



UNC GREENSBORO
University Advancement

Distinguished Service Awards

Award Guidelines:

- Nominations must be thoroughly documented by submitting the online form. Nominations may include letters of recommendation and supplemental materials.
- No more than one McIver Award and one Holderness/Weaver Award is presented in one year, and the awards are not required to be presented in any given year.
- Nominations are valid for one awards cycle. If the Awards Committee wishes to reconsider a nominee for longer than one awards cycle, the nominator will be notified by the Vice Chancellor for University Advancement.
- The Awards Committee has the authority to move candidates between categories if they feel the applicant more closely aligns with the other award.

The following restrictions apply to all nominees:

- A nominee cannot have been a University student within the past five (5) years;
- A nominee cannot have been a University employee within the past five (5) years;
- A nominee cannot be a current member of the University Board of Trustees, or have been a member of the Board of Trustees within the past three (3) years;
- A nominee cannot currently hold public office nor be a candidate for public office; and
- A nominee cannot be receiving any monetary compensation from the University or its affiliates during the nomination process.

Charles Duncan McIver Award:

Established in April 1983, the Charles Duncan McIver Award recognizes North Carolinians who have rendered unusually distinguished public service to the state or beyond. This award, in the form of a medal bearing the likeness of Charles Duncan McIver, will be known as the “McIver Medal” in honor of the University’s founder.

McIver Medal recipients:

2025 – Linda Arnold Carlisle, Businesswoman, Community Volunteer and Leader
2024 – Adair Phifer Armfield '61 & the late Edward M. Armfield Sr., Edward M. Armfield Sr. Foundation
2020 – Kay Hagan, U.S. Senator (awarded posthumously)
2018 – Luther H. Hodges, Jr., Philanthropic Leader and retired banker
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
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
1995 – C. Stewart Rogers, Healthserve Medical Center; Hospice and Palliative Care of Greensboro
1994 – Jack F. Matlock, Jr., Ambassador, US Foreign Service
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

Holderness/Weaver Award:

The Holderness/Weaver Award is for recognition of North Carolinians who have rendered unusually distinguished public service to Greensboro or the Triad.

Holderness/Weaver Award recipients:

2025 – Ed Kitchen, Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, The Joseph M. Bryan Foundation
2024 – Susan S. Schwartz, Executive Director, The Cemala Foundation
2023 – Dabney H. Sanders and H. Walker Sanders, Community Leaders and Volunteers
2022- Margaret Bourdeaux Arbuckle '74 MEd, '84 PhD, Education Advocate, Community Volunteer
2020 – Dr. Antonia Monk Richburg '87, '00 MPA, VP & Senior Program Officer for Cone Health Foundation
2018 – Sarah Cole Jordan '56, Community Leader, Volunteer, Child Advocate
2017 – Robert E. (Bobby) Long, Jr., Founder at Long, Miller and Associates, Volunteer Leader
2016 – Shirley Frye, Educator and Community Volunteer
2015 – Elizabeth Buford '68
2014 – Rev. Mike Aiken, Executive Director of Greensboro Urban Ministry
2013 – Richard Whittington and Preston Lane, Co-Founders of Triad Stage
2012 – Alan W. '72 MEd and Sally Schindel Cone '72 MEd
2011 – Dot Kendall Kearns, Public Education Advocate
2010 – T. Clyde & Dorothy B. Collins '54, Philanthropic & Volunteer Leaders
2009 – Florence Gatten, Former Greensboro City Council Member and Community Volunteer
2007 – Bill Black, Community Volunteer
2006 – Carol J. Mattocks '62, Community Leader, Volunteer, and Child Advocate
2005 – Shirley Spears, Philanthropic Leader
2004 – Barbara and Herman Cone, Philanthropic Leaders
2002 – Cynthia Doyle, Community Leader & Volunteer; Community Foundation of Greensboro; The Greensboro Children's Museum
2001 – Phillip Kirk, President, North Carolina Citizens for Business & Industry
2000 – Ashley Ormond Thrift, Attorney, North Carolina Partnership for Children (Smart Start)
1999 – Betty Rae McCain, Secretary, North Carolina Department of Cultural Resources