

CHAIR LOWRY CAUDILL'S PREPARED REMARKS

Board of Trustees Meeting

Thursday, September 25, 2014

Welcome and Recognition

- Thanks to everyone for coming today. We have a busy agenda and some exciting presenters to provide new perspective on our University.
- On behalf of the Board of Trustees, let me extend a warm welcome to Debbie Dibbert, who joins us for the first time as chief of staff in the Chancellor's Office.

Restatement of Goals

- I want to thank our committee, task force chairs and trustees for another round of productive meetings yesterday and a great dinner together last night.
- We look forward to those committee reports later in this agenda in the framework of the four goals we've set for ourselves in 2014-2015.
- They are:
 1. Support Chancellor Folt and her senior leaders as they become a highly effective operational team.
 2. Accelerate, measure and communicate the growth and economic impact of our innovation and entrepreneurship initiatives.
 3. Tell our story: Carolina improves the lives of people across North Carolina, our nation, and our world; and
 4. Implement the work of our two trustee task forces on enterprise risk management and external relations.

Praise for Successful Year Start, Recent Highlights

- With those goals in mind, my observation is that the University has made excellent progress during a smooth start to a new academic year.
- When I've been on campus, I've seen students excited about their academic opportunities and campus life; faculty deeply engaged in classrooms, their research and scholarship; and staff working hard behind the scenes to support the entire University.

- I expect we'll get a strong sense of this energy when Chancellor Folt shares her report. But I wanted to take my prerogative as chair to mention three significant highlights.
- First, I am immensely proud of the way the campus has responded to the national issue of sexual assault with the thoughtful and effective rollout last month of the revised policy on sexual violence and discrimination.
- The care with which the task force leadership, task force members, and the administration handled this process was quite evident.
- We all recognize this important work needs to continue, but the revised policy was a strong step forward at just the right time in coordination with White House and UNC system initiatives.
- The second highlight I want to note is the recent New York Times economic diversity ranking showing the proportion of undergraduates receiving Pell Grants and net price.
- Coming in at #1 on that list among top-flight public universities by a wide margin is impressive validation of the approach our campus has taken with accessibility and affordability over these past several years.
- It was gratifying to me to see Carolina receive such positive national recognition. I expect we'll hear more on this from Chancellor Folt.

U.S. News & World Report Op-Ed Column

- Finally, last Monday, I was proud to read Chancellor Folt's outstanding opinion column published by U.S. News & World Report on the future of American higher education.
- The Chancellor eloquently made the case that we must prepare students to succeed in jobs and industries that don't even exist yet.
- To meet that objective, we must shift to more learning by doing – moving from a focus on just “breadth and depth” to “breadth, depth AND practice.”
- For faculty, that means going from a mindset of “create and teach” to “create, teach AND apply.”
- If you haven't read the Chancellor's column, I strongly recommend it. You can find it on the University's homepage, unc.edu.
- Thank you, Carol, for your superb visionary and invigorating leadership.

C-STEP Kickoff Event

- I want to thank Trustee Stone for representing the Board at last week's kickoff event for C-STEP (Carolina Student Transfer Excellence Program), which helps low- to moderate-income students who transfer to Carolina from a partner community college.
- It's a highly successful program, now in its eighth year under the leadership of Vice Provost for Undergraduate Admissions Steve Farmer and C-STEP Director Rebecca Egbert.
- This annual kick-off is just one example of the high-quality activity occurring on this campus each and every day.

Media Session

- For the news media here today, Chancellor Folt and I will be available after the open session ends at about 10 a.m. to take your questions. Thanks for your interest in the board and the University.