



Office of the Chancellor

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Sharon L. Gaber
Chancellor

Good morning, Colleagues.

It is my great honor to greet you as the fifth chancellor of UNC Charlotte. Though working in higher education for more than three decades has afforded me many interesting experiences, I have to say, making introductions to my new colleagues in the middle of a pandemic is a situation I could never have predicted. Be assured, however, that the restrictions on our ability to gather in person do nothing to lessen my enthusiasm for the significance of the day.

Today is the start of a new journey, one I am excited to be on with all of you.

As an urban planner, it has always been my job to take pieces from different disciplines, analyze data and create a stronger outcome.

That is precisely how I view my duties as your chancellor. My primary job is to let you do yours: delivering an exceptional education and college experience for our students, conducting research that changes lives, finding new solutions to business challenges, and serving the social, economic and cultural needs of this region. Then, together, we will find new ways to further strengthen this University.

We are fortunate to have such a strong foundation on which to stand, building upon the exemplary work of the dedicated leaders who served before me, including our founder, Miss Bonnie Cone.

There is no denying that the upcoming semester, and likely academic year, will be challenging in ways we don't yet fully comprehend. How we teach, work and interact with each other will be different. How we build community will be different. How we define success will be different.

But what will not be different is the strength and resiliency of Niner Nation, one of many reasons I was so attracted to this great institution. What lies ahead will take every one of us working together not only to protect this exceptional University in the midst of a global health crisis, but also to propel it to even greater heights. However, if I've learned anything about this community over the past several months, it is never to underestimate its collective spirit, compassion and perseverance. It is my good fortune to be part of the Niner family now.

In the days, weeks and months to come, I look forward to finding opportunities to meet you in person as we get to know each other better — even if that means we have to do so at a physical distance. As I engage in conversation about the future of this great University, I plan to ask several questions including:

1. What do you believe differentiates UNC Charlotte from other institutions?
2. What do you believe are our greatest strengths?
3. What do you believe are our greatest opportunities?



Until then, I want to thank you for your continued hard work and the tremendous passion you demonstrate every day for our students, alumni, and each other. I [shared this video](#) with our community today and look forward to the great things we will accomplish together.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon L. Gaber".

Sharon

Sharon L. Gaber

Chancellor

Twitter: @ChancellorGaber