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To: Dr. Lisa Walker
Faculty President
UNC Charlotte

From: Selection Committee, Bank of America Award for Excellence in Teaching
(Stan Schneider, Chair, Matthew Davies, Tracy Rock, Kimberly Buch, Joanne Robinson, Teresa Petty,
Janni Sorensen, Amy Nance Lewis, Steffany Hajek, Joan Lorden)

RE: Recommendation to create a University-wide Teaching Excellence Award for lecturers

Date: November 18, 2016

Dear Dr. Walker,

We would like to submit a recommendation to the Faculty Council to establish a University-wide Teaching Excellence Award for lecturers. Lecturers are essential and highly dedicated members of our faculty. It would not be possible to serve our rapidly growing student population or offer the quality and diversity of our curriculum without the contributions of lecturers. Lecturers are among the finest teachers on our campus and, indeed, are regularly nominated by students for the Bank of America Teaching Award. However, the Bank of America Award is restricted to tenure-track faculty for two reasons. First, the winner of the Bank of America award automatically becomes UNC Charlotte's nominee for the annual Board of Governors Teaching Excellence Award, and this award is restricted to tenure-track faculty. The link between the two awards necessitates that both follow the same eligibility requirements. Second, although the Bank of America award is for teaching excellence, the selection process also takes into account how a faculty member's research informs their teaching and involves students. Because lecturers typically do not have a research component in their duties, they do not have access to all the aspects of teaching performance we expect for Bank of America award nominees. As a result, lecturers are excluded from the only University-wide award that recognizes teaching excellence. Given the talents and contributions of lecturers to the teaching mission of the University, we feel the time is right for the creation of an annual award to recognize their accomplishments. Although some Colleges offer their own lecturer teaching awards, none have the scope or level of recognition as the Bank of America Award.

We envision the lecturer award as separate from, but parallel to the Bank of America Award. We recommend that the award involve a separate nominating and selection process handled by a separate selection committee. Both the tenure-track and lecturer awards should be presented during the Bank of America Award ceremony, to emphasize the importance of all faculty in promoting teaching excellence at UNC Charlotte.

Thank you for considering our recommendation. Please let me know if we can provide further information.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stanley Schneider".

Stan Schneider
Professor and Vice Chair for Academic Programs