

**PRESENTATION OF THE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE**

Chairman Hans reported that in 2007, the Board of Governors established the Award for Excellence in Public Service to encourage, identify, recognize, and reward public service and outreach by faculty of the University. This marked the seventh year of the award. Chairman Hans explained that at its August meeting, the Board of Governors unanimously approved a resolution to rename the Public Service Award after our late Governor and former Board member, Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. Governor Holshouser served for more than 30 years on the Board of Governors as a tireless champion for public education and service. Next, he recognized Ginny and John Mills. Ginny is the daughter of Governor Holshouser and she shared some brief remarks.

Mrs. Mills thanked Chairman Hans, the members of the Board, President Ross, and the entire University for honoring her father. She noted that serving on the Board was one of her father's most important commitments over the past 35 years. His many years of public service in both elected office and in non-elective service captivated his attention. Governor Holshouser was passionate about higher education, economic development, and the importance of major research. She congratulated today's award winner.

Chairman Hans called on Mr. Raiford Trask, Chair of this year's award committee. Mr. Trask reported that he had served with the members of the Committee that consisted of Mr. Lail, Ms. Maxwell, and Mr. Taylor. Mr. Trask introduced the recipient of the 2013 James E. Holshouser, Jr. Award for Excellence in Public Service. After careful consideration of many qualified nominees, the Board of Governors chose Dr. Ben A. Bahr, William C. Friday Distinguished Professor in Molecular Biology and Biochemistry at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, as this year's recipient. Mr. Trask recognized several of Dr. Bahr's guests, including his wife, friends, and colleagues. Mr. Trask recognized Chancellor Carter for his outstanding leadership and recognition of Dr. Bahr's contributions to public service and Dr. Roger Guy, who submitted the nomination materials for Dr. Bahr.

Dr. Bahr has distinguished himself by service to the University he serves, to the state of North Carolina as both a teacher and researcher through community involvement and to his chosen field by developing critically acclaimed research on the devastating disease of Alzheimer's. What makes him a worthy recipient is his commitment to educate the community

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about the importance of Alzheimer's disease research not only across the southeastern region of North Carolina but across the United States and abroad as well. Dr. Bahr received his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of California Santa Barbara. He then joined the Center for the Neurobiology of Learning and Memory at the University of California Irvine as a research associate and lecturer. He was a professor of pharmacology and neurotoxicology at the University of Connecticut before joining UNC Pembroke faculty in 2009.

Following a video presentation highlighting Dr. Bahr's remarkable research and achievements, Mr. Taylor commented that Dr. Bahr has demonstrated sustained and superb achievement in the University through his public service and outreach and he contributes to improving the quality of life of the citizens of North Carolina and beyond. The Board of Governors takes great pleasure in presenting the 2013 James E. Holshouser, Jr., Award for Excellence in Public Service to Dr. Bahr. President Ross presented Dr. Bahr with a stipend and an engraved medallion. President Ross expressed his deep appreciation to Dr. Bahr and stated that the University was proud to have him as a distinguished member of the faculty. President Ross invited Dr. Bahr to make brief remarks.

Dr. Bahr remarked that Governor Holshouser was a groundbreaking governor who helped shape the University of North Carolina. He thanked the members of the Board of Governors and President Ross. He commented the award was a team effort and his team was dedicated to conducting research in improving the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease and other memory disorders. He thanked the Board for recognizing the importance for Alzheimer disease awareness and to promote a dementia-friendly society that is needed for the growing and aging population. He stressed the importance of funding academic research and promoting collaborations between universities and the pharmaceutical industry. Together, we must strive to win the battle against this terrible disease.

Chairman Hans noted this was a time of great excitement and satisfaction as the Board of Governors honors Dr. Bahr and his many colleagues across our great University who strive, on a daily basis, to serve the public in a way that enhances our quality of life. Governor Holshouser would have been very proud of your work. The profile piece of Dr. Bahr was produced by UNC-TV. The following UNC-TV staff members contributed to this year's story – Ms. Erika Starke-Knight, Ms. Amy Meiggs, Mr. Steve Prince, and Mr. Bob Gunter. The piece will be broadcast on Monday, November 11, 2013, on *North Carolina Now*.