



The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

June 30, 2008

To: Employees and Friends of The University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Re: Update on Current Issues and Activities

Dear Colleagues:

You can tell that things are busy at UNC Charlotte when my spring newsletter is not finished until the end of June!

It's impossible in this newsletter to cover absolutely everything, but I hope that you find it helpful in understanding some of the major activities and initiatives under way at our institution. In a nutshell, all of our major indicators are in a strong positive direction. We successfully completed another semester, graduated another record class of students, continue to add new academic programs, and look forward to welcoming our largest freshman class ever next fall. We are making good progress on an important number of capital construction projects, while also spending some time thinking about our long-term growth and development. As always, if you want additional detail on any specific items, feel free to contact my assistant, Donna Brady, at [dbrady@uncc.edu](mailto:dbrady@uncc.edu). For updates on current initiatives, you may also wish to consult the Chancellor's Outbox at <http://www.administration.uncc.edu/chancellor/outbox.html>.

### UNC Tomorrow

One of the reasons that the spring semester was so busy was the work being completed on campus in response to the initiative of President Erskine Bowles and the UNC Board of Governors known as UNC Tomorrow. Led by Provost Joan Lorden, several dozen administrators and faculty members worked tirelessly over the semester to prepare Phase I of the responses that have been required of the seventeen campuses of the UNC system. Phase II is now under way and will be completed over the course of the fall semester.

Our complete "UNC Tomorrow Phase I" report may be found at <http://www.provost.uncc.edu/Reports/UNCTomorrow-Phase1.pdf>. It is difficult to summarize a document that numbers nearly one hundred pages, particularly one that was itself distilled from several hundred additional pages of reports and analyses. But, here goes . . . .

First, in response to the concern of UNC Tomorrow with the development of students with 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, we have proposed a number of curricular reform initiatives to improve the integration of our General Education coursework, strengthen written and oral communication, and address fundamental gaps in preparing students for financial, environmental, and information literacy.

In terms of ensuring global competitiveness, our report outlines a broad array of relevant academic programs and international partnerships. However, our intention is also to develop college-based internationalization plans and to expand both our facilities and our research programs where we believe we can be nationally if not internationally prominent.

UNC Tomorrow's concern with ensuring access to higher education highlighted one of this campus' historic strengths. UNC Charlotte has been one of the UNC system's most accessible institutions through its effective management of rapid enrollment growth at the freshman level and its receptivity to transfer students from North Carolina community colleges. Our UNC Tomorrow plans document yet additional initiatives to expand accessibility, including new "2+2" transfer programs in high-demand areas and expanded on-line offerings at the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Accessibility will also be expanded through new academic program offerings. Since the mid 1990s, UNC Charlotte's Academic Plan has been organized around seven demand-driven programmatic themes that reflect the needs of the greater Charlotte region: Liberal Education (critical skills); Urban and Regional Development; Business and Finance; Children, Families, and Schools; Health Care and Health Policy; International Understanding and Involvement; and Applied Sciences and Technologies. An eighth theme—Arts and Culture—will be added as a result of the formation of our new College of Arts and Architecture. We will use the summer months and the coming academic year to refine our thematic approaches, revise our campus-wide and college academic plans, and entertain proposals for new academic programs and organizational structures. However, as outlined in our UNC Tomorrow response, we are certain at this time that the time is right for a School of Public Health to be formed, and for us to engage in early exploratory studies with respect to a School of Law.

Another significant concern for UNC Tomorrow is the quality and quantity of teachers produced for the schools, pre-kindergarten through grade 12. Our response makes clear that UNC Charlotte will maintain its historic commitment to teacher preparation and professional development and will work collaboratively with General Administration staff to develop stronger programs to document the effectiveness of these efforts. Our UNC Tomorrow plans include expanded attention to second-language capacity for teacher education graduates, expanded professional development partnerships with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools through the possible formation of CMS "Teaching Schools" as clinical training sites, and a math/science teacher recruitment initiative that seeks to improve our production in this area by 25 candidates per year. Notably, UNC Charlotte is the second highest producer of new teachers among North Carolina's 47 colleges and universities and is one of the leaders in the production of new

teachers of science and mathematics. This initiative should solidify our reputation as a major producer of STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) educators.

UNC Charlotte's approach to economic transformation and community development under UNC Tomorrow will be to continue to develop our highly focused set of research institutes and centers, including the Charlotte Research Institute (CRI), the UNC Charlotte Urban Institute, the Institute for Social Capital, and the Design + Society Research Center, among others. Our leadership role in business incubation and innovation will be enhanced by moving the Ben Craig Center and Business Incubator from its current location off campus to an on-campus location close to CRI (more on this later). Our focus will remain on applied research and technology transfer, and we seek support (both moral and financial) for expansion of centers in nanoscale science, complex systems (in collaboration with various defense and intelligence agencies), translational research (in collaboration with healthcare organizations), energy production and infrastructure, and advanced manufacturing. Through the Urban Institute, we will also continue to incubate and, with appropriate support, advance our new community benchmarking initiative that measures quality-of-life-indicators in the greater 16-county Charlotte-Mecklenburg region.

Finally, our UNC Tomorrow response outlines a very large number of our existing community outreach programs. Few, if any, new initiatives are planned in this area until we can properly support the initiatives already in place. Several of those efforts have now been successfully formalized:

UNC Charlotte recently became a member of the North Carolina Campus Compact, a coalition of colleges and universities collaborating to increase students' participation in community and public service. The goal is to enhance students' sense of responsibility, citizenship, leadership, and awareness of community, while reinvigorating higher education's concern for improving the quality of life in North Carolina.

On the local level, we have been very active in Crossroads Charlotte, a civic engagement initiative designed to help the community address issues of access, equity, inclusion, and social justice in the context of the dramatic social and economic changes under way in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. We began two years ago working with Freshmen Seminar students to prepare them to become engaged citizens, not only while they are enrolled, but upon graduation. Participation in the program has expanded rapidly. Students gain a deeper understanding of how the choices our community makes today will shape its future.

At a national level, we have just been selected by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching to apply for classification as a "Community Engagement" institution. The summer will be spent in documenting our community engagement efforts. The application is due September 1. Thus far, only 76 institutions of higher education hold this designation by the Carnegie Foundation, one of higher education's most respected institutions.

## Degrees Conferred and Degrees on the Way

Certainly one of the happiest days of the year is Commencement Day when we celebrate the awarding of academic certificates and degrees. May 10, 2008 was no exception, as we said congratulations and goodbye to our largest graduating class ever, with more than 1,850 undergraduate degrees conferred. We also awarded 494 masters and 22 doctoral degrees, bringing the total number of doctoral degrees awarded during the 2007-08 academic year to 45. This is an excellent level of productivity for an institution that awarded its first doctoral degree in 1997. With 18 doctoral programs now approved and four more in various stages of planning and development, we should see this doctoral degree total continue to rise on an annual basis.

Notwithstanding this excellent level of degree production, our overall enrollment levels also continue to go up due to successful efforts at student recruitment and retention. Another enrollment increase is expected for fall of 2008. We anticipate bringing our total headcount to almost 23,200, compared to 22,388 in the fall of 2007. The freshman class of 3,060 will be the largest ever seen at the University, and we will once again enroll the largest number of transfer students in our state as we welcome over 2,000 transfers this fall. We have also experienced a 4% increase in graduate applications and so expect to see an increase in graduate enrollment as well.

## New Academic Programs

Among the most exciting academic news of the new 2008-2009 year will be the opening of the new College of Arts and Architecture on July 1 which was approved by the Board of Trustees this past spring. As detailed in my January 2008 newsletter, the new College will be led by Dean Ken Lambla and include a School of Architecture and four departments—Art and Art History, Dance, Music, and Theatre. The former College of Arts and Sciences will be known in the future as the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. All of us knew that Dean Nancy Gutierrez has lots of **CLAS!** Look for great things from these academic leaders, their talented faculties, staff members, and students.

Our growth in enrollment and the growth of our physical plant continue to be accompanied by significant programmatic expansion. A new Master in Urban Design has been approved recently by the UNC Board of Governors for offering by the School of Architecture. Other programs in planning include masters in Anthropology, Construction and Facilities Management, Fire Protection and Administration, and Real Estate, and a bachelor's program in Japanese Studies. We also have planning under way for new doctoral programs in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology, Criminal Justice/Criminology, Global Studies, and Translation Studies: Spanish. The precise starting dates for each of these programs will depend upon the academic program approval processes being revamped by the Board of Governors as part of its consideration of the recommendations of UNC Tomorrow.

UNC Charlotte has also been awarded over \$445,000 by President Bowles and the UNC General Administration to develop new online programs in engineering, health, and

education. Programs were selected that aligned well with UNC Tomorrow recommendations.

### Other Academic Happenings and Honors

In addition to our formal degree programs, we always have a large number of very interesting new initiatives and activities under way at any given time. I can only mention a few here.

New centers of learning that have been established on campus include the Study of the New South; Shakespeare in Action; and Humanities, Science and Technology. These new centers have gotten off to a great start bringing programs and speakers not only to the campus, but also to the public and students in CMS. The Center for the New South was launched in January with an opening event at the Levine Museum that featured Dr. William Link, Richard Milbauer Professor at the University of Florida and author of “Righteous Warrior: Jesse Helms and the Rise of Modern Conservatism.” Shakespeare in Action Center member Dr. Jennifer Monroe conducted workshops on Shakespeare’s sonnets for students in East Mecklenburg High School, and the Center for Humanities, Science, and Technology sponsored a visit by Ira Flatow, NPR science correspondent and host of “Talk of the Nation: Science Friday” in late April.

The First Annual Institute for Social Capital (ISC) Research Symposium held on May 20th represented the official “launch” of the pilot ISC Community Database and included five presentations on projects utilizing shared data from the database. The pilot ISC Community Database currently combines data records from Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools, the Mecklenburg County Department of Social Services, the Mecklenburg County Sheriff’s Department, and Communities in Schools. It makes possible important research on whether interventions and services designed to support “at risk” populations in our community are having the desired outcomes.

The College of Education has started a new program to address North Carolina’s teacher shortage. The “Pathway to Teaching” program targets mid-career professionals who are considering a career change and individuals who are approaching retirement to determine their interest in teaching. The program offers convenience and flexibility for working professionals with courses that are offered on campus during the day, night, and on weekends. Many courses also will be offered online. The college recently launched a new Web site for the program: <http://www.pathwaytoteaching.com/>.

OPERA FOR ALL, a joint outreach program of the Department of Music and the Digital Design Center of the College of Architecture, combines the traditional elements of opera production with the latest in digital design and real-time motion- and sound-capture technology. Led by Dr. Anne Harley from the Department of Music, Architecture Professors Jeff Balmer and Chris Beorkrem, and with support from the Chancellor’s Diversity Challenge Grant Program, OPERA FOR ALL provided 1,200 Charlotte-Mecklenburg high school students, who would ordinarily not have an

opportunity to attend an arts performance, with a free “high tech” exposure to the world of opera.

The Department of Engineering Technology in the Lee College of Engineering currently administers three multi-year National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded projects geared toward increasing representation and diversity in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields, particularly engineering and engineering technology. The Department works with underrepresented middle and high school students in challenging events and competitions throughout the academic year and week-long residential summer camps, and also provides training for teachers and counselors to provide these students with appropriate academic and career guidance. One of these programs also provides need-based scholarships to students in the engineering technology programs at UNC Charlotte, with particular emphasis on supporting students identified through the competitions and camps.

And just as I can mention only a few illustrative examples of our academic initiatives, the same is true when it comes to the many academic honors bestowed upon our faculty and students.

Perhaps most notable among the many awards we might mention are the “home runs” hit both by faculty members and students with the National Science Foundation.

Mechanical engineering faculty members Brigid Mullany and Terry Xu have each won \$400,000 National Science Foundation (NSF) CAREER Awards. These honors help advance the careers of junior faculty members in their areas of research and educational expertise. These are extremely prestigious awards; only 41 were given nationally this year by the Division of Civil, Mechanical, and Manufacturing Innovation at NSF.

Equally prestigious, two National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Research Fellowships were awarded to two doctoral students who were undergraduates at UNC Charlotte and who are now pursuing doctoral degrees with us. These highly competitive Fellowships each total approximately \$120,000 over a three-year period. Recipient Sharonda Johnson is currently working on her Ph.D. in Nanoscale Science. You may remember Sharonda, a former track and field star, as the first 49er athlete ever to combine an Academic All-America Award (2004, 2006, 2007) with an NCAA All-America performance (2004, 2007). Her fellow recipient, Eve Powell, is pursuing her Ph.D. in Information Technology. While an undergraduate at UNC Charlotte, Eve participated in the NSF-funded STARS (Students and Technology in Academia, Research, and Service) Alliance, directed by Dr. Teresa Dahlberg (Computer Science). The goal of this program is to increase participation of women, minorities, and students with disabilities in computing sciences.

In addition to the awards received by Sharonda and Eve, four additional students who were undergraduates at UNC Charlotte received honorable mention by the NSF: Cressel Anderson, a master’s student in Electrical and Computer Engineering at Georgia Institute of Technology; Michael Eagle, a student in our IT doctoral program;

Amie Sparnell, a student in our master's program in Mechanical Engineering; and Thomas Younts, a doctoral student in Neuroscience at Albert Einstein College of Medicine.

And in the “full circle” department, I can close this section with a note about Associate Professor of Art Jamie Frankie. In my very first newsletter as chancellor (December, 2005), I was able to brag that Jamie's design had been chosen by the U.S. Mint for the new Thomas Jefferson nickel. This honor followed upon his prior selection in 2005 for the design of the American Bison nickel. Well, Jamie is at it again. After a nationwide search, the United States Olympic Committee has selected Jamie's artwork as the design for the front of the newly created Order of Ikkos medallion that will be presented to the personal coaches of future U.S. Olympic/Paralympic medalists. He also was selected to design the American Numismatic Association's World's Fair of Money medal that will honor Edgar Allan Poe.

### New Construction and Planning for the Future

Additional students create the need for us to hire additional faculty and staff. And there can be no question that a dynamic and growing university like UNC Charlotte requires a wide variety of new facilities—student residence halls and student support facilities; classroom, research, and office complexes; and even new roads to accommodate increasing traffic loads on campus. Oh, and yes, we're also giving attention to the one kind of structure that nearly everyone agrees is needed—a new parking deck!

Construction on the most widely anticipated new structure on campus—the new Student Union—is approximately 40% complete. With the brick now being placed on the outside of this \$65 million structure, the dramatic impact this facility will have on the life of our campus is becoming clear. We are still on track to open the doors in the summer of 2009.

One of the nice features of the new Union for the residents of Lynch and Laurel student residence halls is that the halls and the Union will be connected by a bridge. That will allow students to have easy access to the dining hall services, Bookstore, movie theatre, restaurants, and other amenities in the new Union. That will also be true for students who will eventually occupy the new 400-bed residence hall that will be constructed immediately adjacent to Laurel and Lynch Halls along Cameron Blvd. on the current site of a parking lot. This structure is scheduled for opening in time for the fall semester of 2011.

Because we are losing a parking lot with the construction of this new residence hall, we also recently selected a designer for the next parking deck to serve students who live in Laurel, Lynch, and Witherspoon Halls. The intent is to open this deck for 1,000 cars on the north side of Cameron Blvd. at the same time we occupy the new residence hall.

Long term, of course, we hope that we can slow the growth in the demand for new parking lots by encouraging the use of public transportation, ride-sharing, and bicycles where possible. We are also working with the Charlotte Area Transportation System (CATS) on the future planning of the Northeast Corridor line of Light Rail as CATS embarks upon the full scale engineering study that is the required next step to qualify this line for federal funding. Our current discussions focus on having the train stop on the UNC Charlotte campus on the north side of Cameron Blvd. across the street from Laurel Hall. Individuals disembarking from the train would then have only a short walk through the Laurel-Lynch courtyard and across the bridge to reach the new Student Union or other key destinations on campus.

With respect to our academic facilities, we have several in various stages of completion.

Furthest along is the new \$35 million Bioinformatics Building on the Charlotte Research Institute (CRI) campus adjacent to Highway 29. Completion on this important research facility is planned for summer 2009. Bioinformatics will be the third building constructed at CRI, joining Duke Centennial Hall and William H. Grigg Hall.

The fourth CRI structure will be the Energy Production and Infrastructure Center. Known as EPIC, this building will house the departments of Civil & Environmental Engineering and Electrical Engineering in a collaborative, state-of-the-art teaching and research facility of approximately 200,000 square feet. Funding for design and site development work was received from the General Assembly last year, but we await the outcome of the current legislative session to see whether we will be able to move forward with construction.

We have started planning for the fifth major building to be located at the CRI. Our goal with the Partnership, Outreach, and Research for Accelerated Learning (PORTAL) Building is to construct a facility that will support a myriad of research, technology transfer, and economic development initiatives. As mentioned in the last newsletter, I have committed to move the Ben Craig Center, the University's business incubator, from its current location in the University Research Park, to this new facility. Again, we believe that the physical move of the Ben Craig Center, along with some changes in its business model made possible by the relocation, will serve to strengthen the integration of the personnel and services of Ben Craig with the research and technology transfer capacity of the University.

Planning has also started on a second motorsports building to be located across the road from the existing motorsports building that sits adjacent to Duke Centennial Hall. This new facility will allow for much needed expansion of this outstanding program and the research functions associated with it. The eventual size of this new building is still under discussion, but we have already begun hiring the six additional faculty members we intend to add in motorsports, an area that contributes \$6 billion annually to the North Carolina economy.

Look for some exciting renderings of the Center City Classroom Building to hit the front page soon. We are almost ready to “go public” with this design which is being developed by the team of Gantt Huberman from Charlotte and Kieran-Timberlake from Philadelphia. We believe we have an impressive design that will provide a distinctive presence for our University in Center City Charlotte. Rodgers Builders of Charlotte will serve as the Construction Manager. Construction is anticipated to begin in November of this year, with occupancy scheduled for late 2010.

Although UNC Charlotte’s need for administrative space has continued to grow along with the University, we have rarely built new space specifically to satisfy administrative needs. However, recently we made a decision to do so in a way that serves multiple purposes. First, we will build a brand new home for the UNC Charlotte Foundation and the Office of Development. This building will be located on the corner of Toby Creek Road and Cameron Boulevard, just across the street from the Harris Alumni Center. This move will support the further integration of the units of Development and Alumni Affairs and will release Development’s current space in Cato Hall. Plans call for the Chancellor’s Office to move into the Cato space, thereby releasing the Chancellor’s space in an already jam-packed Reese Building for essential administrative services that are best located near the center of our growing campus. The location in Cato will also be a much more modern and hospitable receiving point for visitors to the Chancellor’s Office.

Finally, I should mention that your next visit to the campus will be an entirely different experience. The long-awaited new front entrance for the University on Highway 49 is nearing completion. By the time you receive this newsletter, the first cars should have entered campus through this new entrance. Visitors will have no doubt that they’re arriving at a major research university. More importantly, the new entrance will more efficiently handle the larger car volumes that we are seeing every year and provide a safer pedestrian crossing of Highway 49. (I’ve been joking with folks that they should look for the old sign to be featured on eBay, but I’m really not sure what we plan to do with that old thing.)

With all of these construction projects under way, it is easy to get caught up in the moment and forget that we also need to think about our long-term future. That is why this past February we launched the revision of the Campus Master Plan. This planning exercise will take about 18 months to complete and will determine the feasibility of the campus growing to its projected enrollment of 35,000 students by the year 2020. Dean Ken Lambla (Arts and Architecture) and I are co-chairing the planning team, which includes representatives from the campus and the community. I encourage everyone’s participation in this process through the various public forums and focus groups that are being scheduled. Look for announcements of these in the [Campus News](#) and on the University Web site.

## Development and Alumni Affairs

In addition to planning the new building described above, the Development staff has been busy doing what they do best—raising money. Over the past academic year, the Office of Development has been the recipient of several generous gifts from alumni, friends, and corporate partners of the University. Most notably, the Center for Real Estate, established in 2005 to further the knowledge of real estate, public policy, and urban economics in the professional real estate community, has been engaged in a major fundraising effort. Under the leadership of co-chairs Fred Klein and Todd Mansfield, a dedicated team of volunteers (including Bob Bertges, Amy Clement, Ron Curtis, Rip Farris, Lindsey McAlpine, and Don Williams), and the vision and leadership of Smoky Bissell, John Crosland, and Interim Dean Steve Ott, over \$3.2 million has been raised thus far.

Several scholarships have been endowed by UNC Charlotte alumni. Jill Tietjen '79 has endowed the Jill S. Tietjen, P.E. Scholarship Fund to provide financial assistance for a student studying both engineering and business. Mike Knapp '90 has endowed the Knapp Family International Study Endowment in honor of his parents, Herman and Carole Knapp, to support Belk College of Business students studying internationally. In conjunction with the Alumni Association, it was my pleasure to establish a need-based scholarship named in honor of Dr. Greg Davis, a widely respected member of the UNC Charlotte community who retired earlier this year. I have matched the Association's contribution of \$35,000 with another \$35,000 from the Chancellor's discretionary fund to create a new endowed scholarship program which will allow the first Davis scholarships to be awarded in the fall of 2008.

Gifts to the University come in many forms, of course. Some folks give us their treasure. Some give us their time. And, in April, just prior to our quarterly Foundation Board meeting, we enjoyed the opportunity to dedicate the 19<sup>th</sup> sculpture that our good friend, Irwin "Ike" Belk, has contributed to the beautification of our campus. "Orbis" is a spectacular steel and water sculpture located on the lawn between Duke Centennial Hall and Grigg Hall. Ike's 20<sup>th</sup> sculpture, in production by renowned monumental sculptor Jon Hair, will arrive later this year for placement between the College of Education Building and the College of Health and Human Services.

Someone who has given us both his treasure and his time is Malcolm E. "Mac" Everett. At the April Foundation Board meeting, Mac was elected as Chair of the Foundation Board, succeeding Smoky Bissell whose leadership over the past four years has resulted in a totally re-vamped board of 37 members as of this writing. Mac assumes the Chair of the Board after serving ten years on the Board of Trustees, including the last two as Chair. He has spent the past year leading the Football Feasibility Study Committee's analysis of whether or not UNC Charlotte should add a football program. I am delighted that Mac has agreed to remain in this significant leadership role at UNC Charlotte. It is no wonder that Mac was the unanimous selection of the Board of Trustees to receive UNC Charlotte's 2008 Distinguished Service Award, an award we celebrated with Mac and his family on May 28.

Our alumni are increasingly involved with their university and I welcome that involvement. In fact, UNC Charlotte alumni now hold five of the twelve seats on the Board of Trustees and comprise about half of the total membership of the UNC Charlotte Foundation Board. We're also seeing increased engagement of alumni in the work of the Alumni Association. More than ninety current and past members of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors and their guests attended a reception at the Harris Alumni Center during Homecoming Weekend in February. The occasion was a first-ever special reception honoring all Alumni Board members who have served since the Association was founded in 1963.

Later in the month, we traveled to New York and Philadelphia for regional alumni gatherings at receptions scheduled in connection with UNC Charlotte Men's basketball games. In New York, more than thirty prospective students and their parents joined forty-five alumni in an enthusiastic gathering at Fordham University. In Philadelphia, a smaller but no-less-passionate group of alumni and friends cheered Coach Bobby Lutz and our 49ers as they battled Temple University. And we found our way to Washington, D.C. to watch Coach Karen Aston and our women's basketball team take on the nationally-ranked George Washington Colonials. Win or lose, the Niner Nation is passionate.

Finally, I joined a fine turnout of our alumni and friends on June 19 in the Wilmington area for a gathering that included our alumnus and former top assistant to Bobby Lutz for the men's basketball team, Benny Moss, who now leads the UNC Wilmington Seahawks. We also met some of our new students from the Wilmington area who will be joining us in Charlotte in the fall. It was a very nice sunset reception held on Wrightsville Beach. Chardonnay, giant shrimp, crab cakes . . . Yeah, it's a tough job being Chancellor.

### Safety on Campus

In my January newsletter, I announced the establishment of a new Campus Safety and Security Committee. This past semester saw that Committee begin its work, including a review of the many issues raised by the Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University tragedies. We also responded to an increase in lower-level criminal activity around and on our campus by contracting with a private security firm for four security officers to augment our own campus police during the evening hours. These officers will also serve as security escorts for students, faculty, and staff. In addition, we conducted our spring Safety Walk with members of the Student Government Association to see where we needed to improve lighting and take other steps to improve safety on campus.

Several other initiatives are also under way, including conversion of our two-way radio systems to be compatible and interoperable with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department, the Charlotte Fire Department, and other first responder agencies. As a means to provide emergency response information to the campus community, we will provide wallet-size emergency cards to all students, faculty, and staff at the beginning of

the fall semester. We are also developing education, awareness, and training programs for all campus personnel to enable them to better respond to various types of emergency situations. More recommendations for additional measures will undoubtedly follow when the Campus Safety and Security Committee presents its first report to me this summer. We also expect to roll out an expanded safety escort and disability transportation system in the fall semester.

To ensure a comprehensive, strategic approach to physical safety, compliance, and enterprise risk management, we are forming a new unit known as Risk Management, Safety, and Security (RMSS), to be headed by a new associate vice chancellor reporting to the vice chancellor for business affairs. To form the new department, we are realigning the offices of Safety and Environmental Health, Police and Public Safety, Business Continuity Planning, and a new Risk Management office to complete this organization. To develop and maintain an effective Enterprise Risk Management program for the University, we have added two new positions, a director of risk management and a risk management analyst.

Finally, in this area, I would like to acknowledge the significant accomplishment of Marlene Hall, our director of Police and Public Safety. In April, Marlene successfully completed the North Carolina Basic Law Enforcement Training, which is a requirement for her (as an out-of-state transfer) to be certified as a law enforcement officer in this state. Marlene completed this requirement by taking the required classes and training (a total of 634 hours) at nights and on weekends over a period of eight months. She also passed the same physical test required of the twenty year olds. Don't mess with Marlene!

### Football in the Future?

The question of whether UNC Charlotte will start an intercollegiate football program is definitely the “elephant in the room” right now when it comes to topics of conversation around here. After having received the recommendation of the Football Feasibility Study Committee to start a Division I-AA program in 2012, with advancement to Division I-A in 2016 (see <http://www.administration.uncc.edu/chancellor/outbox.html>), I've spent the last several months conducting my “due diligence” with respect to that recommendation. That process includes a close review of the information contained in the Committee's report, as well as the acquisition and analysis of independent data and information. The financial analysis includes the need to understand annual operating costs as well as the significant capital costs associated with developing practice fields, coaches' offices, training and medical support facilities, weight rooms, and academic and administrative support offices for football and for any sports we will need to initiate to meet our gender equity obligations under Title IX. We are also looking at the options for football competition, including Memorial Stadium, Panther Stadium, renovation of the Belk Track and Field, and construction of a new facility.

I have made two presentations to the Board of Trustees (most recently on June 5) and plan at least one and possibly two additional presentations before making my

recommendation to the Board at its meeting on September 18. The Board may make a decision at that time or may opt to postpone a decision to a future meeting.

If you are interested in the information being shared with the Board of Trustees, it is posted on the web at:

<https://secure.uncc.edu/FileManager/sites/bot/public.cfm?folder=2008%20Board%20Meetings>;  
the relevant attachments are nos. 19, 20 and 21).

### 2008 North Carolina General Assembly Legislative Session

As I close this “spring” newsletter, we anxiously await the conclusion of the deliberations of a legislative conference committee appointed to resolve differences between the House and Senate versions of the operating and capital budgets for the University of North Carolina and other state agencies. There are very important and significant differences in those proposed budgets, with the Senate version distinctly more favorable for UNC generally and for UNC Charlotte in particular than the House version. In addition to fully funding the University’s enrollment growth and minimizing proposed budget reductions, the Senate version includes full funding of \$57 million to permit UNC Charlotte to complete construction of the EPIC Building. With expected enrollment next fall of nearly 23,200, we can ill-afford additional delays in adding classroom, office, and research space to this campus. Perhaps just as important, with the costs of fuel continuing to rise and with no end in sight, the time is now to address the need for trained engineers capable of addressing this country’s needs for additional energy production capacity. See the two new Charlotte Observer articles on this topic in the Chancellor’s Outbox (<http://www.administration.uncc.edu/chancellor/outbox.html>) listed under Editorials). With support from the General Assembly conferees, UNC Charlotte is prepared to respond to that need.

Lisa and I hope to catch a couple of weeks of vacation during these warm summer months and hope that you and the members of your family will as well. We expect to see all of you in the early fall, rested and ready to take on a challenging 2008-2009 academic year.

Cordially,



Philip L. Dubois  
Chancellor

*If you do not wish to continue receiving this newsletter, please call 704-687-2205.*