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PRESIDENT ROSS' REPORT
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

February 10, 2012

President Ross thanked the members of the Board for their commitment to the University. Their involvement and advice had been invaluable and as a result had produced a strong recommendation from him and the members of the Committee on Budget and Finance regarding the proposal to increase tuition and fees effective next semester. In looking ahead, President Ross stated that we would continue to focus on efficiencies with our academic program delivery and operations, enhancing our use of technology, and solving the dilemma of financial aid. President Ross thanked the students for meeting with him to share their thoughts and perspectives related to tuition and fees.

Next, President Ross spoke about the recent campus visits that the new members of the Board, staff, and he had made to UNC Pembroke and Fayetteville State University. He thanked the Chancellors for hosting the visits. He noted that the quality of teaching and research being done on the campuses was amazing, specifically the Alzheimer's disease research being conducted at UNC Pembroke and the operation of the powerful electron microprobe housed in the Lyons Science Building at Fayetteville State University. The microprobe has expanded our research and educational opportunities substantially. The device is utilized by many of our campuses as well as Duke University on a frequent basis. President Ross noted that the campuses have improved and strengthened their relationships with our military service members and that our campuses continue to be ranked among the top military-friendly schools across the country.

Regarding many recent campus achievements and activities, President Ross reported that the *Princeton Review* released its annual list of the nation's best valued colleges. UNC Chapel Hill was ranked #1. Seven other UNC campuses were among the top 150 colleges and universities featured in the review. They included Appalachian State University, East Carolina University, North Carolina State University, UNC Asheville, UNC Greensboro, UNC Pembroke and UNC Wilmington. At North Carolina Central University (NCCU), the School of Law was elected to membership in the Association of American Law Schools. The NCCU School of Law

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is only the third law school at a historically black university to join the association. At UNC Charlotte, the College of Engineering was selected by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) to compete in the Solar Decathlon 2013. The event will be held at the Orange County Great Park in Irvine, California. The UNC Charlotte 49ers football program announced its first-ever recruiting class. The 49ers opening football game was scheduled for the fall of 2013.

Other notable campus achievements included UNC Wilmington's fundraising campaign – *The Campaign for UNCW: Soaring to Greatness*. The campaign was launched in February 2011. Its priority was to increase the number of and funding for student scholarships with an initial goal to raise \$65 million. Remarkably, that goal was achieved nearly one year ahead of the final phase, which was scheduled for December 2012. At Western Carolina University, 45 students had project abstracts accepted by the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) – NCUR is the country's most prestigious undergraduate research conference. At the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics, students Ms. Katrina Gutierrez, Ms. Greeshma Somashekar, and Ms. Ada Taylor were honored by President Obama at the White House for winning the 2011 Grand Prize in the Cyber Security category at the Conrad Innovation Summit. The students designed a smartphone app/product named MedPAL that works in conjunction with a Bluetooth enabled heart rate monitor to notify contacts in the event of a medical emergency. Next, President Ross commented on the recent death of Mary Duke Biddle Trent Semans, a lifelong philanthropist and staunch supporter of the University, particularly the UNC School of the Arts. Mrs. Semans funeral service was held at the Duke Chapel, where a group of students from the UNC School of the Arts sang *The Impossible Dream* – a remarkable and moving performance that brought tears to the eyes of those in attendance.

In closing, President Ross stated that students remain his inspiration and he was grateful for having the opportunity to serve them, the faculty and staff, and to serve all those on the Board who dedicate their time and energy to our great University – the University of North Carolina.