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PRESIDENT ROSS' REPORT
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING

January 13, 2012

President Ross thanked the Board for their commitment to the University. He spoke about the University Award Dinner that honored President *Emeritus* Bowles and noted that the occasion was very special and no one was more deserving of this recognition than President Bowles, who has done so much for the University in so many ways. President Ross reminded the Board that tuition proposals for resident and non-resident students would be presented in the coming weeks.

Regarding updates and recent campus activities, President Ross reported that last September the Board had passed a resolution that would encourage our campuses to waive physical education requirements for active duty service members and to promote the transfer of military course credits from other institutions. All UNC campuses were now in compliance with this resolution. President Ross commented on the UNC Task Force Report on Athletics and Academics. The President had reviewed the report and hosted a meeting with the UNC Athletic Directors last month. President Ross announced that he had formed a working group that would oversee the core recommendations made in the report. The working group would be led by former Director of Athletics Baddour from UNC-Chapel Hill. Next, President Ross recognized the Mr. Charles Brink, Chair of the Staff Assembly, and Dr. Sandie Gravetts, Chair of the Faculty Assembly. Next, President Ross provided a brief update on the status of the financial audits of the 16 campuses and UNC General Administration. The NC Office of the State Auditor conducts annual financial audits for each of our campuses and for General Administration on an annual basis. The audit reports from all of our campuses were recently completed and President Ross was proud to announce a total of one audit finding. This success, he noted, was attributed to the University Finance Improvement and Transformation Project (UNC FIT) led by Project Manager Officer Gwen Canady and he thanked the Chancellors for their focus on operating their campuses effectively and efficiently.

In other announcements, President Ross reported that the Southern Association of Colleges & Schools (SACS) reaffirmed accreditation for Elizabeth City State University,

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Fayetteville State University and Winston-Salem State University. In addition, Chancellor Anderson was elected to a three-year term on the SACS Commission Board of Trustees. Next, *Kiplinger* magazine ranked the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as the #1 Best Value in Public Colleges for 2012. This marked the eleventh consecutive year that UNC-Chapel Hill ranked #1 in this category. Other UNC institutions ranked on the *Kiplinger's* list included –UNC Wilmington at #15, North Carolina State University at #19, Appalachian State University at #33, and the UNC School of the Arts at #41, and UNC Asheville at #45th. President Ross reported that *Bloomberg Businessweek* ranked the Evening MBA Program in the Bryan School of Business and Economics at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro among the nation's top part-time MBA programs of 2011. Appalachian State University leads the nation in the number of alumni who became nationally-board certified teachers in 2011. East Carolina University, UNC-Chapel Hill and UNC Greensboro also were ranked in the top 10 in the production of nationally-board certified teachers. Next, Westinghouse Electric Company had committed \$3 million in donated equipment services and scholarship funding to provide support for the newly constructed Energy Production and Infrastructure Center (EPIC) building at UNC Charlotte. EPIC is a highly collaborative industry/education partnership that produces a technical workforce and advancements in technology for the global energy industry. The donation included two 30-ton industrial cranes as well as training equipment for the handling of nuclear fuel. Next, UNC Asheville's North Carolina Center for Creative Retirement received a \$2 million endowment gift from The Bernard Osher Foundation and UNC Wilmington received a \$1 million endowment gift from the Foundation to support programs for its lifelong institute for mature adult learners.

Each year, the University Economic Development Association (UEDA) recognizes top achievements in economic development initiatives from universities across the country. At the 2011 UEDA Awards for Excellence national competition, East Carolina University won first place in the Excellence in Leadership and Collaboration category and East Carolina University's Middle School Innovators Academy won first place for Excellence in Talent Development. Next, two students from the UNC School of the Arts won top honors in juried competition sponsored by the United States Institute for Theatre Technology (USITT) – Mr. John Bowhers, won the 2011-2012 W. Oren Parker Scene Design Award, the nation's top award for undergraduate set designers, and Ms. Holland Berson won the Makeup Design Award. At

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Winston-Salem State University (WSSU), the football team finished the season with a 13-1 record. The WSSU Rams won the 2011 CIAA Championship title game and the Rams captured their first-ever Black College Sports Network Jake Gaither National Championship Trophy. At North Carolina A&T State University, three professors from the Joint School of Nanoscience and Nanoengineering were awarded \$3.5 million in federal research grants from the United States Army Research Office for their work involved with computational modeling of nano and biosystems and interfaces, as well as the study of semi-conductors of nano wires.

Lastly, President Ross spoke of the importance of faculty research and the critical role it plays in undergraduate and graduate instruction, and the many ways in which research provides experiences that have the potential to enrich lives. To illustrate this point, President Ross introduced Dr. Myron Cohen, Director of the Institute for Global Health and Infectious Diseases at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Board of Governors 2008 Recipient of the Oliver Max Gardner Award. Last month, Dr. Cohen won the *Science* journal 2011 *Breakthrough of the Year* Award – observed as the highest distinction in all science – for the HIV Prevention Trials Network (HPTN) 052 study designed and led by Dr. Cohen and his team of researchers. The editors at *Science* journal wrote that the results of the HPTN 052 study have galvanized efforts to end the world’s AIDS epidemic in a way that would have been inconceivable even a year ago. President Ross recognized Dr. Cohen, who spoke briefly about his team’s HPTN 052 research project that was supported by the National Institute of Health. He showed a short video that summarized how the project was conducted. Dr. Cohen noted that his team would continue to build on the results and evaluate strategies that can provide guidance on the use of early treatment with antiretroviral therapy that leads to the prevention of sexual transmission of HIV. Dr. Cohen thanked the University for their support and for providing him and his team the opportunity to conduct research over his two decades of service at UNC-Chapel Hill.