



FACULTY COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION  
IN SUPPORT OF  
2015 CONNECT NC BOND ACT AND REFERENDUM

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2015, the North Carolina General Assembly in a bipartisan vote passed the Connect NC Bond Act of 2015; and

WHEREAS, on October 21, 2015, North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory signed the Connect NC Bond Act of 2015; and

WHEREAS, it has been 15 years since the last general obligation bond was authorized to improve North Carolina's higher education facilities and infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, since that time, North Carolina's population has increased by two million people and the University of North Carolina at Charlotte's enrollment has grown by 76%; and

WHEREAS, the Connect NC Bond Act of 2015 provides two billion dollars to invest in North Carolina's higher education, parks, agriculture, and North Carolina Zoo; and

WHEREAS, approximately half of this bond measure will be devoted to projects to better the University of North Carolina and its constituent institutions; and

WHEREAS, the Connect NC Bond Act includes \$90 million for a new science building at UNC Charlotte; and

WHEREAS, without this new science building, UNC Charlotte cannot provide high-quality instruction to its growing student enrollment to meet the increasing workforce demand by regional and North Carolina employers; and

WHEREAS, fifty percent of UNC Charlotte students who have declared majors are in the science, technology, engineering and math fields, and 15,000 UNC Charlotte students take at least one laboratory class each semester; and

WHEREAS, the Connect NC Bond Act of 2015 includes \$134 million investment in the Charlotte region including funds for construction and renovations at Central Piedmont Community College, Cleveland Community College, Gaston College, Mitchell Community College, Rowan-Cabarrus Community College, and Stanly Community College; and

WHEREAS, the Connect NC Bond Act of 2015 will fund investments in the regional natural resources of Crowders Mountain State Park, Lake Norman State Park, and Morrow Mountain State Park; and

WHEREAS, if the Connect NC Bond Act of 2015 passes, no tax increases are necessary to pay for debt service, the percentage of General Fund revenue required to pay the debt service is below the consensus debt limit to maintain a AAA bond rating, and North Carolina's debt service payments will be less in six years than they are today; and

WHEREAS, the Connect NC Bond referendum will be on the March 15, 2016 ballot; and

WHEREAS, UNC Charlotte students are counting on and deserve the Faculty Council's leadership and support in this investment in their future;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the University of North Carolina at Charlotte Faculty Council endorses the \$2 billion Connect NC Bond Act which will appear on the ballot on March 15, 2016.