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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Professorship Campaign to Honor Faculty Member David Lawrence**

CHAPEL HILL — David Lawrence, professor of public law and government at the School of Government, will retire in December 2009 after 40 years on the School's faculty. To honor his many contributions to North Carolina, the School of Government is creating the David M. Lawrence Distinguished Professorship. A campaign is underway to fund the new professorship, chaired by Mac McCarley, Charlotte city attorney, and composed of local government attorneys and managers, and association and business leaders.

"Our goal is to raise \$333,000 to be matched with \$167,000 from the state to create this new professorship," said McCarley. "We cannot think of a better or more appropriate way to honor David for the great work he has done over the years at the School of Government, and to help the School continue the kind of support he and others provide to all of us in local government."

David Lawrence joined the School of Government in 1968, when it was known as the Institute of Government. As part of his work in legal aspects of public finance, he has written on local government revenues, budgeting and fiscal control, and capital finance, publishing more than 20 books, some of which are considered required reading within government agencies. As part of his work in local government law, he has written more than 20 books and countless chapters, articles, and bulletins on annexation, municipal incorporation, local government property transactions, property interests in city streets, public records, open meetings, governing board procedures, and economic development.

The David M. Lawrence Distinguished Professorship will help provide resources to recruit and cultivate top-notch faculty who will apply their own expertise, creativity, and commitment in service to public officials in North Carolina.

The campaign committee is working with local government professional associations to solicit lead gift contributions. Gifts of any amount are welcome, and pledges can be paid over a period of up to three years.

"The School has had many great faculty members throughout its history," said School of Government Dean Mike Smith, "but none have been greater than David. The breadth and depth of his knowledge about local government law is remarkable. He is the quintessential practical scholar—an excellent teacher, a great writer, and an insightful advisor."

For more information about the campaign or to make a gift, visit the School of Government website at <http://www.sog.unc.edu/development/lawrence.html>.

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*Established in 1931 as the Institute of Government, the School of Government provides educational, advisory, and research services for state and local governments. Visit [www.sog.unc.edu](http://www.sog.unc.edu) or call 919.966.5381 for more information on the School's courses, publications, programs, and services.*