

**Board of Governors Meeting**  
**August 26, 2010**  
**Chapel Hill, North Carolina**

The Board of Governors met in special session on August 26, 2010, at the Spangler Center, Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Chairman Gage called the meeting to order at 11:10 a.m. She welcomed the many guests especially the Honorable Bob Jordan, former North Carolina Lieutenant Governor.

**INVOCATION**

Chairman Gage called on Vice Chairman Hans to give the invocation.

**ROLL CALL**

Secretary Sanders called the roll. The following members were present:

Brent D. Barringer	Clarice Cato Goodyear
Atul C. Bhula	Peter D. Hans
John M. Blackburn	Charles A. Hayes
Peaches G. Blank	Adelaide Daniels Key
R. Steve Bowden	G. Leroy Lail
Laura W. Buffaloe	Ronald C. Leatherwood
Frank Daniels, Jr.	Cheryl M. Locklear
Bill Daughtridge, Jr.	Franklin E. McCain
Walter C. Davenport	Fred G. Mills
John W. Davis III	Charles H. Mercer, Jr.
James M. Deal, Jr.	Burley B. Mitchell, Jr.
Phillip R. Dixon	Marshall B. Pitts, Jr.
Dudley E. Flood	Gladys Ashe Robinson
Paul Fulton	Estelle 'Bunny' Sanders
Hannah D. Gage	Priscilla P. Taylor
Ann B. Goodnight	David W. Young

The following members were absent:

James E. Holshouser, Jr.	J. Bradley Wilson
Irvin (Al) Roseman	

## **STATE ETHICS ACT**

Chairman Gage stated that under the State Ethics Act, members have a duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts. Looking at the agenda for the meeting, Chairman Gage asked if any member had a conflict of interest or an interest that would give rise to the appearance of a conflict of interest. There were none.

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On motion by Secretary Sanders and duly seconded, the Board voted to convene in closed session to prevent the disclosure of attorney client privileged information; to consult with its attorney to establish or instruct the staff or agent concerning the negotiation of the amount of compensation or other terms of employment contract; and to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, condition of appointment of a public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee, pursuant to North Carolina G.S. Sections 143-318.11(a)(1), (a)(5) and (a)(6).

The Board went into closed session at 11:15 a.m. and returned to open session at 12:10 p.m.

## **REPORT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH COMMITTEE**

Mr. Lail, Chair of the Search Committee, reported that the presidential search process began in early March 2010. The process consisted of the appointment of three committees – the Leadership Statement Committee, the Selection/Screening Committee, and the Search Committee. Each Committee played an integral role that led to this occasion today. He acknowledged staff from General Administration and thanked them for assisting throughout the search process.

Mr. Lail provided a brief overview of each Committee's work. First, the Leadership Statement Committee was chaired by Mrs. Goodyear. The Committee consisted of 27 members, including members of the Board of Governors, six Chancellors, ten Board of Trustees' Chairs, the Chair and two members of the Faculty Assembly, and the Chair of the Staff Assembly. The Committee was charged with developing a statement that outlined the experiences, skill sets,

characteristics and philosophies that were essential to the success of the next president of the University. In addition, the Committee created an online survey to gather input. Nearly 5,000 responses were received. Of these responses, the Leadership Statement Committee distilled a consensus list of the essential qualifications for the next president. The work of this Committee became the standard and measure of the other two committees as they proceeded. Mr. Lail thanked Mrs. Goodyear and the Committee for their excellent work.

In the next phase of the process, the Selection/Screening Committee began its work. The Committee consisted of 15 members of the Board of Governors and the Committee was co-chaired by Mr. Brent Barringer and Mr. David Young. A search consultant, R. William Funk & Associates, was hired to assist with a nationwide search of candidates for the position. The position was advertised in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*, *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, *Hispanic Issues in Higher Education* publications and on the University's website. Additional nominations were solicited from individuals across North Carolina and the country. A large, vibrant, diverse and qualified pool of candidates was developed. During June and July, the Committee had met on numerous occasions and reviewed job applications utilizing the Leadership Statement as its template. On July 30, the Committee selected a set of candidates who best fit the Leadership Statement and recommended those names to the Search Committee.

In the final phase of the process, the Search Committee began its work. The Committee consisted of 13 members of the Board of Governors. The pool of candidates forwarded to the Search Committee was enormously talented and outstanding. During August, the Committee held extensive interviews with each of the candidates. Understanding the importance of the next President to serve this University and this State, the Committee deliberated carefully, thoroughly, and thoughtfully.

Mr. Lail stated that the person presented today truly exemplifies the essential values and qualities identified in the Leadership Statement.

## **ELECTION OF A PRESIDENT**

Chairman Gage stated that when the Board began its search for the next person to lead the University, they looked for a person who had a rare combination of experience, skills,

character and integrity. She stated that the next leader must understand and respect the University's three part mission – teaching, research, and outreach. Chairman Gage noted that the next leader must know how to leverage resources and understand the central role that the University of North Carolina plays in the life of this State.

She said that the Board's nationwide presidential search attracted talent from many professional backgrounds and from all parts of the country, but in the end, the search had led them back to North Carolina's own – Thomas W. Ross. In a time of great challenge and constant change, Mr. Ross' thoughtful leadership, sound integrity, deep understanding of North Carolina, and his life-long commitment to improving the lives of people in every corner of our State, make him the perfect choice to lead this University in the years ahead. Mr. Ross was the entire authentic package that resonated deeply and drew the Board to its conclusion.

Chairman Gage spoke briefly about Mr. Ross' experiences, qualifications and accomplishments. Born and raised in Greensboro, Thomas W. Ross attended North Carolina public schools. He is a graduate of Davidson College and received his law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Since 2007, Mr. Ross has served as President of Davidson College, his alma mater. He had served as North Carolina Superior Court Judge from 1984-2000 and was the executive director of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, Inc. from 2001-2007.

The theme that runs through every stage of Tom Ross' life is the consistent, enduring drive to improve the lives of the people of our State. As a judge, he witnessed first-hand the State's justice system beleaguered by uneven sentencing and a fast-growing prison population. He then led a statewide panel that worked to create a structured sentencing system that brought together many constituencies to establish a plan that won support of the legislature and became a model that was used around the country. With this, he received the William H. Rehnquist Award for Judicial Excellence, presented to him by U.S. Superior Court Chief Justice Rehnquist in the halls of the United States Supreme Court. As executive director of the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation, Mr. Ross directed grant monies to non-profits and grassroots organizations around the State. At Davidson College, Mr. Ross entered the world of higher-education administration. He has taught at the UNC-Chapel Hill School of Government, has served on advisory boards at several campuses and was a member of the UNC Tomorrow Commission. He has worked with

the Board of Governors to help create the University's road map for meeting the State's needs now and in the future.

Mr. Ross has been married to Susan Donaldson Ross since 1972. She is a graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill School of Education. They have two adult children and one grandson.

On behalf of the Search Committee, Mr. Lail enthusiastically moved the nomination of Mr. Thomas W. Ross as the next President to serve the University of North Carolina.

Mr. Daniels seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Ross thanked the Board, the President, and his wife. He said that it was an honor to stand here as President-Elect of the University of North Carolina, the oldest and best public university in America. For Mr. Ross' remarks, please see Exhibit A.

Chairman Gage thanked everyone for attending. She announced that a press conference was scheduled with President-Elect Ross in the Executive Conference Room at the conclusion of the meeting.

Mr. Davenport moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Pitts seconded and the motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.