CHAIR STONE’S PREPARED REMARKS
UNC Board of Trustees Meeting
Thursday, January 26, 2017

Welcome

• Thank everyone for attending.
• And thank you, my fellow trustees, Chancellor Folt, and our colleagues for all of the time and effort that went into a productive and significant set of committee meetings yesterday.
• I appreciate your diligence and devotion to our University.
• Today, we’ll focus our featured presentations on the Chancellor’s Science Scholars Program.

Clayton Somers

• As chair, I want to officially welcome Clayton Somers to his first full meeting of the Board of Trustees as our new vice chancellor for public affairs and secretary of the University.
• Chancellor Folt continues to build a senior leadership team that, without a doubt, is one of the finest at any university in our country.
• It is a very impressive group of professionals, and Clayton is a wonderful addition at this important time in the public policy discussions taking place for our state and the entire nation.
• It is more important than ever to advocate vigorously for public education at all levels and the pathways for success those opportunities provide for our young people.
• Vice Chair Cochrane and I look forward to working collaboratively with Clayton and Chancellor Folt in supporting this board’s work moving forward.
• Our interest is to work hard with Chancellor Folt to help Carolina reach its full potential as world-class institution. Clayton will be a key colleague as we aspire to that objective.

Thank Dwayne Pinkney

• On behalf of the board, I also want to publicly thank Dwayne Pinkney for all he has done to support the work of this Board of Trustees as the previous part-time Secretary of the University.
• Dwayne juggled his many responsibilities in providing us and previous trustees with outstanding service in navigating the complexities of planning our meetings, orienting new members, and making sure we were functioning effectively.
• We will always be grateful for Dwayne’s devoted service to this board while also performing his duties as vice provost for finance and academic planning.
• Congratulations on your new position as senior associate vice chancellor for finance and administration, a job in which we are confident you will excel.
• Thank you, Dwayne!  [Lead applause]

**Supporting the Board of Governors/Budget Process**

• Devoting more time and attention to our relationships with the Board of Governors and state government is particularly important as President Spellings and her team begins the critical work of presenting the University system’s budget priorities to the North Carolina General Assembly and the governor.
• Members of this board continue to have very positive conversations with our friends on the Board of Governors about the University system’s future and a shared strategy for articulating needs and goals in Raleigh that reflect the best interests of all of the UNC campuses.
• As we’ve said before in these meetings, this board is fully committed to supporting the Board of Governors and their role in advocating for each and every UNC campus as our legislators and the governor begin the next cycle of the budget process.
• It is very important for the boards of trustees on all of the campuses be in sync with President Spellings and General Administration as conversations begin during what will again be a complex budget-making process.
• I am confident we can effectively communicate a unified message and am optimistic that the needs of public higher education will receive serious and thoughtful consideration.

**Coach Williams/800 wins**

• I also wanted to say a brief word about the significance of Coach Roy Williams 800th career victory last week in the men’s basketball game with Syracuse.
• A lot has been said and written already about that remarkable accomplishment from the basketball perspective.
• What struck me most was what Coach Williams’ former and current players at Kansas and Carolina said about the influence he has had in preparing them for successful lives and careers.
• Coach Williams is first and foremost a great teacher. Yes, he is passionate on the court. That is one of the things we love about him. But like Coach Smith, he is completely devoted to his players and the leaders and professionals they will become after they leave Chapel Hill.
• We are extremely fortunate to have him at Carolina, and I personally hope to see win number 900 in Chapel Hill.
Restatement of Goals

- As a reminder, our board’s work this year is focused on four primary goals. They are:
  1. Support Chancellor Folt and her senior leaders, as they formulate and implement a new strategic framework for the University.
  2. Tell our story. Carolina improves the lives of people across North Carolina, our nation, and our world.
  3. Accelerate, measure, and communicate the growth and economic impact of our innovation and entrepreneurship initiatives.
  4. Help Carolina become more efficient and effective in key operational areas, particularly Finance, Administration, Teaching and Research.

Media Session

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

AFTER Chair Duckett Reports Out from the University Affairs Committee ……. He is expected to call on the full board for a vote to formally endorse Chancellor Folt’s draft strategic framework