



Charles Duncan McIver Award

Purpose:

The Charles Duncan McIver Award is the University's highest award for service to the state or nation. It was established to recognize North Carolinians who have made especially meritorious contributions or have rendered unusually distinguished public service.

Established in 1983, the award is in the form of a medal bearing the likeness of Charles Duncan McIver and is known as the "McIver Medal" in honor of the University's founder.

Background:

Charles Duncan McIver founded in 1891 the State Normal and Industrial School for Girls, now known as the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He served as the University's first president. After graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, he became a teacher and a crusader for higher education for women. In an era when the doors to colleges and universities were closed to women, he soon became one of the leading advocates for educational reform. He promoted the cause of education throughout not just the state, but also the entire region, and brought about an increased respect for the teaching profession.

In addition to his duties at the college, McIver held offices in many professional organizations. He was president of the Southern Education Association and of the Normal School Department of the National Education Association. He served as secretary and district director of the Southern Education Board. Later he was chosen as to be a member of the Board of Trustees for the University of North Carolina. McIver was also considered as a candidate for governor of North Carolina and for president of the University of North Carolina. However, he refused to allow his name to be submitted for either nomination, choosing instead to remain at his post in Greensboro.

McIver passed away in 1906 while riding a campaign train with William Jennings Bryan. Upon his death, children in schools across the state donated pennies to erect a statue of him on the capitol grounds. He is the only person honored in North Carolina's Capitol Square who was not a political or military leader.



McIver Medal Recipients

- 2018** – **Luther Hodges**, community leader
- 2017** – **Joseph M. Bryan, Jr.**, Philanthropist and Community Leader
- 2016** – **Tom Ross**, Former UNC System president
- 2015** – **Fred Chappell**, Poet Laureate of North Carolina
- 2014** – **Kathy E. Manning**, community advocate
- 2013** – **Maggie Jeffus**, '70 MEd, N.C. Representative
- 2012** – **Martha Hendrix Kaley** '80 MEd
- 2011** – **Sue Woodall Cole**, Business Leader
- 2010** – **Stanley & Doris Tanger**, Philanthropic Leaders
- 2009** – **Ann Goodnight**, Philanthropic and Volunteer Leader
- 2008** – No award presented
- 2007** – **James B. Hunt**, Governor, North Carolina
- 2006** – **Hugh M. Morton**, Conservationist and Preservationist
- 2005** – **E. S. "Jim" Melvin**, President, The Bryan Foundation
- 2004** – **Don Cameron**, President, Guilford Technical Community College
- 2002** – **Dennis Barry**, President & CEO, Moses Cone Medical System
- 2001** – **Charles Hamner**, President & CEO, North Carolina Biotechnology Center
- 2000** – **Thomas W. Lambeth**, Executive Director, Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation
- 1999** – **Gerhardt Zimmerman**, Maestro, North Carolina Symphony
- 1998** – **John Hope Franklin**, Professor, Duke University
- 1997** – **Terry Sanford**, Governor and Senator, North Carolina
- 1996** – **Barton A. Parks**, Professor of Justice and Policy, Guilford College

UAC – 2.2

1995 – C. Stewart Rogers, Healthserve Medical Center; Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro

1994 – Jack F. Matlock, Jr., Ambassador, US Foreign Service

1993 – No Award Presented

1992 – William C. Friday, President, The University of North Carolina System

1991 – L. Richardson Preyer, Congressman, United States Congress

1990 – Robert Byrd Jordan III, Lieutenant Governor, North Carolina

1989 – Bland W. Worley, Board Chairman, Barclays American Corporation

1988 – Martha K. Sharpless, Chief of Pediatric Teaching Service, Moses Cone Hospital

1987 – Archie K. Davis, Board Chairman, Wachovia Corporation

1986 – Henry E. Frye, Chief Justice, North Carolina Supreme Court

1985 – Susie Marshall Sharpe, Chief Justice, North Carolina Supreme Court