

SGA presidents praise Wagoner

Few college students can say that they were acquainted with their college president or chancellor. Often the nature of the job requires a chancellor to spend much of his time in an administration building, a place with little student traffic, unlike the student union or a classroom building.

Although Chancellor William H. Wagoner has not known every one of the approximate 12,000 students who have graduated during his tenure at UNCW, he did get to know 22 students very well, presidents of the UNCW Student Government Association. These students had many opportunities to work with Wagoner in formulating policy that affected other students over the past two decades.

On behalf of the Student Government Association, Jim Humphries, 1989 SGA president, presented Wagoner with a collection of letters of praise and admiration from the 22 presidents who served during the Wagoner years. Below are excerpts from four of those letters.

William J. Brooks, Jr., senior class president in 1972, writes, "I remember that you were always accessible, always helpful, and always had good advice." Brooks is director of fiscal and economic affairs with the North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry in Raleigh.

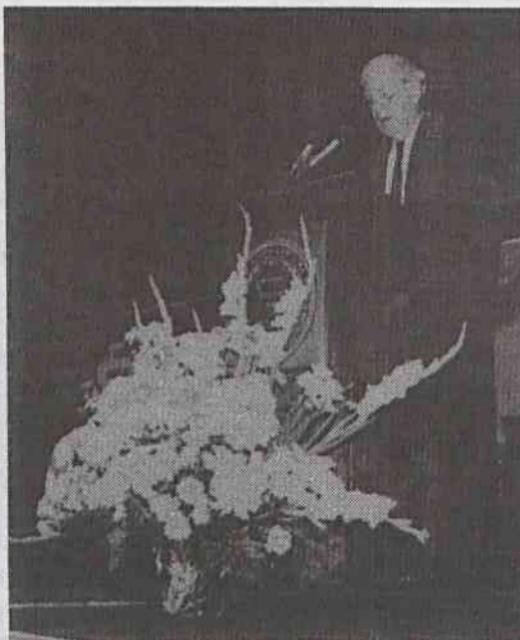
Wagoner offered advice on campus politics and career choices to Stephen Hobbs, senior class president in 1975. He writes that Wagoner's contributions to the university can be identified by his many years of service and the growth that has been achieved during this time. Hobbs works for Gulf Oil Products in Wilmington.

Jonathan H. Faill, Jr. says that Wagoner is the father of the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. "As you walk around the campus, you notice little things that demonstrate your influence, such as the consistency of the architectural style. Your leadership is apparent in things that you don't see, such as the quality of education offered, the professionalism of the faculty, and the continued growth of higher education programs." Faill was senior class president in 1979 and now works for Interactive Demographics in Wilmington.

"As student body president, I saw firsthand the tough decisions you had to make and how you always put the good of the university above anything else," writes Jessie Sanders in a letter to Wagoner. She says that Wagoner provided the student population with leadership, stability and compassion. Sanders was student body president in 1980 and now works for Revlon in New York.

Jim Humphries, 1989 SGA president, describes how he was so impressed to hear Wagoner speak to the 1986 freshman class during freshman orientation. "That day made me feel very good because it made me feel as if I were a part of a family. This university has some of the finest faculty, staff, and trustees ever assembled. This can all be attributed to your guidance and direction."

Alumni Spotlight



Tom Wicker, political columnist with the New York Times, delivered the commencement address during commencement 1990. His speech "The Wallet and the Will" questioned the spending priorities that exist in this country. Wicker challenged the graduates to invest in America, that is, to look beyond themselves and their immediate interests. "We have the wallet to do it; and as the years come down, you will face no more important question than whether in your own lives and your own times, you have the will." Some 1,095 students received baccalaureate degrees while 56 were awarded master's degrees.

Calendar of Events at UNCW

July

UNCW Artfest Prints, drawings, and paintings by Warren Criswell, Kenan Hall

July 21

Cape Fear Alumni Chapter meeting and cookout

July 21-22

Military Collectors Show, Trask Coliseum

July 24

Little feat, Trask Coliseum

July 25-28

Pippin
Kenan Auditorium, 8 p.m.

August 23

First day of classes

Sept. 21

UNCW Office of Special Programs
Civil War Symposium Tryon Palace, New Bern

October 6 & 7

Parents Weekend

Oct. 25

UNCW Office of Special Programs
Luncheon and Symposium "The 1990 Elections: Change and Continuity"



Sarah Jones and son Michael '90 pose prior to graduation. Ms. Jones has six children and two grandchildren who are alumni or future alumni of UNCW. The first child in the family to graduate from UNCW enrolled in 1970 and the youngest child will enter UNCW in the fall.

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