

**PRESIDENT ROSS' REPORT
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING**

October 11, 2012

President Ross praised the amazing work of Dr. Reiter, recipient of the 2012 Award for Excellence in Public Service, who was an inspiration to all of us and to the faculty and staff throughout the University. It was critical for the University to support, recruit and retain great faculty like Dr. Reiter if we were to provide the same level of passion, dedication, sense of purpose and service to our state. President Ross commented on the University's Strategic Directions Initiative. This was a collaborative effort to define the University's strategic directions over the next five years. He thanked the members of the Board, the Chancellors, staff, and the business and government leaders from around the state for their time and energy expended on this initiative. Despite an aggressive timetable, steady progress had been made in the development of the strategic directions plan. He thanked Dr. Catherine Rigsby, Chair of the Faculty Assembly, Mr. Chuck Brink, Chair of the Staff Assembly, and Ms. Cameron Carswell and Mr. Kevin Kimball, members of the Association of Student Governments, for their active involvement. These individuals would be responsible for providing means of engaging faculty, staff and students in the development of the plan. The University's website would offer additional opportunities for the public to comment.

President Ross recognized Chancellor Mauceri and Chancellor Thorp both of whom had announced their plans to step down next year. Chancellor Mauceri will have completed seven years at the UNC School of the Arts and has positioned the school well for the future. He had enhanced the visibility and expanded opportunities for the School through use of his artistic talents, passion for the performing arts, and his professional contacts around the world. Chancellor Thorp will have served five years and had many accomplishments during his tenure. He would continue to focus on putting key reforms in place and would return to the faculty in the chemistry department at UNC-Chapel Hill, where he had previously worked as a professor, researcher and former chair. National searches would be conducted soon for their successors.

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Recognizing recent campus accomplishments, President Ross commented that from time to time our students garner national recognition for their achievements. For instance, Western Carolina University alumnus and former track and field standout, Manteo Mitchell, competed in the 2012 Summer Olympics Games in London. He became a media sensation while running the 4x400 meter relay on a broken leg that had occurred during the race. If Mr. Mitchell had stopped running, the U.S. team would not have qualified for the finals, but incredibly he managed to finish the race and Team USA won a silver medal. President Obama recognized him at a White House event. From UNC Greensboro, student Tavia Brightwell was featured on the cover of the recent issue of *G.I Jobs* magazine. Ms. Brightwell had served in the U.S. Marine Corp. In the issue, she discussed the challenges of pursuing a college degree after a four year stint on active duty in Iraq and she discussed how her involvement with UNC Greensboro had eased her transition. The issue included ten of our campuses on its 2013 List of Military-Friendly Schools. They included Appalachian State University, East Carolina University, Fayetteville State University, North Carolina A&T State University, North Carolina Central University, UNC Charlotte, UNC Greensboro, UNC Pembroke, UNC-Chapel Hill, and Western Carolina University.

President Ross recalled the team of students from Appalachian State University that competed in the 2011 U.S. Department of Energy Solar Decathlon, where they had won first place in the "People's Choice Award" for their Solar Homestead house – a self-sustaining, net zero-energy house. The Solar Homestead house would be made available for purchase in an agreement with a home building firm based in Asheville, who will market and manufacture the homes. Students from UNC Charlotte would compete in the 2013 Solar Decathlon.

President Ross was excited to join Chancellor Woodson to celebrate the award of the National Science Foundation (NSF) Nanosystems Engineering Research Center for Advanced Self-Powered Systems of Integrated Sensors and Technologies (ASSIST). The \$18.5 million center, headquartered on the Centennial Campus, was creating self-powered devices to help people monitor their health and understand how the surrounding environment affects it. With this award, NC State became the only university in the nation currently leading two active NSF

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Engineering Research Centers. Next, President Ross would join local and state leaders and officials from East Carolina University to take part in the October 12, 2012, ribbon cutting ceremony at the new School of Dental Medicine. The new School of Dental Medicine was built to help ease the statewide shortage of dentists, especially in eastern North Carolina and would bring sorely needed dental care to underserved populations while forging important partnerships between the University and local communities. He thanked all those involved with this project.

North Carolina State University had announced a \$10 million private gift that would enable the transformation of its Poultry Science Department. The Department of Poultry Science was renamed in honor of Bill and Marsha Prestage and their family who are longtime supporters of NC State and owners of Prestage Farms – the poultry production company headquartered in Clinton. The gift would create two endowments that would provide income in perpetuity to support a strategic combination of teaching, research and extension programs. Professor Greg Sawicki of the Joint Department of Biomedical Engineering at NCSU, along with members from the Human Physiology and Wearable Robotic Lab had developed a lower-limb robotic device to assist both healthy and impaired human locomotion. Their invention – a smart walking aid – does not require a motor or external power.

Students from the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Journalism and Mass Communication created an interactive film that explored human beings reaction to water entitled “100 Gallons.” The project examined how water impacts regions across the United States. The launch of the film coincided with “Water in the World” – a two-year initiative to encourage interdisciplinary studies of water. Two School of Design and Production alumni from the UNC School of the Arts had won Emmy Awards. Alumnus Seth Easter won an Emmy at the 65th Annual Tony Awards for Outstanding Art Direction. Alumna Christal Schanes won for Outstanding Hairstyling for Multi-Camera Series for a “Saturday Night Live” episode. Chancellor Miller from UNC Wilmington had joined other national higher education leaders at the White House following a forum hosted by the U.S. Department of Commerce. The forum featured panel discussions about student-faculty innovations, technology transfer and the University’s role in regional economical development.

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Last month, North Carolina A&T State University and UNC General Administration hosted its first Social Business Conference. More than 600 people attended the event, which featured a key note presentation by the recipient of the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize Professor Muhammad Yunus, who pioneered the concept of microcredit and social business. The conference had showcased a competition among 31 teams from our 17 campuses. A panel of 28 judges from across the world evaluated the proposals. A team from UNC-Chapel Hill won third place for their creation of “Sanitation Creation.” They had designed an environmentally-friendly portable toilet named the Dungaroo, to help communities that lack access to adequate sanitation. A patent was pending on the product. A team from Fayetteville State University was the runner-up for their creation of “BioWaste Energy.” This social business enterprise aimed to help hog farmers secure funds to install systems to mitigate pollution from lagoons that hold hog waste.

The first place honors went to a team from NC State University who proposed “Pennies4Progress.” This social business enterprise was a leading revolution in innovative finance enabling for-profit businesses such as supermarket chains, to become a social business by asking them to add a one-cent donation from customers to the total of every transaction and then using those funds to make micro-loans to partners abroad. President Ross recognized the winners, who were invited to make a presentation at today’s meeting. The students were Brandon Narybouth, Kevin Miller and Ryan O’Donnell, all students studying Entrepreneurship & Internationalization at NC State. President Ross thanked the students for their presentation. He thanked Vice President Boney and our Presidential Intern Zack Smith for all their efforts in organizing the Social Business Conference.