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RESOLUTION HONORING JAMES B. MILLIKEN SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT FOR UNIVERSITY AFFAIRS THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

WHEREAS JAMES B. ‘J.B.’ MILLIKEN was named Vice President for Public Affairs and University Advancement of the 16-campus University of North Carolina in August 1998; and

WHEREAS over the past six years he has led the University’s efforts to forge alliances and strong working relationships across campuses, education sectors, business, and government; and

WHEREAS in that role he has helped build and strengthen the statewide and federal government relations infrastructure of the University, including the development of integrated state and federal legislative agendas under the auspices of the Public Affairs Committee of the Board of Governors; and

WHEREAS he has helped the Board of Governors and our 16 chancellors embrace and remain focused on a core set of strategic priorities, enabling each of us to be more effective stewards and advocates on behalf of the University; and

WHEREAS he played a pivotal role in securing the landslide passage in November 2000 of a \$3.1-billion higher education bond referendum for capital construction on the University of North Carolina and community college campuses across the state - the largest bond issue ever approved in the history of American higher education; and

WHEREAS during an extended period of constrained state resources and political divisiveness, he has used his expertise, skills, and sound judgment to secure funding for the Board of Governors’ highest budget priorities, as well as the expanded managerial flexibility needed to function effectively in today’s competitive environment; and

WHEREAS he has provided critical leadership in building the capacity of the University of North Carolina campuses and affiliates to raise funds from private sources and to conduct related advancement activities; and

WHEREAS in March 2003 he was named the University’s Senior Vice President for University Affairs, assuming additional responsibility for University-wide activities related to policy research and analysis, strategy development, and statewide economic development; and

WHEREAS he has executed all of these duties with great skill, diplomacy, and effectiveness, earning the respect and admiration of colleagues across the University and the state;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Governors of the University of North Carolina expresses its gratitude and deepest appreciation to JAMES B. ‘J.B.’ MILLIKEN for his many contributions and dedicated service on behalf of the University of North Carolina, the state, and its people; and

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BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Governors wishes him great future success as he assumes the presidency of the four-campus University of Nebraska.

This the 9th day of July 2004

J. Bradley Wilson, *Chairman*

Patsy B. Perry, *Secretary*

**Remarks of Senior Vice President James ‘J.B.’ Milliken
Board of Governors Meeting
July 9, 2004**

I can’t tell you how relieved I am to see this. After the past month or so of all of these eulogies, I was expecting to see a tombstone at some point. Just a piece of paper in leather is most welcome. Thank you all. I am going to make a few heartfelt comments, so heartfelt that I wrote them down, so I wouldn’t forget them.

My first day on the job was August 1, 1998. I reminded Chancellor Fox last night that we started on the same day. My first day was overshadowed by Chancellor Fox starting, and now my last day is overshadowed by Chancellor Fox leaving. I think this is my destiny. Not only overshadowed by Chancellor Fox, but this has been such a huge day in the history of North Carolina. Many things have happened this week, such as President Bush was here on Wednesday, earlier in the week we learned that our senior senator is going to be on the national ticket after all, and then the most important thing that happened this week that we, in North Carolina, will remember for the rest of our lives, the collective sense of relief that Coach K is staying in North Carolina. So my leaving has been greatly diminished, but Coach K can pick up in my absence.

I came to the University of North Carolina and the state of North Carolina six years ago for a number of reasons. First of all, I think many of you know that Nana is from North Carolina.

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My wife was born and raised in Raleigh and her father was on the staff of North Carolina State University, as a faculty member for 30 years. Also, there are beaches here. I don't know if you have been to Nebraska but that's a real positive. More important, was a chance to build a new division, the public affairs and university advancement division, which was a great opportunity for someone in my position. But most important was that I consulted with colleagues around the country about the opportunity to come to North Carolina. They said that it is far and away one of the best public universities in America, and if you have the chance to go to the University of North Carolina and the chance to work for the then new president, Molly Broad, you should jump at it. And I did, and they were right. This is one of the truly great universities in America, and it enjoys fabulous leadership. I am delighted that I came, and I thank all of you for the opportunity.

There are a number of things that have happened during the last six years that I am very proud to have had a very small part in. I am not going to go through the resolution, some of those things that have happened in the last six years, I don't even remember. Thank goodness for computers, because now we can lift paragraphs and move them around. And I think that everybody who was here in the year 2000 has a resolution with their name on it that talks about their leadership role in the \$3.1 billion bond campaign. So I am very happy to be a part of that. But we did have some great success with the General Assembly during some tough years. We should all be grateful. And I am going to remind you to do the same thing that the President and Jim Babb have suggested, and that is to thank the people in the General Assembly of North Carolina. As I look across the country, and now as I prepare to go to Nebraska, what this General Assembly and state government do for the university is phenomenal. It is also unique in this country, the level of support. I am very pleased to have been here and to have been some small part of their support. The focus growth initiative, something that happened during the last six years, has been so important for many of our campuses. There are many other examples but as I

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get older and spend more time in this business, one of the most important things I think that an administrator does is hiring very good people and leaving them in place. That is the thing I am the proudest of. We created a Washington, D.C. office. I think we have one of the best offices in Washington of any institution in America. I think we doubled our effectiveness in Raleigh by getting me out and getting Mark Fleming in. That was a great change. We built an advancement practice which particularly supports our smaller institutions, and have hired leadership there that is exemplary. There are many, many other things where I have been able to have been a part of bringing in great people. None of this would be possible without the support of President Broad, whom I am very grateful for the opportunity to work with. I believe she is one of the premier presidents in American higher education. I thank all of you for the support of this board. Particularly the two chairs of the Public Affairs committee, Jim Phillips and Jim Babb, whom I have worked with most closely on this board.

Six years ago on that day when Marye Anne was getting the headlines, I was off in Greensboro, on my first day of work, at the opening of Spring Garden Street at UNC Greensboro. I sat at a table with Jim Phillips during lunch at Chancellor Sullivan's event. He invited me over to his office. So I went to his law office and I sat around for an hour or two and talked. Then he leaned back and pronounced something in his typical way. He said, "You know, if you were from North Carolina, you would be my best friend, and we are going to be best friends anyway." And he was right, we have become best friends. I could tell similar stories about many of you around this table. And it says a great deal more about you, than it does me, the openness, the generosity and the friendship that you have shown me and Nana. So I thank you for that.

I did not know six years ago that I would be going back to Nebraska. But if I had known, I would have come anyway. During the presidential search there, there were some websites where people could write in and say what they thought. One guy wrote in and said, "If Nebraska

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wasn't good enough for him six years ago, he ought to stay in North Carolina." Fortunately, the Board of Regents there took a little different approach to it. They said something different. They looked at my service in North Carolina as a badge of honor and something that they were very proud of. During the press conference that followed my appointment in May, the chairman of the Board of Regents said to the assembled press and board members, "You know, if we had to choose a university in this country to send a vice president away to, to apprentice for six years to get experience at a great American university, we could not have picked a better one than the University of North Carolina." I think he was right, and I would not trade these six years for anything, not only because of the chance to apprentice here, but also because of the great friendships I have made and I thank all of you. Thank you.