

APPENDIX B

PRESIDENT ROSS' REPORT BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING NOVEMBER 8, 2013

President Ross thanked the members of the Board who were able to attend the Trustee workshop earlier in the week. He has received positive comments from the trustees. The workshop provided invaluable information and the trustees were especially appreciative that so many members of the Board of Governors participated. He thanked the members of the Committee on University Governance, Chairman Hans, and staff for their hard work in preparing for the workshop. President Ross thanked Chancellor Woodson and his staff for hosting the events. He commented that this University was blessed to have committed faculty like Dr. Ben A. Bahr of UNC Pembroke, this year's recipient of the Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. Award for Excellence in Public Service. Having watched today's tribute and listening to Dr. Bahr talk about his research on Alzheimer's and hearing how he mentors undergraduate students in his lab and reaches out to support caregivers and educate the community about this disease, has to give us hope for the future of our University and the future of our state. He congratulated Dr. Bahr. President Ross recognized the Chancellors and thanked them for their amazing leadership.

Next, President Ross recognized many recent campus achievements and milestones. At East Carolina University, a telemedicine program will begin operating in January. The program will link 60 to 80 emergency departments to mental health professionals who can initiate treatment for emergency room patients. By using secure, real-time interactive audio and video technology at the bedside, the telemedicine program will enable mental health providers to diagnose and treat people needing care at any remote referring site. The program is funded through a \$4 million state grant. At North Carolina Central University, the School of Education was recognized as the only university in the state that prepares professionals to work with the visually impaired. A \$1.16 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Special Education Programs will enable NCCU to provide tuition and stipends for 50 scholars who agree to complete two years of working with visually impaired students.

At North Carolina A&T State University, the school's NSF-funded Engineering Research Center has collaborated with InCube Labs to evaluate the potential clinical utility of biomaterials that scientists at NCA&T have developed, with options to license and develop those with

particular promise for orthopedic applications. Last month at UNC-Chapel Hill, the school announced a new five-year \$54.6 million Clinical and Translational Science Award from the National Institutes of Health. UNC-Chapel Hill will partner with NCA&T and RTI International to accelerate the pace at which clinical and translational research directly benefits patients and community in North Carolina. This partnership will give researchers from UNC-Chapel Hill access to the state-of-the-art facilities at the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering, while providing NCA&T faculty collaborative opportunities and financial resources to accelerate discoveries in the lab to patients, particularly those from underrepresented minorities.

The Chronicle of Higher Education reported that UNC-Chapel Hill was on the list of universities with the most students receiving Fulbright awards for 2013-14. Both UNC Charlotte and UNC Wilmington were cited among the “top producers” of faculty Fulbright Scholars from master’s-level institutions.

At UNC Charlotte, the EPIC program and a clean-energy start-up company, SineWatts, received a \$620,000 federal grant to design an inverter molecule that has the potential to drastically reduce solar project construction costs. At UNC Pembroke, Board of Governors member Dick Taylor and his wife, Lenore, cut the ceremonial ribbon on UNC Pembroke’s newly renovated Taylor Track.

REACH NC, a publicly accessible and searchable web-based portal that uses advanced technologies to enable quicker and easier location of faculty experts in North Carolina higher education and research institutions, has won the national University Economic Development Association’s 2013 Awards of Excellence competition. This initiative was a joint venture between UNC-Chapel Hill and NC State University with support from UNC General Administration. Associate Vice President Thornton and Vice President Boney were credited for their important roles in the development of the portal.

President Ross commented on the Hamilton Project. Last month, he represented the University in a national discussion on the future of higher education in American society in a roundtable conversation moderated by former U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Robert Rubin. He was joined by Chancellor Cigarroa of the University of Texas system and President Roth of Wesleyan University. The lively discussion underscored the fact that colleges and universities across the country are grappling with many of the same issues and challenges facing our system and this Board.

Next, President Ross commented on Student Organization Recognition policies currently in place on our campuses. He recently met with campus leaders to ensure the policies are relevant and consistent with and support the educational purposes of organized student activities in accordance with the principles of academic freedom and responsibility articulated in *The Code* of the UNC Policy Manual. The review confirmed that freedom of speech and expression were alive and well on many of the campuses. The review also found that campuses that do not have such explicit policies were encouraged to update their policies to reflect their practice. UNC General Administration staff would work with those campuses over the next few months to assist them in making these changes and will report the results to the Board no later than February, along with the President's recommendations for a systemwide policy on this issue.