

APPENDIX A
PRESIDENT ROSS' REPORT
BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING
December 5, 2014

President Ross thanked the members of the Board for their ongoing commitment of time, energy, and intellect on behalf of the University—particularly in the midst of the holiday season. He stated that the Board's commitment has extended to additional committee and working group meetings in recent weeks, as well as campus orientation visits to North Carolina Central University and NC State University. He thanked Chancellors Deb Saunders-White and Randy Woodson for facilitating the very informative visits to their campuses.

Next, he acknowledged that this meeting marked the last Board of Governors meetings for two of the campus leaders – Chancellor Reaves and Chancellor Orr. He thanked Chancellor Reaves for the strong leadership he has shown over the past 8 years in moving Winston-Salem State University forward, and he thanked Chancellor Orr for his service these past few months as interim chancellor of UNC Asheville. He recognized Chancellor Orr, who wrote a bestseller, *Wayfaring Strangers*. The book appears on *The New York Times* Top 10 Best Sellers list. UNC Press published the book. He recognized Mr. John Sherer from UNC Press.

President Ross stated that Chancellor Kyle Carter, UNC Pembroke, had announced his plans to retire from the University next summer. He noted that Chancellor Carter has made and continues to make tremendous contributions to the academic quality and stature of UNC Pembroke and that will hold it in good stead as search for his successor continues.

Recognizing recent campus achievements and milestones, President Ross commented that Appalachian State University's Marching Mountaineers will perform in the 29th London New Year's Day Parade. This will be the second time the band has been invited to perform in what is known as "The World's Largest New Year's Day Parade." At East Carolina University (ECU), *Operation Reentry North Carolina*, based at ECU, has partnered with Food Lion grocery store chain to launch a mobile food pantry to help feed homeless and at-risk veterans in eastern North Carolina. At Elizabeth City State University (ECSU), the university has signed a five-year agreement with the College of the Albemarle to create a new dual-enrollment program called the "Dolphin/Viking Link." While students enrolled in the program will initially attend classes at the College of the Albemarle, they will have access to services on both campuses. Participating students will be issued a "dual-identification badge" and will have an adviser on each campus to ensure that they stay on track to complete coursework needed to transfer to ECSU.

At Fayetteville State University, the team of students who won the Opportunity Funding Corporation's Annual Business Plan Competition in 2012 with their invention of a thermoelectric device that attaches to the back of cell phones has recently received a patent for their invention of the thermoelectric patch. The team's next step is a tech-transfer application to take the product to market. At North Carolina Central University (NCCU), President Ross announced that Chancellor Saunders-White was in Washington this week taking part in the White House College Opportunity Summit, which brings together university and business leaders, nonprofits and others committed to expanding college opportunities for students across the country. This year's summit was focused on building sustainable K-12/higher education partnerships and fostering inter-institutional collaboration to improve persistence and college-completion rates. Earlier this year, NCCU partnered with Durham Tech to create the first residential, dual-enrollment program in the Triangle Area.

At North Carolina State University (NCSU), the Centennial Campus has again received national recognition for its reinvention of the very notion of what a research park should be. The Association of Public and Land-grant Universities honored Centennial Campus with one of its second annual Innovation and Prosperity University Awards for creating a self-sustained city that includes academic and research facilities, industry offices, and residential and retail properties. Yesterday, UNC-Chapel Hill announced a \$100-million commitment to the Eshelman School of Pharmacy by Fred Eshelman, a graduate of the school and until recently, a member of the Board of Governors. This remarkable commitment will drive interdisciplinary collaboration, foster public-private partnerships, and help attract more research dollars and jobs to the state. President Ross had the privilege of joining Chancellor Folt and Fred for this announcement, and he once again publicly acknowledged the vast amount of time and commitment that Dr. Eshelman devoted to his service on the Board and expressed his thanks for the leadership role that he played in the development of our five-year Strategic Plan. Also from UNC-CH, CNN recently posted a national story about Jeff Powell, a senior biomedical engineering student from Red Oak, NC, who is using 3D printers to print prosthetic hands for children. The story went viral through social media. Mr. Powell is the design chair for the Biomedical Engineering Club on campus and spent part of his summer working on the prosthetic design.

At UNC Charlotte, Leon and Sandra Levine of Charlotte, have committed nearly \$13 million to the university to expand its prestigious Levine Scholars Program, which recruits extraordinary high school students based on scholarship, ethical leadership and civic engagement. Starting in 2016, the scholarship program will admit up to 20 new recipients annually, up from the current 15.

By 2020, there will be 80 Levine Scholars enrolled. At UNC Pembroke, Dr. Ben Bahr, who studies neurodegenerative disorders, has received a \$276,000 grant from the Army Research Office to boost the capabilities of the university's biotechnology lab. The grant will purchase a laser-scanning microscopy system that can peer deep into brain tissue and record signs of injury to better understand blast-induced traumatic brain injuries. Last year, the Board of Governors honored Dr. Bahr with its Holshouser Award for Excellence in Public Service for his contributions to the study of Alzheimer's and other brain disorders.

At UNC School of the Arts, Ms. Sierra Armstrong, a 10th-grade student in UNCSA's School of Dance, will compete in the Prix de Lausanne in Switzerland, in February. She is one of 70 dancers selected from nearly 300 candidates representing 34 countries. The Prix de Lausanne is an international competition for dancers aged 15 to 19 who are not yet professionals. At UNC Wilmington, Professor Patricia Kelley, who earlier this year received the Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching, is one of four 2014 U.S. Professors of the Year. The annual recognition is organized by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and sponsored by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teachers. Dr. Kelley won in the "master's university" category. At North Carolina A&T State University, Professor Karen Hornsby, was named the 2014 North Carolina Professor of the Year. Dr. Hornsby was recognized for her "limitless passion for working with undergraduate students both inside and outside the classroom, her persistent focus on finding ways to help her students learn more effectively, and her deep commitment to the scholarship of teaching and learning."

Last week, Western Carolina University's Pride of the Mountains Marching Band was the lead band at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. The group was one of only 10 marching bands from across the nation selected to perform. Also at WCU, a \$75,000 gift from the Duke Energy Foundation will enable Western Carolina University's Kimmel School of Construction Management and Technology to expand hands-on learning experiences for engineering students and boost efforts to recruit and retain engineering students. The gift will fund the purchase of new power systems laboratory equipment and provide student scholarships, faculty development and programming to encourage more students across Western North Carolina to explore engineering as a profession.

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