

# RFA News

*RFA — Part of the Carolina Family*

Newsletter of the Retired Faculty Association of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Bill Cloud, editor [bcloud45@gmail.com](mailto:bcloud45@gmail.com) 919-929-1079

## In Memoriam

# Jonathan Howes, 1937-2015

Jonathan (Jon) Howes, a Carolina treasure, died May 31, 2015. Although he was not a native North Carolinian, Jon's love of North Carolina, his devotion to the University of North Carolina and his commitment to Chapel Hill, its government and its institutions, shaped our community and will long linger in our memory.

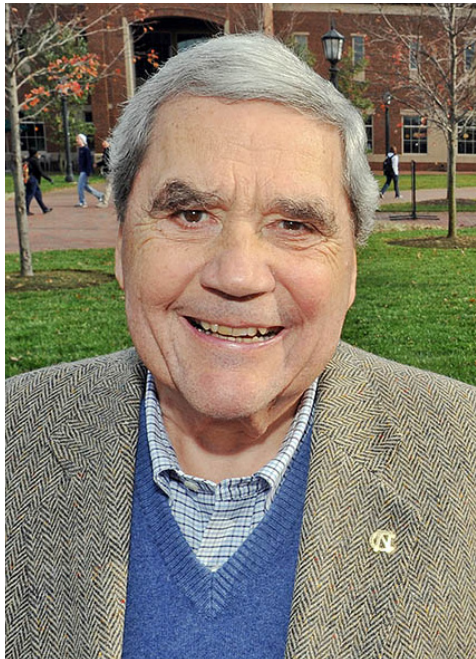
Jon first came to Chapel Hill in 1959 to pursue his master's degree in the newly established Department of City and Regional Planning, under the charismatic leadership of John Parker. He moved to Washington, D.C., to work in the Department of Housing and Urban Development, earned a second master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University, and then, in 1970, returned to UNC as the Director of the Center for Urban and Regional Studies, a position he held for the next 23 years.

Jon's commitment to urban and regional studies was more than academic. In 1975 he decided to run for Chapel Hill Town Council, a position he held for 12 years and during which he drew town and gown closer together. He was elected Mayor of Chapel Hill in 1989, and while not his most important achievement, his most glaring accomplishment was an agreement by UNC to purchase the first blue-and-white firetrucks for the town, still in use today.

But it did not stop there. In 1992 Gov. Jim Hunt appointed him Secretary of the Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources, where he established the N.C. Parks and Recreation Trust Fund, and in recognition of his public service, he was awarded the Order of the Long leaf Pine.

But there was more. Returning to UNC in 1997, he served as Special Assistant to the Chancellor and co-chaired the UNC Campus Master Plan. He was an inter-

im executive Director of WUNC Radio and was elected to and chaired the Board of the Carol Woods Retirement Community, where he and his wife, Mary, were living when he died.



And there was still more. Jon answered the call from the UNC Retired Faculty Association and was elected President-Elect in 2014, and he was subsequently elected to serve as a delegate to the Faculty Council.

The revelations of the Wainstein Report fell heavily on Jon, as it did on most retired faculty members. He once remarked, "To see the leadership that our retired faculty have poured into our University over the years and to have the university reach its pinnacle of greatness, only to be unwound in the pursuit of athletic glory, is sad, to say the least." His words reflected not only concern for the academic integrity of UNC, but also for its athletic program integrity as well.

There was no greater supporter of Carolina athletics than Jonathan Howes. He held season tickets to UNC men's and women's basketball games, Tar Heel football and UNC baseball. He attended as many UNC soccer games and tennis matches as he could. It was often said, "If there's a ball in the air, Jon will be there."

Jonathan left an unmatched legacy as a retired UNC faculty member and public citizen. He was a part of and a leader in the many difficult struggles that helped drive our university to its greatness and recognized how easily our accomplishments slip away if they are not carefully guarded and constantly nurtured.

*Jonathan Broome Howes, April 12, 1937-May 31, 2015, in memoriam, as the ideal of the UNC Retired Faculty Association, June 18, 2015.*

— Andrew Dobelstein.

## From the President

# He worked with them all

The term “public scholar” must have been invented for Jonathan Howes. He moved smoothly among the bureaucracies of academe and government. He led and followed with a quiet confidence and endless patience, virtues not so evident these days. His guidance to engage and “find out and work it out” produced many a new and productive program or policy. To say there is a void now is to understate.



Don Stedman

Jon was a model of what a serious scholar can be. He was a vertical person in

that he was a great teacher, a respected researcher in his field and an effective translator of ideas and points of view, not only with students and other leaders, but with all the citizens who like ideas put simpler and with respect.

He was our unanimous President-elect, and we had looked forward to next April's transition to his leadership of RFA. He was largely responsible for setting this year's tone of engagement by RFA with the new campus leaders, with our relationship to the Faculty Council, and to the ad-



Jonathan Howes in 2009 with then-Chancellor Holden Thorp and former chancellors. From left: Bill McCoy, Paul Hardin, Howes, Thorp and James Moeser.

ministration during stormy seas for Carolina. He believed as we all do that retired faculty are still part of the Carolina family. And that, while tough love and constructive criticism are acceptable family behaviors, in the end being supportive, understanding and helpful are the best and more mature ways to behave.

As RFA moves on, we have the great value of Jonathan Howes' work and

example to help guide us. We will discover opportunities to serve our University and ourselves. We will channel the voices of retired faculty toward issues and opportunities. We will bridge gaps between the juniors and seniors. We will applaud when we should, scold when it's due and enjoy the University's successes.

All in the Howes tradition.

DAN SEARS UNC-Chapel Hill

### RFA OFFICERS, 2015-16

#### President

Donald J. Stedman  
Education  
919-967-9355  
[djsnvt@aol.com](mailto:djsnvt@aol.com)

#### President-Elect

James Peacock  
Anthropology, International  
Studies  
919-929-5815  
[Peacock@unc.edu](mailto:Peacock@unc.edu)

#### Past President

Donald Boulton  
Education/Vice Chancellor  
919-929-0045  
[dboulton@mindspring.com](mailto:dboulton@mindspring.com)

#### Secretary

Margaret S. "Marge" Miles  
Nursing  
919-942-3078  
[margesmiles@gmail.com](mailto:margesmiles@gmail.com)

#### Treasurer

Dana Quade  
Public Health/Biostatistics  
919-942-2192  
[uncrfa@gmail.com](mailto:uncrfa@gmail.com)

#### Members-at-large

Donna Falvo  
Medicine - Rehabilitation  
Counseling and Psychology  
919-933-4599  
[falvod@bellsouth.net](mailto:falvod@bellsouth.net)  
(2014-2016)

Patricia Pukkila  
Biology  
919-923-6281  
[pukkila@unc.edu](mailto:pukkila@unc.edu)  
(2013-2015)

Catherine Maley  
Romance Languages,  
French and Romance

Linguistics  
[Cmaley34@bellsouth.net](mailto:Cmaley34@bellsouth.net)  
(2013-2015)

#### Faculty Council Delegates

Patricia Pukkila  
Andrew Dobelstein  
Social Work  
919-929-5011  
[dobelstein@nc.rr.com](mailto:dobelstein@nc.rr.com)

#### Liaison to Friday Center

Virginia Taylor  
William C. Friday Center Co-  
ordinator of University and  
Community Relations  
919-962-1618  
[vrt@email.unc.edu](mailto:vrt@email.unc.edu)

#### Liaison to AROHE

Bobbie Boyd Lubker  
Education/Public Health  
919-929-2996  
[blubker@live.unc.edu](mailto:blubker@live.unc.edu)



You can check out the University's "review, response and reform" in an interactive graphic at:

<http://carolinacommittment.unc.edu/>