



## The University of North Carolina

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October 2, 2012

General Faculty  
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Office of Faculty Governance  
CB 9170  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599  
Attn: Joseph Ferrell, Secretary of the Faculty

Dear Members of the General Faculty at UNC-Chapel Hill:

Thank you for your resolution in support of Chancellor Holden Thorp's leadership and for your demonstrated commitment to UNC-Chapel Hill. It is indeed a sad time for the University and for our collective future when a person of Chancellor Thorp's talent, vision, intellect, and integrity concludes he needs to step aside. I talked with him on multiple occasions after he informed me of his intention to step down next June 30, and at no time did he express any willingness or intention to reconsider his decision. He reiterated to me his strong desire to spend the remainder of the year dealing with the many challenging issues facing the University and doing all he can to put the negative matters with which we have been dealing behind us. He also told me many times that he was at peace with his decision and was looking forward to returning to the faculty. I, too, have tremendous respect for Chancellor Thorp and feel I must continue to respect his very personal decision.

This is a critical time in the history of our great institution, and as we move forward in the search for Chancellor Thorp's successor, it will take the commitment of all of us who believe in the University to guarantee its continued excellence.

Sincerely,

Thomas W. Ross

cc: Jan Boxill, Chair of the Faculty  
Faculty Executive Committee