

**Excerpts from Remarks by Chancellor-Elect for UNC Greensboro  
Dr. Franklin D. Gilliam Jr.  
UNC Board of Governors Meeting  
May 22, 2015**

“I would like to thank the members of the Board, President Ross, Dr. Gonzales, members of the Search Committee and Acting Chancellor Dunn. This is an exciting opportunity for me and my wife, Jacquie, and our children, Ariel and Trey. Greensboro is a warm and lovely city and my family and I anticipate becoming active members of the community.

UNC Greensboro is well positioned for continued success. It’s a campus where collaborative scholarship, high quality experiential and classroom learning, creativity in the arts and community engagement directly contribute to a higher quality of life for the city, the Triad, the state, the nation and globally. I see UNC Greensboro where enrollment is on the rise, where academic excellence is fostered by an accomplished faculty; it’s constantly recognized as a top university that works at the intersection of academic excellence and value and has no restraints in education, health and wellness, the performing arts, business and arts and sciences.

To be clear, American higher education is at a critical juncture. Several questions vet academic leaders. For example, how do we deliver high-quality education within the context of a changing business model? How do we integrate innovative approaches to teaching and research while recognizing and paying attention to the canon? How should we approach internationalization? What are we to make of the digital revolution and what does it mean for the way we deliver educational product? These questions and more are the context within UNC Greensboro will continue to chart its course.

In the coming years, I anticipate that UNC Greensboro will find even more innovative ways to prepare students of all ages and backgrounds for meaningful lives. Some of this will take place in the classroom, some will take place online, and some will be a hybrid model. I foresee an upward trend in research productivity and certainly look forward to collaborating with other academic institutions in the city and in the region to address the most pressing and important problems. As you are aware, UNC Greensboro contributes nearly \$1 billion to the economy of the region and as such it must be a robust and engaged civic stakeholder. So I look forward to working with elected officials, the policymakers, the private sector and the not-for-profit sector to pursue our common interest. There is no doubt that UNC Greensboro’s progress will be based on its rich history and traditions. From its foundation as a women’s college to the

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strong research public university it is today, we have to recognize the legacy while at the same time embrace the future.

We are extraordinarily excited about this opportunity and the great work to be done as chancellor. I am proud to be UNC Greensboro's newest Spartan! It's together, students, faculty, staff, alumni, donors, friends – it's only together – that we can redefine and forge UNC Greensboro as a leading public institution and a model for delivering high-quality education in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Thank you very much.”

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