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**Jeffrey A Ehme\*** (jehme@spelman.edu), Dept of Mathematics, Box 214, 350 Spelman Lane SW, Spelman College, Atlanta, GA 30314, and **Aprillya Lanz** (lanzar@vmi.edu), Dept. of Mathematics and Computer Science, Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, VA 24450. *Uniqueness Implies Existence for Nonlinear Focal-Like Boundary Value Problems.*

Given an appropriate growth condition for  $f$  and an uniqueness assumption on  $y^{(n)} = 0$  with respect to certain focal boundary value problems, it is shown that uniqueness of solutions to the nonlinear differential equation

$$y^{(n)} = f(t, y, y', \dots, y^{(n-1)})$$

subject to boundary conditions of the form

$$g_{ij}(y(t_j), \dots, y^{(n-1)}(t_j)) = y_{ij},$$

implies existence of solutions. (Received September 16, 2008)