WHEREAS, the UNC School of Dentistry has recently announced its intention to lay off seventeen Dental Technicians as of November 27 and to outsource the work they have traditionally done to outside contractors; and

WHEREAS, these employees were provided with very short notice as to their terminations; and

WHEREAS, faculty in the University in general, and the School of Dentistry in particular, received virtually no advance notification, and no advance consultation, about the terminations; and

WHEREAS, the Dental Service Laboratories provide essential research and teaching functions which cannot be effectively carried out by off-site, private companies; and

WHEREAS, several faculty in the School of Dentistry have expressed concern at the detrimental effects the terminations will have on their teaching, research, and service missions; and

WHEREAS, several faculty in the School of Dentistry have expressed additional concern at the detrimental effects the terminations will have on their ability to provide top-quality dental patient care; and

WHEREAS, the one of the AAUP's core principles is shared governance, which incorporates an administration's responsibility to share authority with the faculty in decisions regarding the teaching and research missions of the University; and

WHEREAS, the UNC Employee Forum has requested a 12-month moratorium on the terminations to allow public review of the decision; and

WHEREAS, the UNC-CH chapter of the AAUP considers its core principles to be acting in concert with the goals of staff to promote academic freedom and shared governance;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, THE UNC-CH CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS:

Calls upon the Chancellor, the Provost, and the Dean of the School of Dentistry to implement the 12-month moratorium proposed by the Employee Forum; Emphasizes the necessity of including faculty input at every stage of administrative decisions influencing curriculum and research; Reiterates that this necessity includes decisions at clinical units of the University such as the dental and medical schools; Requests that the Chancellor, in consultation with appropriate faculty and staff representatives in all of its units, 1) undertake a thorough review at the University level of the impact of such terminations, taking into account their effects on employee welfare, staff morale, teaching, and research, alongside short-term budgetary considerations, 2) develop University policies for handling similar situations affecting current and future EPA and SPA staff.