

## UNCG Comp. Math

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To:Stephen Tate <srtate@uncg.edu>

Dear Chancellor Gilliam,

I am stunned to learn just now that the UNCG Provost recommends dropping the PhD program in Computational Math. As an active researcher in Applied Math (specialty Combinatorics, and a supervisor myself of 15 PhD dissertations), I have always been impressed with the atmosphere and activity at UNCG, which I have visited about ten times over the years. Conferences are held there, and I have collaborated with people there. I was Chair of our own Department for 6 years, where we have PhD's in pure Math as well as Applied and Computational Math, so I pay attention to such things.

Without the doctoral program providing students to assist on major research projects, it is likely that you will lose some of your strongest professors! It would be a shame.

Moreover, looking over the directory of current students in the program, it appears that UNCG is doing really well—compared to other programs in math—at attracting students in underrepresented groups, particularly females and African-Americans. Of course I don't have access to the data you do, or program reviews, but everything I see looks impressive.

Computational Math is only growing in importance in this age of data science and AI. Math is the language of science, a keystone field. Please do not make a hasty decision to end this worthwhile program.

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