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# PRESIDENT BOWLES' REPORT BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

## June 11, 2010

President Bowles congratulated Mr. Bhula, who had just been sworn in as ex-officio member of the Board of Governors, and said that he was proud to have him represent the students of this University. He said the purpose of the University was to give students the opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills needed so they have a chance to succeed in today's world. President Bowles promised to continue working with the legislature to ensure that resources were provided to maintain the quality of this University.

Next, he stated that the recession has had an enormous impact on the people of North Carolina and the state tax collections. He reminded everyone that over the past three years, the University had reduced its budget by \$575 million, cut administrative costs by 23%, and had already taken \$50 million out of the budget for next year. He said that the University cannot continue to take a disproportionate share of cuts and maintain the academic quality. President Bowles praised the Chancellors for their leadership during this fiscal crisis and for their ability to manage their campuses on an extremely tight budget while still providing a quality education to the students. He thanked Chancellors DePaolo and Reaves for their presentations at the previous day's policy discussion on the budget impacts to the campuses.

President Bowles said he had recently met with the co-chairs of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Education. The co-chairs were committed to improving the University's budget with an emphasis on access for students. President Bowles reported that he has had a conversation with the Governor. The Governor said that she would support our efforts to ensure that access to the University was available especially to the underprivileged, disadvantaged, and middle-income students of North Carolina seeking a college education. The University plays a major role in recruiting businesses to North Carolina given the quality of education and the number of graduates it produces. The President said he remained optimistic that the final budget passed by the General Assembly in the coming weeks would protect the University.

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Next, President Bowles announced that Chancellor Boarman from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics was retiring next month after 10 years of dedicated service and outstanding leadership. Next, President Bowles thanked Chancellor Jenkins for agreeing to fill the void as Chancellor on an interim basis at UNC Pembroke while a search was conducted for a permanent chancellor. He said that Chancellor Jenkins did a phenomenal job with advancing the school and that Chancellor Jenkins had prepared the way for the incoming Chancellor.

President Bowles noted some recent campus achievements. At East Carolina University, the Brody School of Medicine is expanding its Early Assurance Admission Program to North Carolina A&T State University and the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Each year, two students from each campus will be admitted to the early assurance admission program, which means that participants in the program are offered assurance of medical school admission if they meet the criteria for the program.

Other campus achievements noted were that researchers from East Carolina University and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill will share a \$10 million grant from NIH to study heart disease in Lenoir County, North Carolina. This disease was the leading cause of death in Lenoir County. At Fayetteville State University, a team of students won first-place in the Annual Business Plan Competition sponsored by the Opportunity Funding Corporation-Venture Challenge for their development of a business plan for Advanced Bio-Energy Technologies – a company focused on promoting green technologies to provide a cleaner environment.

Next, President Bowles reported that Chancellor Martin was named Virginia Tech College of Engineering Distinguished Alumnus of the Year. Dr. Martin received his doctorate degree in electrical engineering from Virginia Tech. Next, President Bowles announced that he joined Chancellor Nelms for a symposium on HBCUs, which was commissioned by the Chancellor, as part of North Carolina Central University's centennial celebration. Over 400 participants attended the symposium and U.S. Secretary of Education, Arne Duncan, delivered the keynote address.

Dr. Trudy F.C. Mackay, William Neal Reynolds and Distinguished Professor of Genetics and Entomology at North Carolina State University, was elected into the National Academy of

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Sciences. In 2007, the Board of Governors selected Dr. Mackay as the recipient of the Oliver Max Gardner Award for her work on the genetic basis for diseases such as glaucoma and alcoholism. President Bowles announced that a team of students from UNC-Chapel Hill and NC State University won the top prize of \$50,000 in the National Urban Design Competition held in San Diego. The team designed a community redevelopment plan for a section of San Diego. President Bowles said this was another wonderful example of UNC Tomorrow – two schools (UNC-CH and NCSU) partnering together for the betterment of the University.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill received a \$1.3 million grant from the Howard Dean Medical Institute, which will encourage students in the Carolina Covenant Scholarship Program to pursue biomedical research. At the University of North Carolina at Wilmington, a \$1 million scholarship endowment was established to assist and support non-traditional students in completing a bachelor's degree and gaining entry into the workforce. The scholarship was made possible by The Bernard Osher Foundation. Next, faculty members from UNC Wilmington were providing expertise with assessing the potential effects of the Gulf Coast oil spill. These faculty members were consulting with state and national agencies on the possible damage to water quality, fish, marshlands, wetlands, and marine mammals and birds. Faculty and students from Western Carolina University in the Program for the Study of Developed Shorelines were also involved in assisting with the Gulf Coast oil spill.

Lastly, President Bowles reported that *Campus Technology* – a higher education technology magazine that provides updated information about advanced networking – named Western Carolina University's Coulter Faculty Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning as one of 11 Innovator Award winners. The Center was recognized for its reorganization that merged several academic technology support services with traditional teaching and learning services to provide a one-stop center of support for faculty.