June 2007

Dear Carolina Alumni, Parents and Friends:

When you think of Chapel Hill one of the first images that I would guess comes to mind is the glory of springtime in this magical place. It is my favorite time of our academic year, brought to a close by Commencement in Kenan Stadium. This past semester has been an especially important time in the life of a great university that is getting better every day.

Our students achieve amazing things in the classroom and in communities around our state and nation. Faculty members teach brilliantly and conduct life-changing research. Our current building and renovation boom is improving the physical campus in stunning ways. We have more exciting plans on the drawing boards, thanks in part to the North Carolina Higher Education Bond Referendum and generous private donors.

We blew past the $2 billion goal in gifts and pledges for the Carolina First Campaign with a $50 million commitment – the single largest ever in University history – from Dennis and Joan Gillings to support and rename the School of Public Health. Now we are pushing hard to meet an extra $100 million goal for faculty support before the campaign ends in December. Our donors and friends are answering the call to keep Carolina a special place that remains worthy of the praise we have earned for leading in American higher education on issues that really matter, such as access and affordability for our students.

I am proud to share the following examples of what life at Carolina has been like this spring. As your chancellor, it has been a joy and a privilege to watch it unfold. »

Madeleine K. Albright, former U.S. Secretary of State and a Georgetown University professor, delivers the 2007 Commencement address. Albright was among the honorary degree recipients along with former Tar Heel Basketball Coach Dean Smith, at right, who acknowledges the crowd by pointing as his players did to thank a teammate for an assist. The ceremony included a moment of silence to remember friends and colleagues at Virginia Tech University coping in the aftermath of that tragedy.

“**I DO HOPE THAT WHEN YOU ACCEPT YOUR DIPLOMAS, YOU WILL DO SO DETERMINED TO LIVE LIFE BOLDLY, WITH LARGENESS OF SPIRIT AND GENEROSITY OF HEART. I HOPE YOU WILL USE THE KNOWLEDGE GAINED HERE AT THIS MAGNIFICENT UNIVERSITY TO BE MORE THAN A CONSUMER OF LIBERTY, BUT ALSO A DEFENDER AND AN ENRICHER OF IT; THAT YOU WILL BE DOERS NOT DRIFTERS; AND THAT BY YOUR ACTIONS, YOU WILL EACH ADD LUSTER TO WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A TAR HEEL.”**

—Madeleine K. Albright
Students Earn Distinguished Scholarships

Our students made another noteworthy run in the stiff competition to earn distinguished scholarships in the United States and abroad. Four undergraduates were selected for Goldwater and Udall scholarships. A senior and a recent graduate also won the prestigious Rhodes Scholarship earlier this year.

Juniors Lena Hyatt of Asheville, Stephanie Jones of Cary and sophomore Jonathan Toledo of Sylva received Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships. These awards go to students who show a strong commitment to careers in mathematics, the natural sciences or engineering. We have had 31 Goldwater Scholars since the first awards in 1989.

For the second year in a row, Nitin Sekar of Cincinnati won the Morris K. Udall Scholarship for academic excellence and commitment to preserving the environment. Carolina has produced 11 Udall Scholars since the program began in 1996.

A few months ago, we were proud to have Adrian Johnston of Toronto, a 2006 graduate, and senior Ben Lundin of Nashville, Tenn., selected as Rhodes Scholars to study at Oxford University in England. The Rhodes is the oldest and best known scholarship for international study. This was the third time we have had two Rhodes winners in the same year. We rank second among top public research universities for producing Rhodes winners (41).

Rhodes Success Closely Tied with Moreheads

Morehead Scholarships helped attract Adrian and Ben to UNC. Moreheads have won the Rhodes each of the past five years. Since 1957, when the first Morehead Scholars graduated, we have produced 26 Rhodes Scholars. All but three were Moreheads. We are optimistic that this remarkable record will continue in the new era of the Morehead-Cain Scholars, created when the John Motley Morehead Foundation became the Morehead-Cain Foundation following a $100 million gift from the Gordon and Mary Cain Foundation.

National Advising Corps Program Coming

The Jack Kent Cooke Foundation has selected Carolina as the national headquarters for a new effort to increase college enrollment and graduation among low-income high school and community college students. UNC will house the National College Advising Corps Coordinating Office, which will help other universities involved in the initiative.

Through a related $1 million grant from the Cooke Foundation, we will place college advisers in 18 low-income high schools across North Carolina. We will recruit and train our graduating seniors to work full time as corps advisers with 11th- and 12th-graders, as well as younger students. These efforts draw from a successful Virginia model. In all, the foundation awarded $10 million in grants to Carolina and nine other campuses, including Brown, UC-Berkeley and Penn State. It is good company to keep, and we are pleased to play a leadership role.

National Academies Elect 6 from UNC

Carolina has six new members of national academies. The American Academy of Arts and Sciences selected Drs. James Jorgenson, W. R. Kenan Jr. professor of chemistry, Michael Taylor, W. R. Kenan professor of mathematics, Carlton Hunt, professor emeritus of physiology, and Terry Magnuson, Sarah Graham Kenan professor, as new fellows. I was humbled to join that

Recent National Rankings

- 1st among the 100 top public universities that offer the best combination of academics and affordable costs as ranked by Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine. Carolina has been first for six consecutive times since 1998. UNC was the only school that meets 100 percent of each student's financial need.
- 8th among U.S. universities for the number of alumni volunteering for the Peace Corps in 2006. That was up from 11th the previous year. Seventy-seven UNC graduates are representing the U.S. abroad.
- Degree programs or specialty areas from several schools and the College of Arts and Sciences appeared prominently in the 2008 U.S. News & World Report's "America's Best Graduate Schools" issue. Highlights included:
  - School of Public Health, tied for 2nd, master's and doctoral programs;
  - School of Medicine, 2nd overall for primary care, 20th for research;
  - nursing master's programs in the School of Nursing and School of Public Health, 5th and tied for 12th, respectively; and
  - Kenan-Flagler Business School's master of business administration degree program, tied for 18th.
group. Dr. Jeff Dangl, John N. Couch professor of biology, microbiology and immunology, was elected into the National Academy of Sciences.

Now we have 35 faculty members in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, an independent policy research center that conducts multidisciplinary studies, and 12 in the National Academy of Sciences, a private organization of scientists and engineers dedicated to advancing science and its use for the general welfare.

**Tar Heel Bus Tour Turns 10**

This year marked the 10th anniversary of the *Tar Heel Bus Tour* – a five-day learning adventure across North Carolina each May. Since 1997, more than 360 new faculty and others have experienced this privately funded tour, which helps them gain a better understanding of North Carolina and the people we serve.

The tour makes a difference. Faculty return with a better appreciation for the students they teach and the state in which they live. They think differently about how to approach a class, research or public service. This year, faculty learned lessons at stops including a tobacco farm in Wilson, Harkers Island, Fort Bragg, Bank of America in Charlotte and a camp for disabled children in Randleman operated by the Petty family of NASCAR fame. The bus tour is just one example of our engagement with the state. [To see a 10th anniversary video, go to www.unc.edu/bustour/2007/video07-04.html]

**Memorial Honors Alumni War Dead**

UNC President Emeritus Bill Friday helped us dedicate a new landmark, “Carolina Alumni Memorial in Memory of Those Lost in Military Service,” between Phillips and Memorial halls. It honors alumni killed during wartime, starting with the Civil War. The names of all 684 known alumni who died are listed in a bronze “Book of Names.” More names can be added in the future. The memorial includes a red sandstone bench inscribed with a quote from “Look Homeward, Angel” by alumnus Thomas Wolfe. The bench faces six low stone walls and 10 small blooming trees, bisected by a sidewalk with 16 quotes from or about our alumni.

**New, Renovated Buildings Open**

Our capital construction program reached key milestones this spring. Recently dedicated projects include Caudill Labs, part of the Carolina Physical Science Complex, and the Love House and Hutchins Forum, the new home of the Center for the Study of the American South. The former is a state-of-the art science facility between Wilson Library and Kenan Laboratories. The latter transformed a property off Franklin Street that is more than a century old. Both projects benefited from generous private support. Donors’ gifts also made possible the completion of the long anticipated renovation of the Campus Y, which looks gorgeous. And we rededicated two of our newer residence halls – Morrison South and Hinton James North off Manning Drive – to honor Chancellor Emeritus Paul Hardin and George Moses Horton, a slave and poet from Chatham County, respectively. The naming of a building for a slave was a first at Carolina.

Marsha Connor, left, whose son Patrick was killed in Operation Desert Storm, and Sandra Drew, whose husband Nelson lost his life in Bosnia, look over the “Book of Names” after the dedication of the “Carolina Alumni Memorial in Memory of Those Lost in Military Service.” The book contains the names of all known alumni who were killed during wartime since the Civil War.

Tar Heel Bus Tour participant Lynn Fox, clinical assistant professor of dental ecology, speaks with Donya Edwards of the Coharie tribe at the Coharie Tribal Center in Sampson County.
Environment Institute Expands Engagement

We launched a new Institute for the Environment to focus on environmental research, education and engagement. Formed through expansion of the existing Carolina Environmental Program, the institute adds new degree programs, research sites and outreach initiatives throughout North Carolina.

Initiatives include adding to existing sustainable energy, environment and economic development programs; creating a center examining landscape change and human health; establishing a center for sustainable community design; and broadening our public service programs by helping public schools, local and state governments, and environmental and community groups across North Carolina. We have made a multi-year commitment to fund the new institute that we are leveraging with private gifts to Carolina First.

Applications Set Record Twice in a Row

For the second consecutive year, we set a new record for first-year applications, with more than 20,000 students applying from every state and more than 80 countries. By our enrollment deadline of May 1, about 3,700 students had accepted our offer of admission. We expect to enroll a first-year class of 3,879 in August.

Typically, our successful applicants exceed the minimum course requirements of the UNC system, and most take exceptionally tough academic programs – often the most difficult course of study available in their high schools. While the admissions process is competitive, our staff works hard to make it fair and humane. They read every student’s application at least twice, and most are read three or more times.

Faculty Support Tops Campaign Priorities

We still have important work to do in the Carolina First Campaign before it ends in December. We are thrilled to have exceeded the $2 billion goal. Our volunteer leaders added another $100 million to Carolina First’s goal for faculty support, raising that total to $500 million with an emphasis on helping early- and mid-career faculty. Donors have committed more than $340 million for this purpose including funds for 194 endowed professorships toward a goal of 200.

Our goal of being the leading public university in America puts us in competition not only with the great public universities, but also with the distinguished private universities with which we compete for faculty. Keeping and attracting the best faculty helps us enroll the best students, grow the research enterprise, boost the state’s economy and best serve the people of North Carolina.

The final months of the campaign are also focusing on meeting individual goals that have not yet been reached, including goals for some building projects and schools and units.

Carolina First has demonstrated the remarkable love that our alumni, friends and supporters have for a great university. We hope you will consider helping us continue the campaign’s momentum by 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 for your convenience, or you may give online at carolinafirst.unc.edu/gift.

Thank you for your support!

Hark the sound!

James Moeser

Rachel Noble, assistant professor of marine sciences and Morehead City field site director, takes a water sample. She is among the Carolina faculty whose research focuses on environmental issues facing North Carolina. Noble’s interests include beach and shellfish water closures due to contamination by bacteria and other agents that cause disease.