2010 Distinguished Alumna/Alumnus Awards

James Larry Jameson III

Dr. Larry Jameson, dean of Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine, of Chicago, is one of the nation’s foremost specialists in internal medicine and endocrinology. He is an editor of Harrison’s Textbook of Internal Medicine and of Jameson and Degroot’s Endocrinology, leading textbooks in those specialties, as well as the author of more than 300 scientific articles and chapters. His research has contributed to understanding the genetic causes of hormonal disorders. He has received awards from the Endocrine Society and American Thyroid Association and has been elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. Jameson holds three Carolina degrees – a 1976 bachelor of chemistry (with honors), a 1981 medical degree (with distinction) and a 1981 Ph.D. in biochemistry. In addition to his scientific accomplishments, Jameson’s skills as an academic administrator have been instrumental in the advancement and national reputations of the divisions, departments and schools he has headed. Jameson has trained more than 50 postdoctoral research fellow and 10 graduate students, many of whom hold important positions at academic medical centers around the country.

Harry Louis Jones Sr.

Since 2000, Harry Jones of Charlotte has been county manager of Mecklenburg County, home of the state’s largest metropolitan area. He administers an annual budget of nearly $1.4 billion and oversees services delivered by 4,800 employees to 900,000 residents. His balanced scorecard plan translates the county board’s policy vision into measureable goals and objectives. In 2006, Jones was elected a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration, a non-partisan organization chartered by Congress to assist federal, state and local governments in improving their effectiveness, efficiency and accountability. Jones’ entire career has been devoted to public service. Before joining Mecklenburg County in 1991 as assistant manager, he held positions in Charlotte, Fayetteville, Raleigh and Dallas, Texas. As a Carolina undergraduate, Jones was a student leader who was inducted into the Order of the Golden Fleece, Order of the Grail and Society of Janus. He holds two Carolina degrees: a 1972 bachelor’s in political science and a 1980 master’s of public administration. Jones is a former member of the University’s Board of Visitors and the 2009 recipient of the Harvey E. Beech Outstanding Alumni Award, given annually at the Black Alumni Reunion.

Harry Corpening Martin

One of the most distinguished and long-serving jurists in North Carolina, Harry Martin of Asheville has had a career in law excelled in distinction by few. After earning a bachelor of arts degree in political science at Carolina in 1942, Martin fought in World War II in the South Pacific with the U.S. Army Air Corps. After his military service, he earned a law degree from Harvard University. He practiced law in Asheville for 11 years, and then was appointed a Superior Court Judge in 1962. Martin was appointed to the N.C. Court of Appeals in 1978 and in 1982 as a N.C. Supreme Court justice. He then was elected to the Supreme Court three times, serving until 1992. After retiring from the bench, Martin was chief circuit mediator for the U.S. Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals until 1999. He also has been a visiting professor in the University’s School of Law. In 2000, he was appointed chief justice of the Cherokee Supreme Court in western North Carolina. He continues as a part-time justice for that court. Martin has
received several awards from the North Carolina and American bar associations, as well as the Harvard Law School. Other honors include North Carolina’s Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

**Alane Salierno Mason**

Alane Mason, a vice president and senior editor at W.W. Norton & Co. of New York City, is founder and president of Words Without Borders. The organization translates into English, publishes and promotes the work of writers from around the world. Her motivation was the realization that most of the world’s great contemporary literature is inaccessible to readers whose only language is English. She cites a 1999 study by the National Endowment for the Arts showing that while half of all books published in English are translated into other languages, only 3 percent of the world’s literature is translated into English. Since 2003, Words has supported translation and publication of more than 1,100 pieces from more than 110 countries. Words also is developing an education program to broaden secondary and college students’ perspectives. Mason graduated in 1986 from Carolina with a bachelor of arts degree with honors in creative writing and highest honors in English. Before joining Norton, she worked at Harcourt & Brace Co., where she acquired and edited David Guterson’s international best-seller “Snow Falling on Cedars” and Carolina classmate Randall Kenan’s “Let the Dead Bury Their Dead and Other Stories.”

**Charles Milton Shaffer Jr.**

Charlie Shaffer is vice president for institutional advancement at the Westminster Schools in Atlanta. He was a trial lawyer with King & Spalding in Atlanta for more than 35 years and president of the Atlanta Bar Association. He earned two Carolina degrees – a bachelor of arts in history in 1964 and a law degree in 1967. As an undergraduate, Shaffer held a Morehead Scholarship and was on Coach Dean Smith’s first Carolina basketball team. As a senior, he was co-captain of the basketball and varsity tennis teams. Shaffer was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and the Order of the Golden Fleece. His longstanding personal support for Carolina has included co-chairing the Carolina First Campaign, which raised $2.38 billion and was the most successful fundraising effort in University history. He received the William R. Davie Award, the highest honor from the UNC Board of Trustees, and the General Alumni Association’s Distinguished Service Medal. He was a member of the Atlanta Nine, which presented the city’s successful bid to host the 1996 Summer Olympics to the International Olympic Committee. That meant Shaffer had the chance to carry the Olympic flame at a location he chose – the Old Well.