

APPENDIX A

**PRESIDENT ROSS' REPORT
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING****November 11, 2011**

President Ross reflected on *An Evening with Five Presidents*. He remarked that it was a very special event and a memorable experience having shared the platform with the four former University of North Carolina presidents. President Ross stressed his commitment to leading the University as successfully as his predecessors. He was pleased to see those who attended the event – state legislators, former and current members of the Board of Governors, former and current staff, and students. Next, President Ross remarked that the University was increasingly active in our participation with the military. Recently, he had the opportunity to speak at the North Carolina Military Summit and at the North Carolina Defense Business Association conference about the University's growing partnership with the military. To commemorate Veterans Day, President Ross asked that we pause for a moment of silence to remember our military servicemen and women and thank them for all the sacrifices they make to protect our nation and preserve our way of life.

Next, President Ross spoke about some recent events and achievements across our campuses. First, he recognized the Chancellors, faculty and staffs and thanked them for their service to the University. At Appalachian State University, a \$200 million fundraising campaign was underway to benefit academics, the arts, and athletics. At Elizabeth City State University (ECSU), they were awarded a three-year, \$283,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to strengthen education in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics programs. The funds would support workshops for faculty teaching at ECSU as well as at other universities that serve largely minority populations. At Fayetteville State University President Ross reported that the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. donated a multimillion-dollar particle accelerator and other sophisticated instrumentations to the school. The instrument would allow faculty and researchers from across our campuses to conduct high-level physics experiments.

North Carolina A&T State University (NCA&TSU) established a partnership with Henan Polytechnic University (HPU) in China to offer a dual degree program in mechanical and electrical engineering. Forty students from HPU, who have completed two years of study there,

APPENDIX A

would attend NCA&TSU to complete their engineering degree. Recruitment would begin in 2012 with the first group of engineering students arriving at NCA&TSU in 2014. Next, the National Science Foundation announced that it would renew funding for NCA&TSU's Engineering Research Center for revolutionizing metallic biomaterial for the upcoming year. Next, North Carolina State University received a \$4 million grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to identify the most efficient, cost-effective, and environmentally friendly manner of producing bio-fuels from trees. At UNC-Chapel Hill, Mr. Gabriel Whaley, a senior and a 2008 graduate from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics, won the *People Magazine* Readers' Choice Hero Award. Mr. Whaley founded Kicking4Hunger, a non-profit soccer camp. As a child, Mr. Whaley's parents were unable to afford to send him to soccer camp so he came up with the idea that sends children to soccer camps in exchange for can food donations. To date, Kicking4Hunger soccer camp has raised more than 16,000 pounds of food while allowing more than 1,000 youths to attend soccer camps throughout their communities. Another student from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Ms. Krissi Fajgenbaum, was a finalist in *People* Readers' Choice Hero Award. Ms. Fajgenbaum founded Teens 2 Teens, which is a non-profit organization that provides free, gently used and stylish clothing to more than 300 children from the Appalachian community. President Ross stressed the importance of the role our University plays in developing the next generation of community leaders.

Next, President Ross spoke about the Fulbright Program – the prestigious international exchange program that sends faculty, scholars, and students abroad. Recipients for the program are selected based on their academic merit and leadership potential. *The Chronicle of Higher Education* reported that UNC-Chapel Hill tied for 10th on the list of institutions with the most graduates receiving Fulbright awards for 2010-11. The University of North Carolina at Wilmington was also named one of Fulbright Scholar “top producing” institutions among master's institutions nationwide. Next, President Ross spoke about the forum entitled “Building A Culture of Innovation Through Education” that he participated in last week. The forum was held at North Carolina State University and was co-sponsored by SAS and the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce. The event focused on innovation in education. President Ross mentioned that next week Chancellor Woodson and Chancellor Thorp would convene a forum entitled “A Way Forward: Building a Globally Competitive South.” Chancellor Nelms was scheduled to serve on the panel. This event, co-sponsored by SAS, the Global Research Institute

APPENDIX A

at UNC-Chapel Hill, and the Institute for Emerging Issues at NCSU, would focus on globalization in the American South and the role universities have in moving our region forward.

Next, President Ross referred to the report on the study of unnecessary duplication of academic programs across the University led by Chancellor *Emeritus* Woodward. He thanked Chancellor Woodward for his thoughtful and deliberate approach to the study. In the area of program duplication and overlap, the report confirmed that program duplication across the University was minimal and President Ross attributed that finding to the great job that the Board had done historically. The study cited areas of improvements such as the review of our campuses' academic mission statements, expanding and strengthening online education, and focusing more on collaboration among our campuses in the academic arena. Next, President Ross commented on the previous day's policy discussions pertaining to tuition and fees and financial aid. President Ross stated that the Board, his staff, and he were committed to keeping the University affordable and the challenge would be to honor that commitment without allowing the quality of education to decline.

In closing, President Ross reflected on his first year at the helm. He thanked the Board for giving him the honor of leading America's greatest public University – the University of the People – the University of North Carolina.