

Message from ASU Trustees on Peacock

Written by Linda Coutant

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The Board of Trustees of Appalachian State University reluctantly, and with great nostalgia and admiration extends its unwavering support of Chancellor Kenneth E. Peacock's recent decision to step down from his position. We want to be clear and unequivocal that the Chancellor's decision was made by he and his family after thoughtful and considerable personal deliberation. We understand that this decision was difficult for him but deeply respect that he believes that the time was appropriate for Appalachian and most importantly, for his family. Ken Peacock has proudly and unselfishly served the University and Appalachian community for 20 years, the last 9 of which were as Chancellor. His leadership style is best characterized by his positive attitude and energy level and his passionate conviction to provide the very best and highest quality academic environment for our student body and their families, our faculty, staff, administration, community and region. Through his dedication, leadership style and initiatives Appalachian has emerged as a highly respected, premier University, nationally recognized for its outstanding value and affordability, challenging academics, student athlete success, passionate and successful alumni, international learning programs, diversity and environmental sustainability. His leadership has demonstrated that growth is truly a process of responding positively to change, confronting challenges, adversity and opportunity with a spirit of determination and courage. His leadership and legacy will long endure and has strongly positioned Appalachian for a very bright future ahead. Importantly, the Chancellor's decision to step down involves a transition whereby he will continue in his current capacity as Chancellor, leading Appalachian until such time that a strong successor is identified and hired. Accordingly, there will be no void in the leadership and continued strong direction of the University. During this transition, the Board of Trustees stands firmly supportive of the Chancellor and his leadership cabinet and will work diligently with the full Appalachian community and the UNC System to launch a comprehensive search process for Ken's successor.