



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

INFORMATION

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Martin Named Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs of the University of North Carolina

CHAPEL HILL -- Harold L. Martin, Sr. chancellor of Winston-Salem State University since 2000, has been named senior vice president for academic affairs of the 16-campus University of North Carolina. The appointment, effective July 17, was made today by the UNC Board of Governors on the recommendation of UNC President Erskine Bowles. Martin will succeed Alan Mabe, who has served as interim senior vice president since Gretchen Battaille stepped down in January to focus on her duties as interim chancellor of the North Carolina School of the Arts.

As the University's top academic officer, Martin will be responsible for leading the University's educational and research missions. In that role, he will advise the president and Board of Governors on academic issues and policies of University-wide importance and will oversee academic planning and budgeting, student affairs, sponsored programs and research, faculty support, international programs, and strategy development and analysis. He will also work closely with campus chancellors and chief academic officers on University-wide academic initiatives and help focus diverse campus missions to meet University and state goals and objectives.

In recommending Martin to the Board of Governors, Bowles said: "Because I am not an academic, it is imperative that I have very best person available serving as our senior vice president for academic affairs. I asked the search committee to identify a candidate that faculty across our 16 campuses would respect, that they would trust to make fair and right decisions, and that they believed has the skills, experience, and expertise to help lead the University of North Carolina to where we need to be in the years ahead. They found all those qualities—and more—in Harold

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Martin. I am convinced that Harold is the right individual to play this critically important role on our leadership team, and we are incredibly fortunate to retain a proven leader of such talent, integrity, and commitment.”

Martin, 54, holds undergraduate and master’s degrees in electrical engineering from North Carolina A&T State University and a doctorate in the field from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. He joined the A&T faculty in 1980 and was named chairman of the Department of Electrical Engineering in 1985 after a nine-month stint as acting chairman. Four years later, he was named dean of A&T’s College of Engineering, a post he held until being named vice chancellor for academic affairs in 1994. From 1987 to 1994, he also served as an adjunct faculty member in North Carolina State University’s Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering.

In January of 2000, Martin was tapped by then UNC President Molly Corbett Broad to provide stable, interim leadership for Winston-Salem State University following the resignation of Chancellor Alvin Schexnider. Sixteen months later, he was elected to the position on a permanent basis by the Board of Governors. During Martin’s six-year tenure at WSSU, enrollment has nearly doubled (from 2,796 to 5,556) freshman SAT scores have climbed by nearly 70 points, and the campus has undergone a dramatic physical transformation made possible in part by a \$45-million investment from the 2000 Higher Education Bond Program.

At WSSU, Martin is also credited with forging stronger working relationships with internal and external constituencies, raising the quality and breadth of academic degree programs, launching programs to improve student retention and graduation rates, upgrading the campus’ technology infrastructure, and improving administrative operations and efficiencies. In the fall of 2004, the campus also initiated a \$35-million capital fund-raising campaign, the largest in WSSU’s history.

Specializing in the field of computer engineering, Martin has written and lectured widely on computer architecture and increasing the representation of underrepresented

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minorities and women in engineering. Named 2001 Man of the Year by the *Winston-Salem Chronicle*, Martin also received Duke Power's 2005 Citizen and Service Award and McDonald's 2005 African American Achievement Award for Education. The A&T Alumni Association has recognized Martin as Alumnus of the Year (1976), while Virginia Tech has honored him with its Distinguished Graduate Alumni Award (2004) and the Bradley Department of Electrical Engineering Academy of Distinguished Alumni Award (1998).

Martin currently serves on the boards of the Winston-Salem Foundation, the SACS Commission on Colleges and Schools, the Central Intercollegiate Athletics Conference, MCNC, Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina, the Forsyth County United Way, the Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce, the Winston-Salem Symphony, Idealliance, the Winston-Salem Alliance, and the Piedmont Triad Partnership. Previously, he has served on advisory committees of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, chaired the board of directors of the Southern Consortium for Minorities in Engineering, and served on the boards of trustees of the NC School of Science and Mathematics, the NC Board of Science and Technology, and the NC Biotechnology Center Advisory Board.

A native of Winston-Salem, Martin is married to Davida Martin, county attorney for Forsyth County. They have two sons: Harold, Jr., a rising third-year law student at Yale Law School; and Walter, a student at Hampton University.

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NOTE TO EDITORS: An electronic version of this release and a photograph of Harold Martin may be found on the University of North Carolina website at www.northcarolina.edu.