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**Excerpts of Dr. Gregory Chadwick's Remarks  
Board of Governors Meeting  
Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. Award for  
Excellence in Public Service  
November 3, 2017**

Thank you President Spellings, Chairman Bissette, Mr. Knott, and members of the Board of Governors – I thank you for this tremendous opportunity. It is humbling to receive an award such as this especially when you look at the list of distinguished recipients from across our University who have previously received the award. Thank you for your generous stipend; we will be using it as seed money to fund “ECU SMILES” – an event that the East Carolina University (ECU) School of Dental Medicine provides at the community service learning centers designated to reach individuals who are in need of oral health care.

An award such as this must be shared with many individuals who have helped develop our unique model of dental education. Working with these individuals to improve oral health and educate the next generation of dentists has been a privilege and a highlight of my professional care. There are so many people including many in this room that I must thank – my family has always given me endless encouragement and freedom to explore opportunities to do all the things we dream of and also to help us establish the School of Dental Medicine at ECU. I also want to thank the late Vice Chancellor Mike Lewis, who was part of this dream, along with local and community leaders. This recognition is also humbling because it is shared with a large group of dedicated faculty, staff, students, residents, and graduates across the state and the many patients who support our educational model and also benefit by gaining much needed dental care.

I thank my wife Knox, my two children, and their spouses. I also want to thank a few individuals here today as they and the constituents they represent are the ones who share in this recognition today – Jasper Lewis, Chancellor Staton, Vice Chancellor Horns, and all those at ECU who support and enhance our School on a daily basis and for allowing me to serve as Dean of the ECU School of Dental Medicine. I thank Dr. Maggie Wilson, Vice Dean & Associate Dean for Student Affairs, Mr. Gary Fuquay, Fuquay Solutions, that performed much of the due diligence in the placement and sustainability of our community service learning centers, Dr. Gordon DeFries, UNC Professor Emeritus, and former ECU Chancellor Steve Ballard, who understood the importance of our new school and was there for us every step of the way.

One of my first experiences as a newly minted dentist working at a community health center in the rural community of Prospect Hill was something that struck me – I witnessed the needs of the people who had never received dental care before. I thought there must be a better way than this and for me it planted a seed that continued to grow throughout my career and encouraged me to work to improve the health of the people of our state. Our model of educating students and providing care has been remarkably

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successful. To date, we have seen over 49,000 patients from 99 (out of 100 North Carolina) counties. By the way, the only county we haven't seen a patient from happens to be Caswell County, where I first started practicing. ECU's motto *To Serve* is part of our DNA and central to the mission of our school and our university – and it is what brings us here together today.

As our graduates go out into communities that need them, I hope they will always be curious and be inspired to think: "You know there must be a better way we can do this." Then they will roll up their sleeves and use the knowledge, skills, and experiences they have to work in those communities and leave those communities healthier than they found them."

Accepting this award named in honor of Governor Holshouser is particularly meaningful not only because of Governor Holshouser's legacy and career-long commitment to service, but because he was an emeritus member of this board when you (this Board) granted ECU the permission to award a dental degree and also start ECU's School of Dental Medicine a little over 10 years ago. I am extremely grateful to ECU and the Board of Governors for giving me the opportunity to transform a seed that was planted in my early career into action through education and service. Honoring Governor Holshouser who exemplified public service and the ambition to make a difference for the people of North Carolina, it's a tremendous honor to be the recipient of the 2017 Governor James E. Holshouser, Jr. Award for Excellence in Public Service. Thank you all very much.

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