

THE STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
M. JONAE WARTEL
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
EXECUTIVE BRANCH

STATE OF THE CAMPUS ADDRESS
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Distinguished Faculty and Staff, fellow students

Good Evening.

When reflecting upon the state of our campus, it appears that we are a campus under construction. Not just a new dorm, Humanities building, or Aycock renovation. Every day, the continued work of constructing a new chapter of the excellence that is UNCG awaits us. In the words of Chancellor Patricia Sullivan, “we are building on our strong foundation and evolving into a new UNCG... a university full of possibility. You are part of UNCG’s proud history...and we want you to be part of our promising future.” It is for the purpose of continuing this legacy and walking into this future of promised that we must step up to the plate and partner together in pursuit of making UNCG a first choice institution, not only because of the many educational opportunities that we offer both inside and outside of the classroom, but because of the allegiance of each student to each other and to the goal of excellence. It is the commitment of this administration of the Student Government Association of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro to become a stepping stone on the path to excellence through diligent representation and tireless devotion to student issues. An avenue through which students may voice concerns, create plans of action, and see results. A means by which solutions to issues such as to textbook prices, tuition increases, and lack of campus involvement become a reality. We must do this by urging more students to take an active role in changing the

campus. We cannot continue to place the responsibility of making UNCG a first choice institution on the faculty and staff of this University. It is our responsibility to make UNCG a premier institution of learning and a place for students to realize their full potential. The steps we must take to get there will include town hall meetings which allow students to gather and incite meaningful dialogue about the issues, dissemination of information to keep students abreast of the issues facing our campus, and building and strengthening partnerships with neighboring universities that have similar issues and goals. Most importantly, this change must include a constant and proactive dialogue with faculty and staff on the consensus of the student body, a dialogue which will aid in the accomplishment of these goals. For those members of the University faculty and staff, thank you for your attendance here tonight and support of the students. It is my hope that you will partner with students in our pursuit of excellence. Though it is the design of Student Government as governing body to include as many students as possible; pursuing excellence is not limited to becoming an active member of Student Government. This responsibility spans throughout the over 180 campus organizations and the countless opportunities that we have to serve our campus and community. This change will not happen over night and it will not happen with a few students advocating on behalf of the many. Regardless of the avenue through which you pursue excellence, NBS, Pride, Greek organizations or Rotaract...it is imperative that each of us plugs into an avenue of change, steps up to the plate and makes a contribution. A contribution which far outlasts our time here at UNCG, a contribution to a legacy of excellence which will permeate our campus. It is my desire that the 16,000+ students here at UNCG, with their differing cultures, views, and opinions will become one, unified, student body that remembers that

we as students have a voice. A voice whose volume is raised by each student who accepts the challenge of excellence, rolls up their sleeves, steps up to the plate, partners with their fellow classmates, and becomes not only a student but an agent of change on this campus. A voice not marked by great words and inspiring speeches, but by dedication and action. In this effort, in this pursuit, it is vital that we would remember that none of us is greater than all of us.