



## Knapp Foundation Announces \$1 Million Challenge

Continuing a relationship that began nearly sixty years ago in Currituck County, the Knapp Foundation of St. Michaels, Maryland, has announced a landmark challenge grant of \$1 million toward the Institute's \$4 million campaign for building renovation and expansion.

The largest private gift in the Institute's history, the grant must be matched by additional private and public contributions within the next two years.

During the early 1940s, Joseph Palmer Knapp, publisher of *Collier's* magazine and then-owner of Mackeys Island in northern Currituck, observed the struggle of local public officials, particularly recently elected or appointed ones, to grasp fully the scope of their responsibilities, to comprehend the legal powers and limitations of their offices, and to implement new laws passed by the General Assembly. Made aware of the Institute of Government by a friend, Knapp developed a strong admiration and respect for the work and the ideas of the Institute's founder, Albert Coates. The

two men met only through correspondence, but they found that they shared a belief that the lack of a university-level educational resource focused solely on the needs of local and state officials seriously hampered the effective operation of government in North Carolina. Coates's Institute, Knapp felt, was a bold, visionary, and vital step toward filling this void.

The correspondence between Knapp and Coates continued until Knapp's death in 1951. In late 1952 the Board of the Knapp Foundation honored his strongly held interest in local government with a \$500,000 memorial gift that, when matched by the State of North Carolina, enabled the Institute to construct its present home on the campus of The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Knapp Foundation's new challenge grant recognizes its continuing commitment to the interests and the values of its founder.

### Your help is needed to meet the Knapp Challenge!

Since it began its \$4 million campaign in 1999, the Institute has received generous support from hundreds of individuals, municipalities, and counties, as well as businesses and professional associations—the North Carolina Association of Assessing Officers, the North Carolina Association of County Clerks to the Boards of County Commissioners, the

North Carolina Association of County Commissioners, the North Carolina Association of Registers of Deeds, the North Carolina League of Municipalities, the North Carolina Local Government Employees Federal Credit Union, and the North Carolina Tax Collectors Association, among others. Many of these gifts will name designated rooms within the new building.

The generous help of the Institute's many clients, friends, and supporters throughout North Carolina is vital if we are to meet the Knapp Challenge successfully. **Be a part of this success by making a gift today!** Over the next twenty-four months, all gifts and pledges to the Institute's building fund will go toward completing the match. Contributions may be made any time by check or credit card directly to the Institute of Government Foundation. Mail gifts to the Knapp Challenge, Institute of Government Foundation, CB# 3330 Knapp Building, Chapel Hill, NC 27599, or make a gift or a pledge online at the Institute's Web site, [www.iog.unc.edu](http://www.iog.unc.edu).

More information about pledges, gifts of stock or appreciated property, and naming opportunities in the new building may be obtained from Ann C. Simpson, director of development, at (919) 966-9780 or [simpson@iogmail.iog.unc.edu](mailto:simpson@iogmail.iog.unc.edu). Current construction information and photographs of the building are featured on the Web site.

*The new front entrance to the Knapp Building, pictured below, leads into the Nanette Mengel Garden.*



ANN C. SIMPSON