



The Genome Sciences Building, which lies at the geographic center of campus, has an entire floor of rooftop greenhouses to support research in plant genomics.

GENOME SCIENCES BUILDING FOSTERS COLLABORATIONS

On University Day, we dedicated the **Genome Sciences Building**, which fosters collaborations at the intersection of basic sciences, information and library science and health affairs. Any UNC scientist can now use the latest technologies to analyze whole genomes, from microbes and viruses to plants and humans. The building is designed to engage students of every level from both the sciences and humanities. It's a great step forward made possible in part by the General Assembly and another investment enabling faculty to compete for research dollars at the highest levels.

RESTORING CONFIDENCE IN ACADEMICS

We're committed to keeping you informed about how we're addressing academic irregularities discovered in 2011 as part of the NCAA investigation. Our review in the African and Afro-American studies department has led to **four reports**, more than **70 recommendations** and **new policies and procedures to strengthen academics**. At my request, former N.C. Governor Jim Martin and management consulting firm Baker Tilly are conducting an independent review. For updates, refer to <http://academicreview.unc.edu/>.

YOUR SUPPORT KEEPS CAROLINA MOVING FORWARD

We're grateful that the state's budget picture has stabilized, permitting the General Assembly to provide modest raises for our employees for the first time in four years. We've increased the percentage of successful faculty retentions to pre-2008 levels as part of a strategy to keep our very best teachers and scholars. **To sustain that positive momentum**, and to continue to attract excellent students, **we need your ongoing private support**. Please consider a gift to the Chancellor's Unrestricted Fund, which supports our highest priorities, or to the school, department or program of your choice. We've enclosed a gift slip, or you can give online at giving.unc.edu/gift. Thanks for helping us sustain excellence at Carolina.

STEPPING DOWN AND RETURNING TO THE FACULTY

In September, I notified UNC President Tom Ross that I intended to step down, effective June 30, 2013, as chancellor. This timing is in the best interest of the University and my family, and allows our Board of Trustees to complete a search for my successor. (See <http://www.chancellorsearch.unc.edu>.) I'll prepare to resume teaching and research during a research leave and then return to the chemistry faculty. We've made a lot of progress in recent years, but there is more work to be done. Between now and next summer, **I'll do everything possible to make Carolina an even greater university**. These are challenging times for U.S. public higher education, but I'm optimistic that Carolina's future is very bright.

With best holiday wishes,

Holden Thorp

No state funds were used to print this publication.



November 2012

Dear Alumni, Parents and Friends:

This semester has been full of great accomplishments by our students, faculty and staff. We welcomed nearly 4,000 **outstanding first-year students** whom we accepted from a record 29,000 applicants, up 24 percent over last year. Faculty brought in **\$767 million in research funding** despite a challenging federal budget. We rose to 9th from 16th for federal funding devoted to research and development and dedicated the **Genome Sciences Building**. Your generous gifts made possible our **second best year ever for private fundraising**. With the state budget stabilized, the General Assembly provided for modest faculty and staff raises for the first time in four years. Compared with other campuses around the nation, Carolina has emerged from the economic downturn in excellent shape.

This edition of FYI includes news about making Carolina accessible to great students from a variety of financial situations, life-changing research conducted by faculty and campus reaction to the loss of UNC President Emeritus William Friday, an icon in U.S. higher education and our alumnus.

CLASS OF 2016 COMES WITH STRONG ACADEMIC CREDENTIALS

The 3,914 newest Tar Heels in the Class of 2016 are among the most academically qualified in University history. We selected them from a **record 29,497 applications**, which generated 71,640 individual reads by admissions staff. Nearly 79 percent graduated in the top 10 percent of their high school class, and they posted an average 1304 on the SAT. More than 17 percent were **first-generation college students**; another 12 percent were eligible for the **Carolina Covenant**, which promises qualified low-income students the chance to graduate debt-free.



Fall color frames another beautiful day near Peabody Hall.

FINANCIAL AID PROGRAM FOSTERS EXCELLENCE, PROVIDES ACCESS

Our tuition and fees are among the nation's lowest. But even this great value would be beyond the reach of some families without **strong need-based aid**. Over 40 percent of our students qualify for financial support – more than ever before. These students are achieving great things – and their presence strengthens Carolina. Need-based aid also provides a safety net for all students. Family finances can change quickly. We were ready when these students needed help.



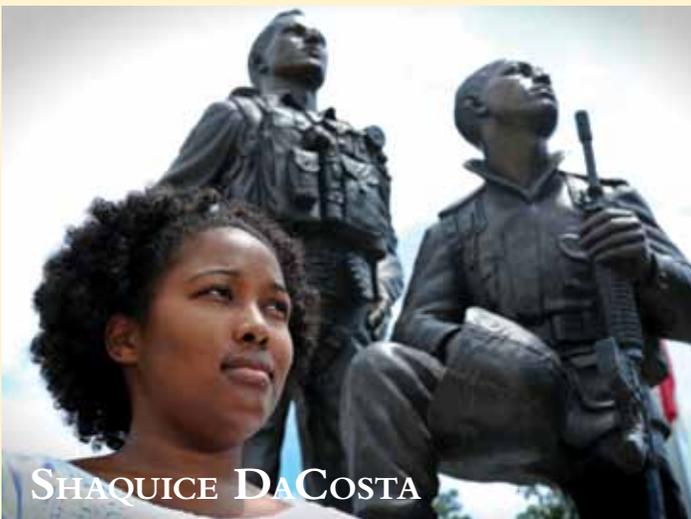
DANIEL ADAMS

When his dad's sweet potato crop rotted, financial aid from UNC was a "godsend" for Daniel Adams.



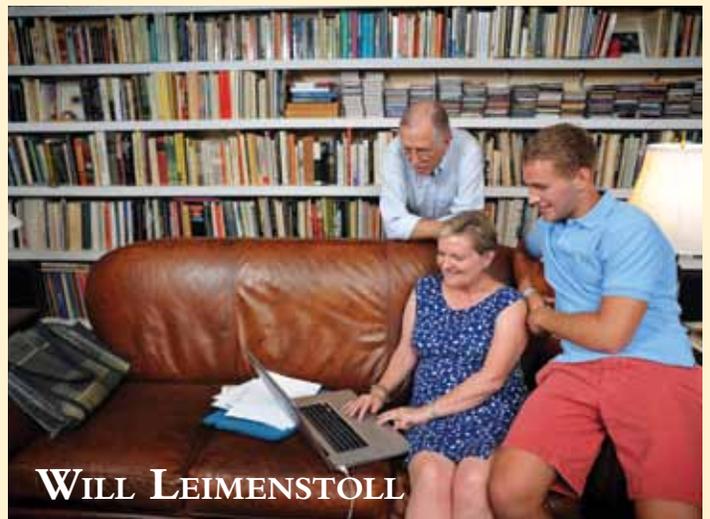
PRUTHA LAVANI

Hard work and her financial aid package from UNC are making Prutha Lavani's dream of a career in pharmacy a reality.



SHAQUICE DACOSTA

Her parents had been saving for her education since Shaquice DaCosta was born. But the money ran out after two years.



WILL LEIMENSTOLL

Student Body President Will Leimenstoll and his "solidly middle class" family juggled to get two children through college.

To read more profiles about the wide range of students Carolina helps, go to "Why Student Aid Matters," at <http://greatstudents.unc.edu/>.

Our success in aiding students has been possible because of longstanding commitments by the General Assembly, the UNC Board of Governors and our own Board of Trustees. If we want to continue to welcome smart and hard-working students to campus, regardless of their ability to pay, we will need to increase generous private support from our alumni and friends.

CAROLINA CRACKS TOP 10 IN FEDERAL R&D SPENDING

We rose to ninth from 16th among leading private and public research universities for the level of federal funding (\$545.99 million) devoted to research and development in all fields during fiscal 2010. Among public campuses, we were fourth behind the universities of Washington, Michigan and California at San Diego. Duke was 13th. We've **gained 10 spots in the national top 25** list since 2008. That's a great tribute to our faculty, who have been remarkably successful in attracting research funding despite the downturn.



Scott Singleton's research program is sponsored by the National Institutes of Health.

REMEMBERING WILLIAM C. FRIDAY, 1920–2012

Our campus community remembered the life of UNC President Emeritus **William C. Friday**, who fittingly died on University Day, Oct. 12, by laying flowers at the Old Well in tribute and hosting a memorial service. The icon of U.S. higher education was 92.

With his passing, North Carolina lost one of its most remarkable citizens. In a lifetime devoted to public service, Bill Friday was committed to providing access to high-quality, affordable higher education to North Carolina students. He was tireless in his efforts to underscore the importance of higher education to people from all walks of life, as well as to our state's future prosperity. President Friday graduated from our law school in 1948. The trustees of the William R. Kenan Jr. Charitable Trust announced a \$1 million gift to the School of Law in his memory to support student scholarships. He was the trust's first executive director. For more information, refer to <http://www.northcarolina.edu/>.



UNC-LED BREAST CANCER STUDY PAVES WAY FOR PERSONAL TREATMENT

A team of scientists with **The Cancer Genome Atlas program** genetically mapped 800 breast tumors and categorized them into four subtypes. The work, published in the journal *Nature*, fundamentally reshapes how scientists understand

breast cancer and paves the way for personalized treatment. Our own **Charles Perou**, professor of molecular oncology and a member of UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, led the study, which was front-page news in *The New York Times* and widely reported in the media.



BRIAN STRICKLAND

Professor Charles Perou led the study, which produced a near complete framework for the genetic causes of breast cancer.

Middle: UNC President Emeritus William Friday stands during the 2011 inauguration of UNC President Tom Ross.

Bottom: Faculty place flowers at the Old Well to honor Friday.