

APPENDIX T

**EXCERPTS OF DR. DAVID O. BELCHER'S REMARKS
CHANCELLOR-ELECT OF
WESTERN CAROLINA UNIVERSITY**

April 8, 2011

Dr. Belcher thanked the members of the Board of Governors, President Ross, Board of Trustee Chair Warren, other members of the Board of Trustees, Chancellor Bardo, and all the Western Carolina University community, for this exciting opportunity. Dr. Belcher remarked that this appointment was an honor and a privilege. He was anxious to get started.

Next, Dr. Belcher praised Chancellor Bardo for his leadership. He noted that Chancellor Bardo had presided over the campus during an impressive period of growth and vision. The accomplishments, growth and successes of Western Carolina University would be built on the foundation that Chancellor Bardo had built.

Dr. Belcher spoke of his mentors – Chancellor Joel Anderson, University of Arkansas at Little Rock, who had provided him with unique leadership opportunities; his parents, who instilled a real passion for education, commitment to high standards, and a fundamental belief in serving others; and his wife, Susan, for all her love and support. Susan and he were anxious to begin their journey to Western Carolina University.

He noted that Western Carolina was a special place – it was an institution that was committed to excellence and an institution focused on students' successes. Western Carolina University values its people, their heritage and economic prosperity. Dr. Belcher commented that he and Susan would be partners with students, faculty, staff, alumni, donors, members of the Board, athletic devotees, external stakeholders, and the University as a whole.

Lastly, Dr. Belcher spoke of the shared vision of the University dedicated to recruiting, guiding, challenging, and graduating superb students, citizens, professionals and thinkers who will be value-added to the University's commitment to the economic, health care, cultural community and educational development. Despite current challenges, the future of Western Carolina University is full of potential and it will play an integral role working with colleagues from other institutions of higher education and external stakeholders toward realizing our UNC Tomorrow vision for our state.