

DRAFT

Chancellor James R. Leutze
University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Chancellor Leutze,

I want to thank you for an excellent meeting yesterday. Your commitment to teacher education is unique in higher education and vividly represents your commitment to serving the needs of our region and state. As you know, I am convinced that building a facility that expresses UNCW's understanding that there is no greater legacy for our institution than that of producing public school teachers is critical at this point in our region's and state's history. The core mission of this university, indeed of all public universities, is to ensure that knowledge is freely given from one generation to another and that access to the vast intellectual resources of the university are accessible to the citizens of the region and the state. Like so many others I have been the beneficiary of this great university system and was inspired as a young man growing up in the inner city of Durham, North Carolina, by so many outstanding and loving public school teachers and university professors at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to appreciate the vast world of ideas and to give something back as public school teacher, principal and superintendent.

As we talked yesterday, I could see more clearly than ever a facility that was not only functional but one that would serve as a tribute to the teaching profession. For so long schools of education have been relegated to second-class status. This has been due in part to the fact that many programs have been overly focused on methods and technique and have sacrificed intellectual rigor and content in the process. The faculty at UNCW have made it clear that they are committed to the highest standards of liberal education and have in recent years again raised entry and completion requirements to reflect such values. We want to be sure that the school earns its place as both a legitimate member of the academic community and as a partner in addressing the pending shortage of quality teachers.

It is therefore important that this new building serve notice to the region, state and nation that UNCW places the preparation of teachers and advancing the teaching profession among its highest priorities and at the center of its noblest endeavors. I envision a facility that is functional, majestic and at the hub of campus life. This should be a gathering place for the exchange of ideas and a lighthouse for creative teachers everywhere, inviting them to come together with the best minds at the university to find solutions to the complex problems that confront the teaching profession and that renews and inspires them. As you rightfully noted, it will take courage and persuasion to convince others that we can preserve the beauty and grace of our neo-Georgian architecture while striving for a bold, new vision. This building should reflect the past, present and future. It should symbolize a market place of ideas. I saw a picture of PENN Station the other day and I was stuck by the atrium, the structural steel and the

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pervasive sense of motion. You talked of a gathering place for people and ideas. What about blending this train station architecture with a modern, almost great hall feel? This should be a place where crowds can gather to see art exhibits and hear concerts. The close ties of the school of education with so many academic disciplines require that we build a building where the "world of ideas" can flourish. Floating balconies, suspended bridges, spiral staircases and a massive great hall could be combined with intimate "conversation pits" and functional workspaces in a manner that declares a new approach to construction at UNCW. One day, faculty from a host of disciplines will gather with performers, exhibitors, political leaders and prospective donors in this facility to celebrate teaching and UNCW. Forgive me for getting carried away, but you challenged me to think big and to attach this vision to a "great cause." The classrooms, labs and state-of-the-art technology in this facility will be a part of that grand vision. Naturally, I cannot close without mentioning the tribute to teachers across this state that will be housed in the Regional Outreach Center on the first floor. I like your idea of approaching Jay Robinson to help us with the overall initiative and to lead in selling the North Carolina Teachers' Legacy Wall. What about a quiet place near the entrance where students, faculty, staff and visitors can reflect and meditate? I am seeing something like a Japanese garden with one large stone wall with water gently cascading into a reflecting pool. There would be benches and trees in this area. On the adjacent wall we could place representations of each Legacy Wall teacher selected from every county in North Carolina. Perhaps we could have a kiosk with a touch screen map where visitors could touch their home county and hear and see the story of one of North Carolina's master teachers.

A three-story structure with an atrium as the center piece and a great hall flanked by graceful spiral stair cases, art and a small reflecting pool would certainly make a statement about the values of this institution and provide a unique blend of public spaces and a working learning center. The building must invite the outside in and connect exterior verandas with the interior spaces in a functional, yet impressive manner.

The faculty has accepted the challenges you have set forth to improve quality and double the production of graduates. While we can dream, only you and the Board of Trustees have the influence or the authority to sell this concept. We are fortunate to have leaders who can dream big. I look forward to the meeting you are arranging with you, Mark and me to consider the strategies necessary to move this from an idea to a reality.



Dr. Robert E. Tyndall, Dean
Watson School of Education

October 12, 1997

Watson School of Education New Building Timeline

	1997
March 1997	Tyndall meets with Chancellor Leutze who embraces the idea of a new school of education building and adds the challenge that UNCW “double its annual production of graduates and became a state and national force in improving the quality of teacher education.”
March 1997	Tyndall shows Chancellor Leutze drawings of Penn Station as an example of large space that captures movement through structure, sunlight and discusses the activities that could be accommodated in such a space.
April 1997	The general concept of a building that is based on an “ecological approach,” to construction with “conversation pits,” “floating balconies,” “an atrium which folds the internal and external environments into one another” and “large spaces for campus and community events” is sketched by Tyndall and Leutze.
April 1997	Leutze, Lanier and Tyndall discuss a local and state approach to selling the concept. Leutze briefs the BOT on the conversations that have been occurring. Lanier charged with strategy planning.
April 1997	Lanier develops strategy involving himself, Leutze, Tyndall, Jay Robinson and the trustees to secure planning money from the N.C. Legislature.
April 1997	Between April and August more than sixty meetings are arranged with legislators and influential state leaders to push for two million dollars in planning money.
October 1997	Bob Tyndall develops a proposal to build a new School of Education facility as a “living tribute to the teaching profession.” The new facility will “symbolize the strength, dedication and grace of teachers past, present and future.” (See October 12 letter)
1997	Planning funds are approved and preliminary work begins on the interior design of the new facility. A consultant is contracted, Jeffries and Ferris, to work with Tyndall on the concept drawings that could be used to sell the building and acquire the next round of funds. An original figure of \$18,725,000.00 is proposed (doesn't include the \$1,775,000.00 for planning).

Session 1997	General Assembly Session Law 1998 – 212, Senate Bill 1366. \$1,775,000 planning money ratified bill.
Fall 1997	Facilities Initial Concept Team: (Chair Tyndall), Wright, Lockledge, H. Hayes, G. Burton, C. Thomas, and Jefferies.
November 1997	Chancellor Leutze and Dr. Tyndall present Advisory Budget Commission, November 19, 1997.
December 1997	A programming design team is appointed with Tyndall as chair to begin work on a more concrete concept for the building.
1998	
February 1998	Facilities Design Survey
1998	The Eva Klein Study is undertaken by the Office of the President as preliminary ground work for a state wide Bond Campaign.
Feb.--May	Tyndall and Leutze host more than 15 events to gain advocacy for the new concept and WSE role in teacher preparation.
April 12, 1998	Design Team: (Co-chairs Tyndall, Hosier), Crawford, Wetherill, Thomas, Jenkins-Peer, Browning, Wright, Shaffer, H. Hayes, and Burton.
April 1998	Bellamy reception, April 16, 1998. Tyndall and Leutze
Spring 1998	Host Retired Teachers Forum – Gain endorsement Host State PTA Conference to gain support.
May 1998	Star News endorses bldg. May 11, 1998
Summer 1998	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Summer of '98, Rice-Evans met with the Education Chapter of the Alumni Association and started discussing the new building and a potential alumni legacy in it. At this meeting Rice-Evans spoke with Chapter President Becky Fancher about some ideas for creating a significant and compelling space in the new building to honor teachers in some way and simultaneously generate funds for the Ed School. 2. Summer of '98, Rice-Evans saw Dr. Tyndall at the Ed School fall retreat break and told him about the general idea generated at this meeting with alumni and development and suggested that we brainstorm more about this idea and that we pursue

	<p>something on this level in recognition of great teachers.</p> <p>3. Tyndall informed Rice-Evans of a broader concept developed in 1997 to embrace the great teachers of the entire state and that the building could include a larger map of the state on a kiosk which would allow visitors to touch their county and see and hear the story of their legacy teacher. The backdrop would be the North Carolina Teachers Legacy Wall on a stone wall. Water would flow from the ceiling to floor to create a space for reflection and contemplation; a representation of each would be placed on the wall.</p> <p>4. Upon agreement with Dr. Tyndall, Rice-Evans visited Jay Robinson to get his feedback on this concept and see if he wanted to head up the campaign to raise funds for this endeavor; he agreed and in a meeting he had planned with Governor Hunt the following day, spent time explaining the plan to the Governor who endorsed and encouraged it as well.</p>
June 1998	News and Observer endorses in under the dome.
June 1998	Wilmington Chamber of Commerce presentation, Lanier and Tyndall. Chamber ranks building 3 rd among 6 priorities.
June 1998	Chancellor Leutze and Dean Tyndall. Capital need update to the General Assembly, July 7, 1998
Fall 1998	<p>Planning contacts set for Fall 1998.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team leaders Political: Tyndall, Kinkel & Lanier • Team leaders: New Hanover & campus network – Lockledge, H. Hayes, and A. Hayes. • Team Leaders: Public Schools in region – Calhoun, Harkin, Rogers and Kozloff.
December 1998	Dr. Tyndall met with the state President of the Chamber of Commerce to gain endorsement of the concept as a chamber partnership project. (December, 1998) The initial plan called for a coordinated effort with local chambers with each of the 100 counties raising \$15,000 to name a Legacy Teacher and generate 1.5 million in donations to a scholarship fund. Corporate donors would be sought out to name the wall itself.

1998 - 1999	
1998 – 99	Tyndall serves as Vice Chancellor for ITSD and Dean of the WSE while the interior and exterior programming designs are completed. Carol Thomas, Grace Burton, Eleanor Wright, HATHIA Hayes, Bill Johnston, Brad Walker, and Karen Wetherill serve on the initial design team.
January 15, 1999	The architectural firm of Jenkins Peer is awarded the project by BOT.
July 1, 1999 through June 30, 2000	Andy Hayes, Dean
July 1, 2000 to present	Cathy Barlow, Dean
July 15, 1999	New facility sited approved by BOT and approval of Jenkins-Peer.
2000	
2000	Leutze organized regional and state network to assist OP in building support for the Bond Campaign.
2000	The N.C. Bond is proposed to the voters which included \$18,725,000.00 for the Watson School of Education.
April 28, 2000	The conceptual design plans for the new structure are approved by the BOT.
July 1, 2000 - Present	Cathy Barlow is named Dean of the Watson School of Education and immediately begins the difficult task of bringing reality, texture and detail to the building concept.
November 7, 2000	Bond Approved by voters (73% in favor – passed in all 100 counties)
2001	
2001	The Legacy Wall is expanded by Dr. Barlow to be a Legacy Hall with a thematic celebration of education and teaching. This would be a museum, educational center, celebration of teaching and a place to honor North Carolina's best teachers. This will be both functional and educational for students and the community.

	2002
January 17 2002	The ground breaking for the WSE is held.
June 2002	Schematics phase is completed.
	2003
2003 - 2004	Construction coordination, furniture and equipment selected, accessories identified.
	2004
August 2004	Construction phase is completed. (18 months approximately.)
September 2004	UNCW takes occupancy of the building after two inspection delays.
September 13, 2004	Faculty and staff move to the new facility.
	2005
February 9, 2005	The ribbon cutting ceremony is held. BOT and BOG