

APPENDIX A

**PRESIDENT ROSS' REPORT
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
June 14, 2013**

President Ross reported that this has been an extremely busy summer. Over the summer our campuses had been hard at work implementing strategic planning, identifying efficiencies, preparing for another round of budget cuts and getting ready for the return of students. The staff at General Administration has remained busy as well with the same issues along with the legislative session and their participation in orientation sessions for the new Board members. President Ross welcomed the new board members and noted that they have a great deal of knowledge, ideas and experiences to bring to the table. He thanked them and the returning members for their service.

Next, President Ross acknowledged two great leaders of this University and of our state who had passed away recently – Governor Jim Holshouser and former North Carolina Central University Chancellor Julius Chambers. President Ross commented that Governor Holshouser loved the University and he served on this Board for more than three decades. Governor Holshouser personified the true meaning of statesmanship and servant leadership, and our University had no greater friend or stronger ally. President Ross commented that earlier this week, we lost another giant figure in our state with the death of Julius Chambers, the groundbreaking civil rights attorney and former member of this Board who later served as Chancellor of North Carolina Central University (NCCU), his alma mater. NCCU made great strides during his 8-year tenure, and following his retirement, the Board of Governor recognized his enormous contributions to public education with its highest honor – the University Award.

Next, President Ross recognized our chancellors. He thanked them for their outstanding leadership that they are showing as they make the very difficult decisions required to successfully manage our campuses through ongoing challenges. He welcomed Chancellor Carol Folt, UNC-Chapel Hill. This marked Chancellor Folt's first Board meeting and she was off to a great start, already showing tremendous judgment and leadership. President Ross welcomed Chancellor Debra Saunders-White, NCCU, who began in June and who also was off to a great start. President Ross welcomed back Chancellor Charles Becton. Chancellor Becton began his interim term at Elizabeth City State University on July 1 after having served so well last year as interim at North Carolina Central University. President Ross also welcomed back UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor *Emeritus* James Moeser, who began his interim service as Chancellor on

August 1st at UNC School of the Arts. President Ross expressed his deep gratitude to both men for their ongoing service and support.

President Ross announced that the class of 2013 Presidential Interns began working at General Administration this summer. The interns are Ms. Alecia Page, a graduate of Western Carolina University; Mr. Eric Wilson, a graduate of NC State University; and Ms. Katy Lucci, a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill. President Ross asked them to introduce themselves. He was delighted to have them at General Administration and they have been assigned an array of projects, including the implementation of the Strategic Plan.

Regarding several recent campus achievements and accomplishments, President Ross reported that last month nearly 300 representatives from our 17 campuses along with several private colleges gathered at Appalachian State University for a University-wide summit on energy efficiency measures. He recalled that energy-related research, analysis, instruction and outreach were all part of the University's Strategic Plan and provided examples of how the University was working to reduce its energy costs and consumption. He noted that Governor McCrory also took part and spoke at the event. President Ross thanked Associate Vice President Feravich, a member of our Finance Division at General Administration, for helping to plan and organize the event. At East Carolina University, the State Employees Credit Union Foundation awarded the school \$2.28 million to continue its Partnership East program. The program allows students to complete the first two years of an education degree at one of 20 participating community colleges in eastern and central North Carolina before transferring to ECU. At Elizabeth City State University (ECSU), a small bay in Antarctica has been named ECSU Bay thanks to a discovery made by undergraduates working in ECSU's Center of Excellence in Remote Sensing Education and Research. The students examined archived satellite imagery spanning a 30-year period and discovered a small ice shelf that had gradually shrunk over that period and had failed to reform. The polar science community acknowledged the discovery by naming the bay after ECSU.

In other campus achievements, NCA&T State University's School of Technology, which began a Motorsports Program in 2010, is now building a racing team for students. The idea was proposed by Mr. Greg Davis, a Motorsports professional. At North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics (NCSSM) and NC State University, Ms. Christina Hammock of Jacksonville, a 1997 graduate of NCSSM, who earned her undergraduate and graduate degrees from NCSU, has been selected to join NASA's Astronaut Class of 2013. She currently is serving as National

Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Station Chief in American Samoa. At UNC Asheville, the faculty team behind “Food for Thought,” an interdisciplinary course cluster exploring issues related to food production and consumption, has been named the winner of the 2013 William E. Bennett Award for Extraordinary Contributions to Citizen Science from the National Center for Science and Civic Engagements. At UNC-Chapel Hill, faculty secured nearly \$778 million in research funding in FY 2013, up slightly over last year, despite funding cuts in key federal agencies. Diversifying funding sources and bringing in more dollars from foundations and private industry and business was an important factor in this year’s success.

At UNC Pembroke, President Ross reported that Robert Nunnery, our student member of the Board of Governors, was one of 17 student leaders from across the country selected to meet with U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan to discuss their college experiences as well as issues and federal policies of importance to students. President Ross called on Mr. Nunnery for additional remarks. Mr. Nunnery remarked that he met with Secretary Duncan on July 11 and discussed with him issues pertaining to our U.S. military veterans who return home and decide to enroll on a campus to seek their college degree. He urged the Secretary to collaborate with other government agencies to build a stronger, more effective transition period for veterans attending college and improvements that could be made to tuition-assistance programs. Also at UNC Pembroke, an annual survey by *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* magazine confirms that UNC Pembroke continues to be the leading producer of bachelor’s degrees for American Indians in the eastern United States. At UNC Wilmington, the grand opening of its new Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship was slated for later this month. The Center will house UNCW’s Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC), future tech transfer operations and future start-up businesses. Finally, at UNC School of the Arts, the School of Filmmaking has been ranked 12th on The Hollywood Reporter’s list of the 25 best film schools in the world!