The 2010 Retention Study Recommendations

1. **Continue current practices at Carolina that positively influence student retention.**
   - Maintain programs and current practices at Carolina that positively influence student retention including, but not limited to, Summer Bridge, Carolina Covenant, Minority Peer-Advising, C-STEP, living-learning communities, Bounce Back and academic advising.
   - Continue the on-going program of research on student retention and graduation at Carolina, stay apprised of best practices at peer institutions, and evaluate the efficacy of initiatives targeted at improving degree completion rates.
   - Include retention efforts and evaluation in the annual reports of all programs and units which influence persistence and graduation.
   - Explore changes to the current procedures for conferring, dating and reporting degree awards so that the University can more accurately report its completion rates for external accountability purposes.

2. **Develop and sustain strategies to improve junior transfer student retention and graduation.**
   - Support successful programs enhancing junior transfer student success including C-STEP, the Junior Transfer Seminar, the Transfer Success Group, Tau Sigma and the Tar Heel Transfers.
   - Develop new strategies to raise the Junior Transfer graduation rate from 45 to 50% by 2014.

3. **Promote the efficient and effective use of resources that lead to student success.**
   - Hire and support professional staff at the levels required to continue providing exceptional student support, including academic advisors, learning specialists and academic counselors, by filling vacant positions as quickly as possible and replacing positions lost to budget cutbacks.
   - Fully implement the system of probation. This growing program requires more personnel to manage the case load and provide support to students in academic jeopardy.
   - Develop mechanisms to support students performing just above the probation threshold (2.000-2.200 cumulative GPA).
   - Develop programming for sophomores that removes barriers to persistence into the junior year.
   - Support efforts to normalize help seeking behavior among undergraduates.
   - Continue to increase the number of students who participate in Summer Bridge.

4. **Ensure effective and efficient implementation of retention tools in ConnectCarolina.**
   - Make full use of the robust reporting and communication tools in ConnectCarolina including the effective and efficient calculation of academic eligibility.
   - Ensure the development, maintenance and use of an accurate degree audit system.
   - Utilize an online academic early warning system to enhance faculty-student communication and to connect students with academic resources in a timely manner.

5. **Continue support for cultural and co-curricula programs promoting smaller communities, cultural identity, and a sense of belonging at Carolina for all students, and particularly students from historically underrepresented populations.**
   - This includes enhancing multicultural programs, services and resources and living-learning communities.
   - Enhancing programming for transfer students, first generation college students, Covenant Scholars and African American and Latino males.)
➢ Expand opportunities for personal contact and counseling with professional staff and faculty, who mirror the diversity of our students, through initiatives that address concerns identified by culturally discreet populations.

➢ Gather data on and evaluate participation in co-curricular activities.