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PRESIDENT ROSS' REPORT
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

February 11, 2011

President Ross reported that he has been busy visiting each of our campuses, meeting with students, staff, and faculty. He recently completed visits to five campuses as well as to the UNC Center for Public Television and the UNC Health Care System. He remarked that the visits have been fascinating, the leadership teams are strong and committed, and he especially enjoyed his visits with students. President Ross spoke of some awe-inspiring research being conducted on the campuses and the way in which the campuses were involving students in undergraduate research.

Next, President Ross recognized the Chancellors. He commented that they continued to provide great leadership, especially during these difficult economic times.

President Ross spoke of some recent campus initiatives and achievements. At Fayetteville State University, the School of Business and Economics was ranked in the Top 200 by the Social Science Research Network (SSRN). FSU was the only HBCU ranked in the Top 200. UNC-Chapel Hill, NC State University, UNC Greensboro, and UNC Charlotte were also ranked. A team of scientists from North Carolina Central University received a \$1 million grant from the National Institute of Health for their research on a drug treatment for type 2 diabetes. Three seniors from the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics (NCSSM) – Jennifer Brown, Ryan Lee, and Angela Zhang – were selected as three of the four students nationwide to represent the United States at the Beijing Youth Science Creation Competition, which will be held in March in Beijing, China. On March 5, 2011, NCSSM would set out to break the Guinness World Record for the largest 24-hour food drive at a single location by attempting to collect more than a half million pounds of non-perishable food items for the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina.

North Carolina State University was ranked by the *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the best universities in the country for their Writing Across the Curriculum Programs, which is a program that promotes writing and speaking across the disciplines. UNC-Chapel Hill hosted a live digital town hall discussion to talk about the future of the American economy. President

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Ross announced that the men's basketball game on February 23, 2011, between the Tar Heels and the Wolfpack would be broadcast live in Shanghai, China – this marked the first NCAA regular-season game ever to be televised in China. President Ross noted that the broadcast offered the opportunity to help our campuses be exposed to Chinese students as well as provide opportunities for joint research collaborations and support of our state's economic development. He thanked Associate Vice President Boney for his involvement in this process.

At the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Duke Energy and Siemens Energy would jointly contribute \$8.8 million in support of UNC Charlotte's Energy Production and Infrastructure Center (EPIC). At the University of North Carolina School of the Arts, student Brooke Robbins from the School of Design and Production, was selected to receive the 2011 W. Oren Parker Undergraduate Scene Design Award from the U.S. Institute for Theatre Technology. This was the second time in the past three years that a student from UNCSA received this prestigious award.

Next, President Ross announced that the Governor's proposed state budget would be released next week. Both chambers of the General Assembly have begun meeting with an aggressive timeline for approving the budget by June. President Ross stressed that the role of the University was to prepare an educated workforce, which was essential to the state's economic recovery. He stressed the importance of keeping college affordable through low tuition and adequate financial aid. President Ross reported that he would continue working with the leaders of our campuses to identify potential ways to streamline business practices. He mentioned that he would be meeting soon with former Chancellor Woodward who was leading the effort to review degree programs and identify other cost saving measures across the University.

Next, President Ross mentioned that a new Task Force on Athletics & Academics was formed. Chaired by Chancellor Ballard, the committee would be comprised of athletic directors, compliance staff, and academic support staff to study two areas – identify and prioritize institutional risks in intercollegiate athletics related to integrity and NCAA compliance and to propose best practices related to these risks, especially academic support services for student athletes.

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Lastly, President Ross reported that UNC General Administration would receive \$7.7 million from the “Race to the Top” federal grant program to work with the campuses and school districts across the state in the design and delivery of a statewide program for teachers in their first three years of practice.