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**PRESIDENT ROSS' REPORT
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING****June 10, 2011**

President Ross thanked the members of the Board for hosting a wonderful reception the previous evening. President Ross recognized the retiring members of the Board and thanked them for serving this great University. President Ross remarked that he had enjoyed and benefited immensely from their leadership. He looked forward to working with the new members and the returning members of the Board in the coming months as we work to preserve, protect and improve our world-class University.

Next, President Ross reflected on the previous day's policy discussion session regarding the budget. The state budget had been sent to the Governor. The University as well as every sector of state government would face steep budget cuts. President Ross mentioned that the cuts applied in the legislatively enacted budget were significantly less than those found in earlier versions of the budget. The budget did allow for full funding of the University's projected enrollment growth, operating reserves for new buildings on the campuses, and limited funding for repairs and renovations. A net reduction of more than \$400 million to the University's base budget would be significant. President Ross remained concerned with the funding for the need-based financial aid program. President Ross was confident that the University would manage our way through this difficult period and we would manage this crisis in a manner that would minimize negative consequences to our students.

Next, President Ross recognized the Chancellors and he thanked them for their remarkable leadership especially in this difficult economic environment. President Ross noted that this marked the last Board meeting for two of our Chancellors. Chancellor Bardo and Chancellor DePaolo would be retiring at the end of the month. He thanked Chancellor DePaolo for the truly remarkable leadership she has demonstrated at UNC Wilmington over the past eight years. President Ross announced that the 2011 graduating class from the Isaac Bear Early College High School at UNC Wilmington – an accelerated high school education program for students that offers honor courses – scored near the top in performance on their end-of-course tests. Chancellor Bardo, who was unable to attend the meeting, served Western Carolina

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University for 16 years and he has helped dramatically improve that campus as well as the region. He has been a phenomenal leader.

Noting other campus highlights, President Ross announced that James and Connie Maynard of Raleigh, both graduates of East Carolina University, made a \$1.5 million gift to create a distinguished professorship in the Department of Pediatrics at the Brody School of Medicine. The Maynards also pledged \$9 million to help expand the Children's Hospital at Pitt County Memorial Hospital in Greenville. At Elizabeth City State University, the Board of Trustees announced that the new Education and Psychology Complex will be named after Chancellor Gilchrist and his wife, Jacqueline, both graduates of Elizabeth City State University. Next, the North Carolina Board of Nursing granted Fayetteville State University approval to restart its 4-year nursing program in the fall of 2011. At North Carolina State University, Dr. Fred Gould, William Reynolds Distinguished Professor of Entomology, was elected to the National Academy of Sciences for his study in the field of ecology and genetics of insect pests to improve food production and human and environmental health. Dr. Gould became the ninth current faculty member from North Carolina State University to be elected into the Academy.

At UNC-Chapel Hill, Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, Julia Cherry Spruill Professor of History in the College of Arts & Sciences, was selected as a fellow into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, one of the nation's oldest and most prestigious national honor societies. With this selection, UNC-Chapel Hill has 34 faculty members in the Academy. At UNC Charlotte, the College of Education received a \$2 million bequest from the estate of the late Nicholas Goudes. The gift joins a previous \$1 million donation from the Goudes estate, and will go the Education Scholarships Fund that provides scholarships to UNCC students who want to become mathematics or English teachers.

Last week, The Education Trust – a research and advocacy group – released a report that highlighted four-year colleges that do a good job of serving low-income students. To qualify for this recognition, tuition rates at institutions had to cost no more than \$4,600 to attend for students from households earning up to \$30,000 per year. The colleges also had to have a 50 percent graduation rate within 6 years and at least 30 percent of their enrollment had to be Pell Grant recipients. The University of North Carolina at Greensboro was one of only five colleges in the entire country to receive this recognition. At the University of North Carolina at Pembroke,

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Mrs. Crystal Cavalier was selected by the *MilitarySpouse* Magazine, as the 2011 Army Spouse of the Year. Despite the challenges of raising three small children with an Army husband who was frequently deployed, Mrs. Cavalier received her Master's of Public Administration degree last month. She missed her spring graduation ceremony when she accepted an invitation from the White House to have a Mother's Day tea with First Lady Michelle Obama. From the UNC School of the Arts, alumnus Jeff Nichols, won a grand prize on a film he directed titled – *Take Shelter*. The film screened at Cannes Critics Week last month. He also won the best screenwriting award from the Society of Dramatic Authors and Composers.

In addition, three UNC campuses – Elizabeth City State University, North Carolina Central University and UNC Wilmington – had been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll. The President's Honor Roll recognizes the contributions that colleges and universities and their students make to local communities and the nation as a whole. Seven other UNC campuses were cited for their community engagement efforts – East Carolina University, Fayetteville State University, North Carolina State University, UNC-Chapel Hill, UNC Charlotte, UNC Greensboro, and Western Carolina University.

President Ross mentioned that he has completed his full circuit of campus tours, including all the affiliated entities. The tours have been an invaluable, helpful experience. President Ross especially enjoyed visits that he has had with the Chancellors, their leadership teams, faculty, staff, and particularly with students. President Ross shared a few impressive observations from his latest visits to UNC Charlotte, UNC Wilmington, Elizabeth City State University, and Appalachian State University.