



## **EXPECTATIONS OF CONDUCT DURING MEETINGS OF THE UNC BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

The UNC Board of Governors encourages members of the University community and the general public to attend official meetings of the Board and its committees. To help protect public access to its official meetings and promote the open transaction of public business—in keeping with both the letter and spirit of the North Carolina Open Meetings Act—the Board of Governors asks all members of the Board, the University community, and the public to conduct themselves in a manner that is respectful of fellow attendees, the Board, and University staff.

The University makes every effort to accommodate public attendance. Open seating is generally available for members of the public and the University community, who may use any unoccupied seat that is not reserved for Board members, staff, special meeting attendees, or members of the news media. Official meetings may also be viewed via video, where available, especially when facility space constraints are a concern.

Meetings of the Board of Governors and its committees are public meetings, rather than public hearings. Anyone is welcome to observe the open sessions of official meetings, but participation is limited to members of the Board and designated staff.

The Board of Governors will schedule designated public comment sessions on a regular basis to hear from members of the University community and the public. Individuals and groups may also direct comments and input to the President and University staff in writing. All such correspondence will be carefully reviewed. Those with comments or concerns pertaining to a UNC constituent institution are also encouraged to direct their comments to the chancellor, staff, and/or board of trustees of that institution.

Attendees at official meetings, committee meetings, or public comment sessions of the Board of Governors cannot lawfully engage in conduct that distracts, disrupts, impedes the transaction of Board business, or interferes with the rights of others to observe and listen to the proceedings. Freedom of speech is a cherished right, respected by the Board and codified in law. Intentional disruption of public business, however, is not protected.

An individual who violates these standards, as determined by the presiding officer or other designated official, will be asked to cease the disruptive conduct. Failure to promptly end the disruptive conduct or voluntarily depart the meeting upon request may result in removal from the meeting room and the possibility of arrest and prosecution. In the event that a meeting is so interrupted, the presiding officer may temporarily suspend or recess the meeting until regular order can be restored.