

APPENDIX N

REPORT OF COUNCIL OF UNC ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENTS TO THE UNC BOARD OF GOVERNORS

February 8, 2002

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Board of Governors, Madam President, Chancellors of the UNC campuses, distinguished guests: It is my pleasure to bring you greetings on behalf of the Council of Alumni Association Presidents. It's also an honor for me to address the UNC Board of Governors for the first time as Vice President of the Council. Council President, Melvin White who spoke to you here last year could not be here this morning due to a Bank of America conflict and sends both his regrets and his regards. Mr. Chairman, our appreciation to you and the Board for allowing us time in your meeting to present the alumni council's report.

The Alumni state of affairs regarding the University of North Carolina is in excellent shape. We have active alumni programs in all 16 of our individual universities working for the good of their respective institutions. Our Council seeks to extend that outstanding work toward a broader vision of UNC alumni beyond any individual university interest.

The Alumni Council of Presidents was formed over 11 years ago when the UNC institutional advancement model was taking hold, and we saw that alumni would be both the "askers and askees" as our public universities would increasingly depend on private

giving. We also knew we had one thing that money couldn't buy, and that was a love for and loyalty to our individual universities. At the UNC system level, however, perhaps only the Board of Governors had a broader love for the UNC systems as the crown jewel of North Carolina.

The Council was thus set up with each of the 16 universities having a single vote by the Alumni President but also with the President-elect and past presidents as members with the Alumni executives as ex-officio. Since our inception, our sole purpose has been to support the University system in its service to the State of North Carolina. The Council meets three or more times a year at alternating campus locations. To date, our Council Presidents have come from Western Carolina, NC State, Winston-Salem State, UNC Greensboro, North Carolina A & T, North Carolina Central University, and yours truly, UNC Charlotte, home of the Charlotte 49ers.

Over the past 10 years in particular the Council has:

- Supported the bi-annual budget requests with the Governor and legislature
- Participated in two highly successful capital bond campaigns
- Honored our living Governors of North Carolina and uniquely honored Bill and Ida Friday
- Honored our University Presidents, Board Chairpersons, and retired Chancellors with unique University Basketballs
- Hosted a Panama Canal cruise to assist several universities who had not had travel programs to date

- Met at least three times a year and at least once at all 16 campuses
- Met with the Governor and legislative leaders a number of times on special issues such as the upcoming legislative study and
- Became a partner with UNC and five other educational organizations in supporting and implementing the critical GEAR-UP NC program

Today we would like to reaffirm the support of the Council and our alumni representatives for the good of the UNC system, which now is approaching some 900,000 alumni. We also recognize and support the larger picture and larger need for better education in North Carolina.

Indeed our alumni council officers and members understand education beyond our own individual university alumni affiliations. Our President Melvin White, an alum from NC Central University, works here at GA with the GEAR UP staff. As Vice President and alum from UNC Charlotte, I am Director of the NC Teaching Fellows Program there as well as a member of the Advisory Board for Anson County GEAR UP. Our Secretary Dwight Pearson, an alum from UNC Pembroke, works for the Department of Public Instruction in “closing the gap.” Our Treasurer Shelby Strother, an alum from East Carolina University, is a retired schoolteacher working with Greene County GEAR UP. Our Executive Director, Bob Kennel, an alum from NC State, works with the Principal Fellows Commission, GEAR UP steering committee, NCCBI Education Committee, and statewide Charter

Schools. Our other Alumni representatives here today all work in some way for better education in North Carolina beyond their university affiliations. Let me also introduce:

- Pat Smith from UNC W
- Doug Dibbert from UNC Chapel Hill
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In conclusion we wish to again express our support for the UNC System and to thank you for the work you are doing as the Board of Governors. We are especially proud of our President Molly Broad for her visionary work as recognized in her recent honor as the "Tar Heel of the Year." Thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Board of Governors, Madam President, and Chancellors for being in the forefront in education not only in the State of North Carolina, but for providing an example and sending a signal to the rest of the country that North Carolina will be prepared with the faculty, tools, and facilities needed to provide a quality education to deserving students. I would like to thank my Fellow Alumni Presidents, both past and present, who have put aside their loyalty for their individual schools to come together to work for a common goal. I thank the Alumni Directors at each UNC campus who not only keep us informed about internal university issues but are also our liaisons as well as support system. Again, I wish to express my appreciation for the honor of bringing greetings on behalf of the Alumni Council of Presidents.

Finally, I would like to ask our Executive Director Bob Kennel if he would come forward to make a unique statement to President Broad with his inevitable "Education Basketballs." In the words of President Bush in his address to the State of the Union a few weeks ago, "As you look in the mirror and begin to think more about the good we can do – let's roll." Bob.....