hand needs a significant number of well trained employees with advanced degrees to replace all the baby boomers retiring in the next five to ten years. In many industries that deal with national security, there is a significant need for domestic student with advanced degrees.

### Program:

Students can enter the program in their sophomore year. They will pick an advisor and work with his or her research group during the summer. This will expose them to research and will also provide them with basic training needed to work on projects. The students will continue to work with the research group for five hours a week during their junior year. They will also formally apply to the graduate program as an early entry candidate during their junior year. At the end of the junior year, the students will work as a summer interns with one of the industry sponsors. The program is structured such that the students can take several entry level graduate courses during their senior year which will count towards their undergraduate technical electives. In addition to this, they are expected to identify their thesis topic by the fall semester of their senior year. The students will work on their research project during the summer and continue the work during the fifth year while taking additional graduate level classes.



**Financial Support;**

The students will be supported as summer research interns after the sophomore year and will also be funded for five hours per week to continue to work with their advisors during their junior year. At the end of the junior year, students will be supported for the summer by companies as summer interns. Students will continue to receive five hour per week support during their senior year. During the fifth year, students will be given a graduate research assistantship to complete their research work. One of the key elements of this program is to engage the students continuously from the time they enter the program to when they finish the program.

A sample program in Mechanical Engineering is given below. The programs in other areas will be structured similar to the Mechanical Engineering B.S/M.S program.

**A sample program in Mechanical Engineering**

<b>UNC Charlotte Department of Mechanical Engineering and Engineering Science</b>					
<b>Five Year BS/MS Curriculum</b>					
<b>Year 1</b>					
ENGR 1201	INTRO TO ENGINEERING I	2	ENGR 1202	INTRO TO ENGINEERING II	2
CHEM 1251	CHEMISTRY I	3	PHYS 2101	PHYSICS I	3
CHEM 1251L	CHEMISTRY I LAB	1	PHYS 2101L	PHYSICS I LAB	1
MATH 1241	CALCULUS I	3	MATH 1242	CALCULUS II	3
ENGL 1101	ENGLISH I	3	ENGL 1102	ENGLISH II	3
LBST 110X	ARTS AND SOCIETY	3	SCIENCE ELECTIVE		3
Total Credit Hours		15	Total Credit Hours		15

<b>PHYSICS II</b>					
PHYS 2102	PHYSICS II	3	MEGR 2180	MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS	3
PHYS 2102L	PHYSICS II LAB	1	MEGR 2156	DESIGN PROJECT LAB I	2
MEGR 2141	ENGINEERING MECHANICS I	3	MEGR 2144	SOLID MECHANICS	3
MATH 2241	CALCULUS III	3	MATH 2171	DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS	3
ECON 2101	MACRO ECONOMICS	3	ECGR 2161	BASIC ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING	3
LBST 2101	WESTERN CULTURE	3	MEGR 2240	COMPUTATIONAL METHODS	3
	Total Credit Hours	16		Total Credit Hours	17
<b>RESEARCH EXPERIENCE FOR UNDERGRADUATES (REU)</b>					
<b>THIRD YEAR</b>					
MEGR 3111	THERMODYNAMICS I	3	MEGR 3112	THERMODYNAMICS II	3
MEGR 3121	DYNAMIC SYSTEMS I	3	MEGR 3122	DYNAMIC SYSTEMS II	3
MEGR 3161	ENGINEERING MATERIALS	3	MEGR 3116	HEAT TRANSFER	3
MEGR 3171	MEASUREMENTS & INSTRUM.	2	MEGR 3156	DESIGN PROJECT LAB II	2
MEGR 3171L	MEASUREMENTS & INSTRUM. LAB	2	MEGR 3114	FLUID MECHANICS	3
MEGR elective	TECH. ELECTIVE (3XXX/4XXX level)	3	MEGR 3152	MECHANICS & MATERIALS LAB	2
	Total Credit Hours	16		Total Credit Hours	16
<b>INDUSTRIAL INTERNSHIP</b>					
<b>SENIOR DESIGN</b>					
MEGR 3255	SENIOR DESIGN I	2	MEGR 3256	SENIOR DESIGN II	2

MEGR elective	<b>Tech. Elective (6XXX graduate)</b>	3	MEGR elective	TECH. ELECTIVE (3XXX/4XXX level)	3
MATH elective	MATHEMATICS ELECTIVE	3	MEGR elective	<b>Tech. Elective (6XXX graduate)</b>	3
LBST 2102	GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING	3	LBST 221X	ETHICAL ISSUES	3
MEGR 3221	MACH ANAL & DESIGN	3	MEGR 3216	THERMAL/FLUIDS DESIGN	3
MEGR 3251	THERMAL/FLUIDS LAB	2			
ENGR 3295	PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT	1			
	Total Credit Hours	17		Total Credit Hours	14
<b>SUMMER</b>					
	<b>Graduate Research or Project</b>				
<b>SPRING</b>					
MEGR 7XXX	<b>MEGR Graduate Course</b>	3	MEGR 7XXX	<b>MEGR Graduate Course</b>	3
MEGR 7XXX	<b>MEGR Graduate Course</b>	3	MEGR 7XXX	<b>MEGR Graduate Course</b>	3
MEGR 7XXX	<b>MEGR Graduate Course</b>	3	MEGR 7XXX	<b>MEGR Graduate Course</b>	3
	<b>Graduate Thesis</b>	3		<b>Graduate Thesis</b>	3
	Total Credit Hours	12		Total Credit Hours	12
	<b>TOTAL BS/MS Credit Hours</b>	<b>150</b>			

## **Watson, Johnna**

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**From:** Carter, Tony  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 01, 2011 3:50 PM  
**To:** Watson, Johnna; McEntire, Tina; Knauer, Chris  
**Subject:** RE: Fifth Year Program Proposal

Johnna,

The proposal, as it relates to financial aid, looks fine. As long as we can determine who the students are in Banner , we can easily monitor their eligibility.

Tony  
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**Tony D. Carter, M.A. | Director**  
**Office of Student Financial Aid**  
**UNC Charlotte | 106 Reese Building**  
**9201 University City Boulevard | Charlotte, NC 28223**  
**Phone: 704-687-7010 | Fax: 704-687-3132**  
**[acarte1@uncc.edu](mailto:acarte1@uncc.edu) | <http://www.uncc.edu>**

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**From:** Watson, Johnna  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2011 3:15 PM  
**To:** McEntire, Tina; Knauer, Chris; Carter, Tony  
**Subject:** Fifth Year Program Proposal

Folks,

You've seen this document before, but I would appreciate you eyeballing it again and providing me with any relevant feedback. The Graduate Council has blessed the concept and I am prepared to submit the proposal via a Long Form to the Faculty Council for consideration. First, however, I would like communication from you that your units are supportive of the initiative so as to provide the Faculty Council with assurance that appropriate consultation was done. If you have additional ideas, suggestions, or changes please let me know so that I can incorporate them.

Thanks (again!).

Johnna

## **Watson, Johnna**

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**From:** McEntire, Tina  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 03, 2012 11:34 AM  
**To:** Watson, Johnna  
**Subject:** FW: Fifth Year Program Proposal

Hey chicka! Happy New Year. I asked Barb and Claire to review the Fifth Year Program Proposal awhile back but am just now getting around to sharing their thoughts. Most of their questions are on the implementation level and not on the actually proposal content. There is no need to answer all these questions until the proposal is approved but is something to think about in the implementation phase. What is the timeline for approval of this proposal? Thanks. Tina

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Tina McEntire | Associate Provost for Enrollment Management  
UNC Charlotte | Cato Hall  
9201 University City Blvd. | Charlotte, NC 28223  
Phone: 704-687-7019 | Fax: 704-687-6228  
[tmmcenti@uncc.edu](mailto:tmmcenti@uncc.edu) | <http://admissions.uncc.edu>

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**From:** Kirby, Claire  
**Sent:** Monday, November 14, 2011 10:33 PM  
**To:** Seyter, Barbara; McEntire, Tina  
**Subject:** RE: Fifth Year Program Proposal

Sorry for not getting this to you earlier today. Barb has good points below. Moving forward, we need to be involved in the discussion for adding these majors or curriculum codes to Banner. That will impact our system. It's more manageable for us to list it as a separate major – Mechanical Engineering Pre-Fifth Year, for example. It would be more difficult for us to admit them to the primary major with a secondary curriculum designation of Pre-Fifth Year. Think ELTI mess...

I assume the Graduate School will be responsible for developing any additional recruitment materials specific to these programs. We would only need to add the options to our current majors lists and be prepared to talk about the options with students.

Claire Kirby | Interim Director of Admissions  
UNC Charlotte | Undergraduate Admissions - Cato Hall  
9201 University City Blvd. | Charlotte, NC 28223  
Phone: 704-687-7292 | Fax: 704-687-6483  
[ckirby@uncc.edu](mailto:ckirby@uncc.edu) | <http://admissions.uncc.edu>

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**From:** Seyter, Barbara  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 13, 2011 10:34 PM  
**To:** McEntire, Tina  
**Cc:** Kirby, Claire  
**Subject:** RE: Fifth Year Program Proposal

Tina,

The general idea is good. A few things:

1. The admissions requirements need to be clarified. It gives minimum admissions requirements, but makes no mention of MCR and specific SAT requirements (520 Math for Engineering, etc.). If these guidelines will be published, then we need to expand upon them to include these items.

2. When is the implementation timeline for this? I assume after fall 2012?

3. It doesn't mention currently enrolled students, would they be eligible to apply, or would this be for new students entering the university only? And, what about change of majors, how would they be considered if they changed into a program that offered this option? Who would review them? Would students who didn't meet the requirements be able to reapply once they enroll if they didn't meet the specific requirements through the admissions process (and who would review them)? And what about transfer students- are they excluded?

4. Just to clarify, when the graduate school contacts the student in their first semester to submit the required recommendation letters, they will be reviewing them and ensuring the student still meets the requirements, correct?

That's all that I can think of right now.

Thanks!

B

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**From:** McEntire, Tina  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 13, 2011 1:07 PM  
**To:** Kirby, Claire; Seyter, Barbara  
**Cc:** Watson, Johnna  
**Subject:** FW: Fifth Year Program Proposal

Claire and Barb, Please read over this carefully and detail to me any compliments/concerns that you have about the proposal or future implementation of this new program. I would love to have your comments by end of day on Monday, if possible. Thanks, Tina

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Tina McEntire | Associate Provost for Enrollment Management  
UNC Charlotte | Cato Hall  
9201 University City Blvd. | Charlotte, NC 28223  
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**From:** Watson, Johnna  
**Sent:** Friday, October 21, 2011 3:15 PM  
**To:** McEntire, Tina; Knauer, Chris; Carter, Tony  
**Subject:** Fifth Year Program Proposal

Folks,

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Thanks (again!).