UNC GREENSBORO
Board *of* Trustees

Finance and Administration Committee
November 10, 2026

Action Item

FAC – 2 Proposed Increase in Chancellor's Delegated Authority for Designer Selection

Background Information

At the December 6, 2013, meeting of the Board of Trustees, the Board authorized the Chancellor, ex officio, to appoint architects and engineers for projects whose authorized funding is **$2,000,000** or less and authorized the Chancellor to report all such appointments to the Board at its next meeting.

Under the UNC Policy Manual, Section 600.1.1, the authority for designer selection is delegated to the Boards of Trustees regardless of dollar value, and the policy does not prohibit further delegation, though $2,000,000 aligned with the capital threshold at that time for the NC State Construction Office's oversight in designer contract negotiation and execution. That threshold has been raised to **$4,000,000**, and projects with a total budget exceeding $1,500,000 require public solicitation of designer services. The University negotiates and executes contracts for design services for total project budgets between $1,500,000 to $4,000,000.

As such, an increase in the above delegation from **$2,000,000 to $4,000,000** would facilitate approval, aligning with this threshold, by delegating it from the Board of Trustees to the Chancellor and allowing for expedited design starts for such projects outside the Board of Trustees' scheduled meetings. Such appointments would be reported to the Board at its next meeting. Designer selections for projects above $4,000,000 would still require Board approval.

Recommended Action

That the Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro approve authorizing the Chancellor, ex officio, to appoint architects and engineers for projects with authorized funding of **$4,000,000** or less, and authorize the Chancellor to report all such appointments to the Board of Trustees at its next meeting

John Loonan
Vice Chancellor for
Finance *and* Administration

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POLICY GUIDANCE

UNC Policy Manual 600.1.1
II. Approval and Administration of Certain Capital Improvement Projects
B. General Delegation of Authority to the President and Boards of Trustees for the Administration of Design and Construction of Certain Capital Improvement Projects Using Public Money.

1. In accordance with The UNC Policy Manual, Appendix 1, Para. VI, the Board of Governors delegates to the boards of trustees, subject to policies of the Board of Governors and all legal requirements relative to the construction of state -owned buildings, the responsibility for the following matters concerning campus capital construction projects which have been approved by the Board of Governors and authorized by the State of North Carolina: (1) the selection of architects or engineers for buildings and improvements requiring such professional services; (2) the approval of building sites; (3) the approval of plans and specifications; and (4) the final acceptance of completed buildings and projects. Consistent with UNC Policy 200.1, the president has authority to execute design and construction contracts for capital improvement projects; this authority may be delegated.

*The authority for designer selection is delegated to the Boards of Trustees regardless of dollar value and the policy does not prohibit further delegation to the Chancellor.

In summary,
UNC Policy Authority:

- The UNC Board of Governors delegates authority for architect and engineer selection to the Board of Trustees for approved capital projects.
- Current policy permits the Board to further delegate this authority.
- UNCG's Board currently delegates designer selection authority to the Chancellor for projects up to $2 million.

Key Point: The proposed action is consistent with UNC policy and maintains Board oversight through reporting requirements.

UNC GREENSBORO CURRENT AUTHORITY STRUCTURE AND RECOMMENDATION

Current Delegation
- Chancellor approval authority up to $2 million
- Board approval required for projects above $2 million

Why Change:
- NC State Construction Office threshold increase from $2 million to $4 million
- UNCG negotiates and executes designer contracts for projects between $1.5 million and $4 million
- Current delegation no longer aligns with current project administration practices

Recommendation:
Increase the Chancellor's delegated authority for designer selection from $2 million to $4 million, with all selections reported to the Board at its next meeting. Designer selections exceeding $4 million would continue to require Board approval.

OTHER UNC INSTITUTIONS

Based on information compiled from some counterparts at other System Institutions:

Institution	Delegated Authority
ECU	VCAF approval regardless of project value
UNC Charlotte	CFO/AVC-Facilities up to $750K, Considering increase to $TBD
UNC Chapel Hill	Considering delegation up to $20M
UNCG (Current)	$2M
UNCG (Proposed)	$4M

BENEFITS OF INCREASING DELEGATED AUTHORITY

- **Faster Project Delivery:** Allow designer contracts to proceed without waiting for the next Board meeting.
- **Alignment with Current Thresholds:** Aligns Board delegation with current UNC System and State Construction Office project administration threshold.
- **Maintained Board Oversight:** Designer selection would continue to be reported at the next Board meeting.
- **Improved Operational Efficiency:** Reduces approval delays and supports timely project initiation.
- **Meaningful Impact:** *5 of 10 Current Formal (Over $1,500,000) projects in the design phase fall within the proposed $2M - $4M delegation range.

REQUESTED COMMITTEE ACTION

Recommendation:
Approve a revision to the Board's 2013 delegation of authority to increase the Chancellor's authority for designer selection from $2 million to $4 million, with all selections reported to the Board at its next meeting.

Result:
- Faster project initiation
- Continued Board oversight
- Alignment with current project administration thresholds

Thank You

Questions and Discussion