

APPENDIX A

REMARKS OF DR. WILLIE J. GILCHRIST BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING MARCH 15, 2007

To my leader, the President, to the members of this board, I have it all written down, but I think I am going to do it my way. Elizabeth City State University is very special to Jacqueline, to all of my children, my son-in-law, and believe it or not, even to my grandchildren. And it is especially special to me. You know that we, Jacqueline and I, met there so ECSU carries a deep root in our hearts. Not only ECSU, but also the citizens within that community and in that region are very special to us. I am going to be the leader that will follow the vision of our President. In his inaugural address, President Bowles made it very clear what he expected of all of the universities in the system. I am going to make sure that we focus on teacher education. I am going to make sure that in northeastern North Carolina, we do our fair share and we do our part by working with school superintendents and principals to grow teachers. In northeastern North Carolina, many of our teachers leave and go into other areas. That is a void for the children of our region. So we will do our part at Elizabeth City State University. We are already working very hard with the community colleges system, because it is clear to me that we must have a seamless and collaborative effort with the community colleges. We will do that. We will partner to the highest degree. I know it is important that young people enter into the university. So we will do all that we can to be the cheapest and best deal in town. We are going to make sure that our university is accessible and affordable, even if we have to find new means and new ways to reward our teacher, our professors. We will do that. But it is important that we bring in quality students and give them their right place in our society. Now only will we bring them in, we are committed to put the strategies together so that they will graduate. It is important that all of us together work as a team to make sure that we provide a quality education at Elizabeth City State

University. We will step up to the plate in our commitment to the public and define quality research at our institution as well. Those are the main five bullets that our president outlined for us to follow and I will be one leader that will follow the leadership of this president. I have a lot more that I want to talk about, but I am going to just say to you, thank you. Thanks for giving us an opportunity to lead. Thank you for allowing us to be an integral part of the UNC system. Thank you for allowing us to partner with all of the universities, but especially with East Carolina. We will build a bond so that we together can provide services in northeastern North Carolina. I can hardly wait!