



June 2011

Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends:

In May we celebrated the year's biggest academic milestone, **Commencement**, continuing a remarkable tradition that started in 1798. We're proud to keep history alive, 213 years later, with **another class of talented students** who are inspired by the faculty to help improve our world. This year's undergraduates went out in style, wearing new true Carolina blue gowns that also were environmentally friendly.

This edition of FYI brings you good news about **innovation and entrepreneurship** as well as the **impressive accomplishments that our students and faculty** continue to make in classrooms, research laboratories and in communities.



Above: Graduating seniors at the Old Well in their new "green" Commencement gowns.



Left: Graduates react at Carolina's Commencement ceremony.



Above: Alexander Julian; his son, Will; Justin Tyler, senior class vice president; and Chelsea Phillips, senior class chief marshal, show off the new gowns.

NEW TRUE BLUE GOWNS ARE ALSO GREEN

Alexander Julian, UNC Class of '70 and award-winning colorist and fashion designer, was determined that his son, Will, would not graduate from Carolina wearing an aqua gown. The robes we had used for years were not true Carolina blue. Alex volunteered to work with our regalia supplier to create the nation's first designer graduation regalia. The gowns are made with **recycled materials** (100 percent recycled plastic bottles; 23 per gown). And they are true **Carolina blue**. The sea of blue debuting in Kenan Stadium looked fantastic.



Laurence Deschamps-Laporte



Steven Paul Shorkey Jr.

2 MORE RHODES WINNERS EXTEND SUCCESSFUL RECORD

Two graduating seniors and **Morehead-Cain Scholars** were our latest Rhodes Scholarship recipients. **Laurence Deschamps-Laporte** of Repentigny, Quebec, Canada, was one of 11 winners chosen in that country. **Steven Paul Shorkey Jr.** of Charlotte was one of 32 Americans selected. We're proud they are going to Oxford. And it's a great tribute to the **Morehead-Cain** program, which has produced 32 Rhodes Scholars since 1957 when the first Morehead Scholars graduated.

We've produced 47 **Rhodes Scholars** since the U.S. program began in 1904. In the past 25 years, we've had more winners than any other national public research university. And in the last five years, **only Harvard, Yale, Stanford and Princeton have produced more winners.**

NBC SPOTLIGHTS NATIONAL COLLEGE ADVISING CORPS

NBC Nightly News recently featured the **National College Advising Corps**, based at Carolina, in its "Making a Difference" feature. The Corps places recent graduates as college advisers in high schools to help students explore colleges and universities, navigate the admissions process and complete financial aid applications. Thanks to the life-changing advice of UNC-Chapel Hill graduates, many high school students in North Carolina are becoming the first in their families to go to college.

BLACKSTONE GIFT BOOSTS JOB CREATION IN RTP

The Blackstone Charitable Foundation, the Center for Entrepreneurial Development and Triangle universities — UNC, Duke, NC State and NC Central — recently launched an effort to help the Research Triangle create a network of entrepreneurial assistance similar to those in **Silicon Valley** and the **Boston Corridor**. Blackstone's \$3.63 million gift will help identify and mentor 150 startup teams over five years. Our universities can drive our economy forward. We have people with great ideas. The network will connect those people with the expertise to help get their ideas off the ground and into the marketplace.



Steve Schwarzman, chairman, CEO and co-founder of The Blackstone Group

CAROLINA ATTRACTS NATIONAL ATTENTION ON INNOVATION

Carolina is gaining a lot of attention nationally for our focus on innovation. This spring, Carolina students were featured during a digital town hall discussion on the future of the U.S. economy in Washington, D.C. We were one of just two universities featured in the event, organized by **The Atlantic**.

I've also been honored to serve on President Obama's **National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship**. As a result, we had the opportunity to host the Council's first national public forum here in Chapel Hill. That brought powerhouse leaders including **Steve Case**, co-founder of America Online, and **Gururaj "Desh" Deshpande**, chairman of Sparta Group LLC, to our campus.



Chancellor Holden Thorp, left, moderates a discussion with Steve Case, co-founder of America Online, and Gururaj "Desh" Deshpande, chairman of Sparta Group LLC, as part of a campus speakers series focused on innovation.



Jacquelyn Dowd Hall

HALL ELECTED TO AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Jacquelyn Dowd Hall, the Julia Cherry Spruill Professor of History, has been elected a fellow in the **American Academy of Arts and Sciences**, one of the nation’s most prestigious honorary societies. She is a pioneering scholar in Southern women’s history and founding director of the **Southern Oral History Program**. In her 37 years at the helm, the program has recorded 4,300 first-hand accounts of history by the people who lived it. She is among 34 Carolina faculty members who now are academy members.

SPINOFF WINS GATES FUNDING FOR NANOMEDICINE, VACCINES

A \$10 million investment from the **Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation** will back a UNC spinoff company deploying nanotechnology to fight diseases. **Liquidia Technologies**, founded on the discoveries of Professor **Joseph DeSimone**, aims to develop and commercialize safer, more effective vaccines to prevent diseases such as malaria that affect people in the developing world. Liquidia uses a technique invented in DeSimone’s UNC lab to manufacture precisely engineered nano- and microparticles.



DENTISTRY DEAN, RESEARCH VICE CHANCELLOR NAMED

Jane Weintraub, a prominent dental health expert and researcher at the University of California, San Francisco, takes over July 1 as dean of our **School of Dentistry**. She was a UNC faculty member for seven years and has made major contributions to preventing dental disease among people most at risk. **Barbara Entwisle**, Kenan Distinguished Professor of Sociology and a leading researcher here for 26 years, is the new vice chancellor for research after serving in an interim role. She led the **Carolina Population Center**, one of our most distinguished research units.

*Above, left: Jane Weintraub
Left: Barbara Entwisle*



THANKS FOR THE TAR HEEL MEMORIES, WOODY!

By now, you’ve probably heard that our beloved **Woody Durham**, the legendary voice of the Tar Heels, called his last game when our great run in the NCAA basketball tournament ended. It was a great ride for 40 years. We love you, Woody!

Athletic Director Dick Baddour, left, shares a laugh with retiring “Voice of the Tar Heels” Woody Durham at a news conference at the Dean E. Smith Center.



Raising Our Social Media Profile

From **Twitter** to **Facebook** to **Vimeo** and **YouTube**, we’re creating compelling content to keep you in touch with Chapel Hill. You can add your photos to the UNC **Flickr** group. Our homepage, **unc.edu**, has a link where you can access all the official social media accounts on campus (www.unc.edu/social). And you can follow me on Twitter at **@chanthorp** or read my blog at **holden.unc.edu**.

For smart phone users, check out the General Alumni Association’s new **UNC Mobile App** at **uncmobile.com**.

GIFTS HELP FUND KENAN STADIUM EXPANSION

We have received pledges for two gifts totaling \$10.5 million to support our Kenan Stadium renovation. **Charlie Loudermilk Sr.** made a \$7.5 million commitment to fund the Loudermilk Center for Excellence, a 150,000-square-foot facility, being built on the stadium's east side. And the **John William Pope Foundation** donated \$3 million to provide a new home for the academic support center. The John W. Pope Student-Athlete Academic Support Center will be the largest feature of the Loudermilk Center. We're grateful for these generous contributions that will help our nearly 800 student-athletes across 28 sports.

On the football front, there is a lot to be excited about as we think about next fall in Kenan. I'm committed to keeping you informed about the NCAA investigation of the program. At this writing, there are no new developments; the timing is in the hands of the NCAA. I pledge to keep you updated via email when there are significant developments. If you don't currently receive FYI Carolina, the electronic companion to this newsletter, send your name and email address to get on the list at FYICarolina@unc.edu.

LEGISLATORS TACKLE MAJOR BUDGET CHALLENGE FOR 2011-13

At this writing, the **General Assembly** is working its way through a multi-billion-dollar shortfall for fiscal 2011-13. Anticipating significant reductions, we decided in January to make \$26 million in permanent cuts, effective July 1. We hope that will help cushion the blow of inevitable additional reductions. The commitment that **UNC President Tom Ross** has to higher education in North Carolina is incredibly important to us. His top priority is preserving the quality of the education we can provide to our students.

YOUR GIFT IS AN INVESTMENT IN CAROLINA'S FUTURE

As citizens of the state where public higher education got its start, North Carolinians always have understood that their support of the University is an **investment in the future**. Our alumni and friends believe in this investment, too, and have been a part of Carolina since its founding. Your generous gifts and the investment income they create contributed significantly to the value of the diplomas that our newest graduates just earned, as well as the achievements highlighted in FYI. **Please consider making a gift** to the Chancellor's Unrestricted Fund, which supports our highest priorities, or to the school, program or department of your choice. A gift slip is enclosed, or you may give online at giving.unc.edu/gift.



Sincerely,

Holden Thorp
Chancellor