

Coates CONNECTION

News from the School of Government



FOR
ALL
KIND

• the CAMPAIGN for CAROLINA •

I was reading our founder's account of what was then known as the Institute of Government, how it came to be, and how it was financially supported. Albert Coates describes how initial funding came out of his own pocket because, as he said, "Bridging that gap was my business." He then recounts the first gift—\$500, from a "college mate." From that first gift and increasingly over the next 80 years, we've relied on private investment at the School of Government.

It's not just the margin of excellence; it's about whether we continue to control our destiny and meet our mission. Private investment—gifts from you, your companies, your jurisdictions—allows us to hire the people and acquire the technology needed to fulfill the requests NC officials ask of the School every single day.

On October 6, the University launched the Campaign for Carolina, with a bold vision—and needed infrastructure—to raise the support necessary to carry the nation's first public university into the future, as it continues to be driven by a mission of public service. At the School, we're motivated by the same goal of serving our state and are joining in this effort to raise private support.

After Coates details the highs and lows of his initial forays into fundraising, he quotes one of his students, "The difficulty of the Institute is that there are no paths and the beauty of it is there are no fences." We'll be talking to people we've not yet met in new ways about the work we do and showing them how their investments are improving the lives of North Carolinians. Some of this is an uncharted path, but I see few, if any, limitations on what we can accomplish together. This is truly a transformative opportunity, the kind that comes along only once in a great while, and the timing is perfect for the School.

For more information about the Campaign for Carolina, visit campaign.unc.edu, and to learn more about supporting the School of Government, visit sog.unc.edu/giving.



Michael Smith
MICHAEL R. SMITH, DEAN

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Coates Connection is published twice a year by the School of Government Foundation. It is also available at sog.unc.edu/giving/development-news.

To learn more about supporting the projects highlighted in *Coates Connection* or other work of the School of Government, contact Jen Willis, assistant dean for advancement, at 919.966.4347 or jenwillis@sog.unc.edu.

J. EDWARD KITCHEN SCHOLARSHIP

Earlier this year, School of Government Foundation board president J. Edward Kitchen made a significant investment of just over \$100,000 towards the MPA scholarship in his name, which honors his 30-year career with the City of Greensboro. Kitchen currently serves as vice president and chief operating officer of the Joseph M. Bryan Foundation of Greater Greensboro and as chairman of the board of directors of Gateway University Research Park, a collaboration between NC A&T and UNC Greensboro. Kitchen earned both his BA and MPA from UNC-Chapel Hill.

Kitchen wrote to Dean Mike Smith, "I just left a presentation in Guilford County by Kara [Millonzi] on funding of school systems in NC. In a word, she was stellar! It is clear to me that the same standards that have long been the value proposition of the Institute and School are being sustained or exceeded by faculty like Kara. It reinforces for me the amazing value that the School of Government brings to all NC citizens



and the mission of good government. My association with the Institute, School, and MPA program continues to be one of the highlights of my life and privilege to be in public service."

Kitchen gives the School credit for both his career in public service and his decision to pursue

his MPA. In 2002, he wrote, "I would not be in Greensboro without the [then] Institute of Government. In fact, I'm not sure I would be in public service. Don Hayman, who was a professor of public law at the Institute, talked me into applying to the Carolina MPA program. There are many reasons for good government in NC, and the Institute of Government is right up there at the top."

ENGAGING WOMEN *in* PUBLIC SERVICE



Futurist Rebecca Ryan speaks to the *Engaging Women in Public Service 3.0* audience about designing a bold vision for their professional futures.

On August 25, nearly 200 women—and men—gathered in Raleigh for *Engaging Women in Public Service 3.0: Designing Your Way Forward*, an event designed for women interested in both strengthening their leadership skills and directing their professional trajectory in public service. Attendees included women working in public service and both male and female city and county managers interested in harnessing the leadership potential of women.

Interactive workshops throughout the day included Futurist Rebecca Ryan, who challenged the audience to design a bold vision for their professional futures; Amy Morin, best-selling author of *13 Things Mentally Strong People Don't Do*, who counseled participants on mental toughness; and Dr. Sreedhari Desai, UNC Kenan-Flagler Business school organizational behaviorist, who helped people enhance their negotiation skills.

Engaging Women in Public Service was made possible through the support of our sponsors



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Welcome 11TH LGFCU FELLOWS COHORT!

Being selected as an LGFCU Fellow is considered an honor that participants feel entrusted to honor in return—with service to the state and to their communities. Because of LGFCU's generous support since 2011, future generations of local government managers and leaders across NC continue to attend the leadership training, free of cost. For more information, visit sog.unc.edu/courses/leading-results.



SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT PRESENTED WITH SERVICE AWARD

On August 12, the NC Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) honored the School of Government with their Distinguished Service Award. Established in 1970, the award celebrates an individual or an entity that “has rendered a truly outstanding and distinctive service to the cause of improving local government above and beyond his usual duties or occupation.”



Photo courtesy of Chris Baucom/NCACC

Dean Mike Smith accepted the award at the conclusion of NCACC's 110th Annual Conference. NCACC president Fred McClure said when presenting the award, “The educational programming, leadership training, and day-to-day advice the School of Government provides to us is invaluable. The School has assuredly gone above and beyond in its contributions to county government.”

Founded in 1908, the NCACC serves as the counties' advocate before the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of state government. The School partners with the NCACC and the NC League of Municipalities to offer leadership training for elected officials through the Local Elected Leaders Academy.

CONGRATULATIONS RICHARD STEVENS

On University Day this year, the University's Distinguished Alumni Award was bestowed on triple Tar Heel and Carolina MPA grad Richard Stevens. The award is presented annually to alumni of UNC-Chapel Hill who “have made an outstanding contribution to humanity in any walk of life.” We congratulate Stevens '70, JD '74, MPA '78, who has dedicated his life to the improvement of his home state and his alma mater, on receiving this prestigious award.



Upon retirement from Wake County, Stevens served ten years representing the county in the NC Senate. Serving as a senior budget leader under both Democrat and Republican majorities, Stevens fought vigorously to protect state funding for public higher education. Most recently, he was appointed for a second time to the UNC Board of Trustees in July.

We're grateful for Stevens' leadership at our University and in our state. He invested in future public sector leaders by establishing a scholarship for the MPA program, awarded annually to an academically distinguished MPA student who aspires to enter or continue a career in local or state government.



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HURRICANE MATTHEW: ONE YEAR LATER

As Hurricane Matthew was wreaking havoc in October 2016, leaving many eastern NC communities devastated, School of Government faculty member Norma Houston had already compiled essential information to answer local jurisdictions' questions. She continues to meet with local officials and citizens about grants and buyouts available for affected residents. Additionally, School faculty member Frayda Bluestein discussed lessons learned from Hurricane Matthew with municipal attorneys from across the state.

School Research Fellow Brian Dabson has been writing about community vulnerability and resilience for the School's *Community Economic Development in North Carolina and Beyond* blog. Noting that improvements made after Hurricane Floyd in 1999 were not sufficient to protect communities from future flooding, Dabson writes, "As recovery efforts continue and the cost in lives, livelihoods, and properties are tallied, the question arises: what can be done to better protect our communities? Or to put it another way, what can be done to make our communities more resilient?"

HURRICANE MATTHEW IN NORTH CAROLINA BY THE NUMBERS*

21+ inches of rain fell over the course of just 24 hours

\$1.5
BILLION in damages to homes, businesses, public facilities, agriculture, roads, and more

100,000 houses, businesses, and government buildings damaged

4,000 residents forced to evacuate

31 lives taken

50 counties affected

* according to an economic study conducted post-disaster by NC Emergency Management and the NC Department of Public Safety