Charter of the Board of Visitors
East Carolina University

Approved by the East Carolina University Board of Trustees
March 18, 1994

CHARTER

The Board of Trustees of East Carolina University by action at a meeting held on March 18, 1994, has approved this Charter providing as follows:

ARTICLE I: Organization and Duration

1. There is hereby created an unincorporated association to be known as the EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS.

2. The association shall continue in existence at the pleasure of the East Carolina University Board of Trustees.

ARTICLE II Purpose and Functions

1. The EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS shall be a service organization of East Carolina University.

2. In this role, the association shall have the following functions:

   (a) to assist the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor in maintaining and improving the excellence and effectiveness of East Carolina University;

   (b) to advise and assist the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor in conveying to the people of North Carolina the mission, programs, accomplishments, and aspirations of East Carolina University;

   (c) to assist in informing the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor of the attitudes, beliefs, concerns, and expectations of the people of North Carolina with respect to East Carolina University; and

   (d) to advise and assist the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor with respect to the developmental activities of East Carolina University.

ARTICLE III Membership

1. The EAST CAROLINA UNIVERSITY BOARD OF VISITORS shall consist of sixty elected members, to include the President of the Alumni Association, the President of the Parents' Council, the Chairman of the ECU Foundation, the President of the Educational Foundation, the Chairman of the Medical Foundation, the Mayor of the City of Greenville or his/her designee, the Chairman of the Pitt County Commissioners or his/her designee, and, for liaison purposes, a member of the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor or his designee, all of the latter who shall serve as EX OFFICIO members with full participatory privileges.

2. There shall be but one qualification for membership in the association: a willingness to help East Carolina University fulfill its general, educational, research, and service missions.

3. Members shall be elected to the association by the Board of Trustees by such a process as it may determine, on nomination by the Chancellor and the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

4. As terms expire, members shall be elected annually before the July meeting of the Board of Trustees. After the initial formation of the association with eight members having a 1 year term, eight having a 2 year term, eight having a 3 year term, and seven having a 4 - year term, each subsequently elected member will serve one 4 year term ending June 30th of the appropriate year. Any person initially elected for less than a 4 year term is immediately eligible for re-election to a 4 year term. All outgoing members will be eligible for reappointment to a second consecutive four year term. After the 2nd term, the member will be ineligible for re-election for a period of one year. Any vacancy that occurs in the membership shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the manner specified in paragraph 3 of this Article.

5. Upon the conclusion of a term of service on the ECU Board of Visitors, any member who has served in the capacity of Chair will be designated as an emeritus(a) member. Members Emeritus(a) will serve in an ex-officio capacity of the ECU Board of Visitors in perpetuity. In the event the person is appointed to a subsequent term by regular appointment, emeritus(a) status will be held in abeyance pending conclusion of the regular term. This action will increase the total membership of the ECU Board of Visitors in accordance with the number of members holding emeritus(a) status.

6. If for any reason other than ill health or service in the interest of the State or nation, a member fails to be physically present for three (3) successive regular meetings of the Board of Visitors, his/her place as a member shall be deemed vacant.

7. Vacancies in membership may be declared by the Board of Trustees for any cause determined by the Board at their discretion.

ARTICLE IV: Officers

1. There shall be a Chairman, a Vice Chairman, and a Secretary of the Association.

2. The officers of the association shall be elected each July by the Board of Trustees by such process as it may determine, on nomination by the Chancellor and the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees.

3. Such officers shall serve until June 30 of the year following their election as officers. An officer may be re-elected for an unlimited number of terms. Any vacancy in an office shall be filled for the balance of the unexpired term in the manner specified in paragraph 2 of this Article.

ARTICLE V: Meetings

1. Meetings of the association shall be called by its Chairman in consultation with the Chancellor and shall normally occur twice a calendar year.

2. Such meetings may be held at any time and place specified in the call of the meeting.

3. Members of the Board of Trustees and the Chancellor or the Chancellor's delegate may attend and participate fully in all meetings of the association.

ARTICLE VI: Amendments

1. This Charter may be amended at any time by action of the Board of Trustees.

2. Amendments may be made by the Board of Trustees on its own initiative or in response to suggestions made by the Chancellor or by the association.

AMENDMENTS MADE TO THE BYLAWS

1) The East Carolina University Board of Visitors be expanded by ten members and set appointments be made at the next appointment cycle.

   Approved by the Board of Trustees on December 6, 1996.

2) Article III, 4. changed. The word "ten" deleted and the sentence read, "As terms expire, members shall be elected annually at the July meeting of the Board of Trustees.

   Authorized by Dr. James LeRoy Smith, Assistant Secretary, East Carolina University Board of Trustees February 1, 1999.

3) The suspension of the Board of Visitors Charter stipulation that Board of Visitors be elected in July so that we can conduct that election today and also that we hereby modify that charter to indicate that such elections take place prior to July 1st of each year.

   Approved by the Board of Trustees on May 14, 1999.

4) Upon the conclusion of a term of service on the ECU Board of Visitors, any member who has served in the capacity of Chair will be designated as an emeritus(a) member. Members Emeritus(a) will serve in an ex-officio capacity of the ECU Board of Visitors in perpetuity. In the event the person is appointed to a subsequent term by regular appointment, emeritus(a) status will be held in abeyance pending conclusion of the regular term. This action will increase the total membership of the ECU Board of Visitors in accordance with the number of members holding emeritus(a) status.
   Approved by the Board of Trustees on December 16, 2005.

5) If for any reason other than ill health or service in the interest of the State or nation, a member fails to be physically present for three (3) successive regular meetings of the Board of Visitors, his/her place as a member shall be deemed vacant.

   Approved by the Board of Trustees on July 25, 2006.

6) Expanded the board from 50 to 60 members. In addition, allowed outgoing members to be elected to a 2nd consecutive four year term.

   Approved by the Board of Trustees on February 26, 2010.

7) Expended the board from 60 to 70 members

   Approved by the Board of Trustees on February 14, 2014