



Bonnie Cone

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Semi-Retirement from A Growing Grandchild

"I'm like the old man who wandered through the train from seat to seat asking each passenger if they had any grandchildren. He finally found one who didn't, and said 'Fine! Let me sit down and tell you all about mine.' Let me tell you all about the University."

Bonnie Cone

Effective Friday, June 29, 1973 Dr. Bonnie E. Cone, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Community Relations, goes into semi-retirement after twenty-seven years of service to the University. After a vacation trip to Europe, Miss Cone will return to Charlotte to take a part time position with the University working with the development office and with the UNCC Foundation.

The twenty-seven year history of UNCC and Miss Cone's involvement, begins in 1946 when Miss Cone came to the Charlotte extension of the University of North Carolina for returning veterans as a math professor. The next year, Miss Cone replaced the director and worked to have the extension program continued. With the

help of Dr. Elmer Garinger, then the superintendent of the Charlotte schools, the 247 student program was drawn into the Charlotte school system and by 1949 had become a two year junior college. In 1954, the city of Charlotte voted tax money to the institution, and in 1958, Charlotte College officially came under the North Carolina Community College system which led to the appointment of the first board of trustees. In 1961, the college moved from old Central High School in downtown Charlotte to the present 1,000-acre location.

Charlotte College was elevated from a two year junior college to a four year senior college in 1963 and in 1965, became the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (UNCC) with Dr. D. W. Colvard as chancellor. Dr. Cone became the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Community Relations.

The future of the University is, of course, uncertain; however, speaking from a very political point of view, it does look brighter than ever. The official story is that

of one of the most dynamic and fastest growing institutions in the Country, and there is not much ground to deny that except for the slight cutback in the projected enrollement for the coming year, but all this can be justified. The fact remains that in twenty-seven short years this institution has grown from a miniscule Charlotte Center for the University of North Carolina to a four year branch of that University now offering graduate work, with fifty six hundred students now projected for 1973-'74.

Within these last twenty-seven years, students have changed a good deal, but on the whole, UNCC students have many of the same ideas of students originally here in the late forties and early fifties. They're here with the number one priority of education. When students have made choices, "They don't fritter away their time spending money just to be there. I know within the last decade, 10 to 12 years, on this campus, I've seen a greater impact of student thought, ideas, on what we're doing in the academic program. Students are