July 16, 2017

RE: College of Engineering and Technology Fee
2017-18 Academic Year

This year we are implementing a fee for all students who are majoring in either a graduate program or an undergraduate program in the College of Engineering and Technology.

As you are probably aware, state funding for public universities has been on the decline for a number of years. This decreasing level of funding is making it very difficult for the College to continue to provide our students with the highest quality education and experience. The software and IT infrastructure, the laboratory equipment we provide, as well as the personnel we dedicate to student success in the College is becoming increasingly more expensive, while at the same time funding levels are dropping.

We have implemented a fee for all students enrolled in a College major, both undergraduate and graduate. Such a fee is found in almost all other Engineering and Technology programs, many of which have larger fees. The fee is critical to our ability to maintain our edge and not fall behind our peer institutions across the state and nation.

We will use the funds to invest in new and existing infrastructure and to maintain and make critical upgrades to laboratories and equipment to ensure we have state-of-the-art facilities. We will also use the fee to provide additional personnel to support students in all degree programs, particularly in terms of student assistance in labs and classrooms, IT support, and support for our laboratories and special projects. These investments are critical to the undergraduate and graduate experience and to our faculty who teach and mentor these students.

Our goal is to balance the need to keep the cost of attending ECU’s College of Engineering and Technology affordable with the rising costs of higher education. The job and career outlook is very strong for our graduates provided we continue to support state-of-the-art equipment and personnel to promote and maximize your success as a student.

Thank you for continuing to support and be a part of the College of Engineering and Technology at East Carolina University.