

MINUTES
Chancellor Search Committee

February 6, 2008
Conference Center – Brooks Pierce Law Firm, Renaissance Center
(AIG-United Guaranty Building in Greensboro, NC)
Business Community Forum

Search Committee members present: Kate Barrett, Linda Carlisle, Keith Debbage, Stephen Hassenfelt, Ed Kitchen, Carol Matney

Others in attendance: Jerry Baker, Martin Baker, Margaret Patton

The Business Community Forum began at 7:30 am. Approximately ten community representatives attended. Ed Kitchen, a community representative on the Chancellor Search Committee and Vice-President of the Joseph M. Bryan Foundation, welcomed the guests from the business community. He introduced Steve Hassenfelt and Linda Carlisle, and the rest of the individuals in attendance introduced themselves. Mr. Kitchen thanked Ed Winslow of the Brooks Pierce law firm for allowing the group to use their conference center for this meeting.

Steve Hassenfelt, Chairman of the Chancellor Search Committee, facilitated the forum. He invited input on the qualifications needed for the new chancellor, the challenges the new leadership will face, and what is special about UNCG that the Search Committee needs to focus on in the recruitment process.

The following input was offered at the Business Community Forum:

- Greensboro is moving from a manufacturing-based economy to a knowledge-based economy, and UNCG will be a critical part of that process. We need the leadership of UNCG to be a key player in developing a skilled workforce, and the capacities for research and technology transfer.
- We need the new chancellor to be a partner in the Gateway University Research Park, to help move that project forward.
- The leadership of UNCG has opportunities to enhance public school education with resources that can be supportive with long-term partnerships.
- We are entering a time of unprecedented change, with education one of the main areas. We need a leader who can effectively manage through that change.
- In regard to the two skill sets of CEO (Chief Executive Officer) vs. COO (Chief Operating Officer), the incoming chancellor needs to be more of a CEO, with the willingness to take risks, and to balance the differences between these two sets of skills. A critical role for the chancellor will be in fundraising and moving the university forward in support of our doctoral programs, Carnegie classification, and support of faculty research, as well as other endeavors. The chancellor must devote a huge amount of time and energy to fundraising, and make those funds work for the benefit of the institution.

- The university has intellectual capital it can bring to the table when the community is addressing social concerns, and the leadership must play a key role in 'town and gown' community building.
- The chancellor needs to establish an educational environment in which environmental issues are explored, with sensitivity to the critical role that the university can play in the area of environmental awareness.
- There was a discussion about the important role of a strong athletics program both internally and externally, in community involvement and sense of identity and loyalty, and financial support of alumni. There are both concrete and intangible benefits that an enthusiastic athletics program brings to a university in terms of school spirit and support. We need the resources and mindset to take UNCG to the next level, by building on our Division I position. There was a suggestion that the incoming chancellor have some experience and working knowledge of a strong athletics program. Concerns were also expressed that with so many areas in which UNCG needs to focus and address its limited resources, it will be difficult in the near future to commit considerably larger resources to athletics. This is a strategic issue that the new chancellor will need to deal with.
- This community has a diverse collection of colleges and universities, and needs strong leadership to bring UNCG's resources to the forefront to help partner with the other institutions of higher learning. The new leader must be able to work well with all the constituencies, and attract the best people as part of a team. Greensboro's diverse public and private colleges and universities have different missions, and the leadership at UNCG must work in collaboration with these entities, to enhance the image and brand of our city.
- Entrepreneurship is a key focus in the community. With this cultural shift, the chancellor will need to recognize and support the fruits of faculty research that can be translated into products and services in the marketplace. With this new leadership, there is an opportunity to address the weight that could be given to entrepreneurial projects when faculty are going through the promotion and tenure process. Significant research being done by faculty needs to be recognized and fully supported.
- New chancellor will need to engage with the UNC Tomorrow initiatives, to look at that document's guidelines in light of UNCG's goals and key interests.
- The leadership must create an environment in which students make UNCG a first-choice for their academic career. Academic excellence must become more of a source of pride for students. This brings the issue of fundraising to the forefront once again, since scholarships and fellowships are key to attracting the very brightest and most promising students. Students applying to UNCG are in great need of this financial support, and UNCG is currently very under-funded in this critical area. Even when UNCG is the first choice for top students, they will often choose another university with a better scholarship offering. This issue must be addressed as part of fundraising efforts and initiatives.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Patton
Administrative Assistant
Chancellor Search Committee