To: UNCW Community

From: Stan H. Harts EH&S Director

Date: December 17, 2013

Re: UNCW Hazard Mitigation Plan Review

UNCW is required to maintain a Hazard Mitigation Plan if it is to receive disaster relief funding. The purpose of this plan is to provide an assessment of our vulnerabilities to disasters that can affect our campus and identify measures to reduce the impact of those disasters should they occur.

UNCW has historically maintained its own plan; in fact it was the first college or university in North Carolina to have such a plan in 2008. This plan shall be evaluated and revised as necessary every five years. An opportunity has arisen whereby UNCW may join the other UNC system universities in a set of mitigation plans, specifically regional plan developed by the seven other eastern campuses: East Carolina University, Elizabeth City State University, Fayetteville State University, NC Central University, NC School of Math and Science, North Carolina State University, and UNC Pembroke. This proposal was favorably received by our local Emergency Management partners as well as the UNC General Administration.

UNCW is vulnerable to the same disasters as many of the universities contained in the current plan, specifically East Carolina University. Therefore, to demonstrate how the UNCW plan will look in five years, the Environmental Health & Safety Department has placed the East Carolina version of the “Eastern Campuses” plan on our website for you to download and read.

For your convenience in downloading, the plan is broken into several sections. I would like to call your attention to Section 3- System-wide PDM Plan. This section is most pertinent to the university at this time and will be supplemented with data to be obtained in 2014. Also, this section describes the hazards that New Hanover County, and thus our campus, faces and must plan for. Additional work is planned that will involve the use of a consultant to analyze the vulnerabilities of the most important and representative buildings on campus and make recommendations on mitigation strategies.

We desire the feedback of the campus community on this process of joining this Eastern Campuses Hazard Mitigation Plan. There will be a drop-in forum on the Eastern Campuses Plan on January 13, 2014 at 10:30 to 11:30 am in Hoggard 125. You may also submit comments to the university Emergency Manager, Eric Griffin, who may be reached at griffinek@uncw.edu or 910-962-7874.

We thank you for your interest in this process. Our goal is to have the decision made soon after the forum and any request made to join the plan to North Carolina Division of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).