regarding the attempts to shut down UNCG graduate math programs

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To:Stephen Tate <srtate@uncg.edu>

I'm writing because I understand you are collecting testimonials to pass on in response to the recent announcements regarding UNCG's math grad programs. Please let me know if I've got the wrong person or something different is needed!

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To Whom It May Concern,

The planned degradation of mathematics education at UNCG is an enormous disservice to students past, present, and future – as well as to the people of North Carolina. UNCG's math department has been a stellar example of a smaller program which has for years produced strong graduates at all levels, effectively addressed the changing educational needs of undergraduates, and maintained an internationally-recognized research profile. Furthermore, it is my understanding that there is no substantive fiscal justification for closures, given major budgetary surpluses the department generates. It is hard to imagine why anyone would want to weaken the standing and reputation of a department which alumni hitherto proudly advertise, which attracts an impressive cohort of students, and which will continue to grow and serve the needs of the modern economy. When my own PhD students graduate and are seeking employment, I will surely caution them against applying to academic jobs in North Carolina if the state proves it does not care about the invaluable contributions of its public universities.

Sincerely,
Joshua Cooper
Professor, Department of Mathematics
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