



## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### What is the University Center of Greenville?

- UCG was chartered by the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education in 1987.
- UCG is a **cost-effective, resource-sharing alternative** to the creation of a full public university campus, which would cost the taxpayers \$20 million annually.
- UCG is the **only access point to public higher education** for Greenville, the largest metropolitan area in the Southeast without its own university.
- Cost-sharing is achieved through member-institution support and through the appropriations of the General Assembly in helping to underwrite costs for facilities, program expansion, technology, support staff and strategic community partnerships.
- In its 20 years, **registrations and credit hours** have tripled in nursing, education, business and 70 other program concentrations.
- UCG serves **2200** students whose average age is 34. 80% report to be working full-time.

### How is the University Center Funded?

- Funding for UCG is a **partnership** approach.
- Since 2001, **support from the collaborating universities has grown tenfold from \$65,000 annually to a projected \$650,000** in 2009-2010 corresponding to UCG's student and course/registration growth.
- Member institutions also pay for all costs related to instruction (faculty salaries, instructional materials, etc.).
- State support has grown from \$800,000 in 2001 to \$1,539,303 in 2008 – but **no state funding** (\$0) is proposed for UCG in the Governor's 2009-2010 budget.
- The state funding provided in past years to UCG covered facilities, technology, and the support staff needed to maintain the computer labs, libraries and shared services environment that is UCG.

### What are the Consequences of No State Funding to the University Center?

- Without state funding, UCG would begin a **two-year process of phasing out all operations**.

### What Can I Do To Help?

- Please **call or write** members from the Delegation list enclosed **before February 13<sup>th</sup>** to discuss why the University Center of Greenville is a vital resource to our community.