**Talking Points for Chancellor Folt**

**The Gamma Lambda Chapter of Phi Mu Fraternity 50th Anniversary Celebration**

**November 14-16, 2014**

**Details**

* Friday, November 14: 4:00-5:00 p.m. time window
* Carolina Inn: Hill Ballroom
* Audience: Entire collegiate chapter (180 sisters), alumnae (still registering)

**Contact**

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* 50th Anniversary Alumna Chair
* Gamma Lambda Chapter Association President (the alumnae of our chapter)
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*If this is the chancellor’s first talk at a UNC sorority anniversary, it would be great for her to mention this and reflect on why she was willing do to speak to us. We would be so proud!*

**Chapter Founding**

* Your fraternity is a pioneer among Greek organizations for women…the second oldest, founded in 1852 at Wesleyan, the first college in the world chartered to grant degrees to women. And Phi Mu’s National President is with you here today, Beth Maxson Monnin.
* Your Gamma Lambda chapter was also a pioneer as the first sorority to colonize at UNC in the 1960s. In spring 1964, your colonization tea was held right here at the Carolina Inn. And on this very day fifty years ago, you were installed just a few blocks away at what was then the United Church.
* The 1960s was a tumultuous decade that marked an unprecedented time of social and political change across our country and on our campus, generating equality movements that continue today. It wasn’t easy starting a sorority during a time when traditionalism was turned upside down, but you were a progressive and entrepreneurial group, determined to carve a new way forward in that time and to succeed for the long-term …admirable qualities that remain with you today.
* In fact, the bold energies of the 1960s helped to shape your sisterhood into the ambitious, inclusive, spirited, and philanthropic chapter that you became. The 1970 *Yackety Yack* says

“Spirit is what we’ve got!” was a Phi Mu slogan even then...“a sorority open to new ideas with a unique essence directed toward campus activities, community involvement, and fun, with social service an important part of this enthusiasm.”

**Philanthropic Heritage**

* Your philanthropic heritage at UNC is outstanding. A commitment to giving back has been a hallmark of Phi Mu across your five decades – sweeping the APO Campus Chest drive many times in your early years, winning Sigma Chi Derby Days countless times, donating $90K to Duke Children’s Hospital--your local philanthropy--over the course of ten years, and garnering multiple “Lend a Helping Hand” awards from your National organization. This commitment to service is more important than ever before, both for your sisterhood and for our university at large.

**Exemplary Sisters/Service to the University**

* The members of your Honorary Committee are an outstanding group of women…alumnae for your collegians to emulate as they carve their own personal and professional paths. It was remarkable that the committee’s chair, Dr. Desiree Carlson (*she will be at the event*), was a *Glamour* magazine “Top 10 College Girl” in 1972, a nationwide competition that recognized “outstanding girls who represent the best of each year’s changing campus moods and goals”—and her success since proves that *Glamour* got it right.
* Your chapter has also demonstrated exceptional service to the university, including multiple Chancellor’s Award winners, including a Frank Porter Graham Award recipient—our highest undergraduate accolade, a Robert White Linker Award winner for residence hall leadership, and four Panhellenic Council Women of the Year. A vice president, attorney general and assistant treasurer of the student body, as well as a senior class president, are also among your ranks. One of your sisters received the UNC General Alumni Association’s Distinguished Young Alumni Award, and your sisterhood includes a UNC Board of Visitors member and six General Alumni Association board members.

**Service to Chapel Hill**

* Phi Mu also contributed to the Chapel Hill community at large by saving an important aspect of its history from demolition through the purchase and renovation of the Samuel J. Brockwell House as your chapter’s permanent home. Owner of our town’s famous Pickwick Theater, Brockwell was a notable entrepreneur and philanthropist—just like the sisters of Phi Mu. I understand that you will be receiving recognition from Preservation Chapel Hill this weekend for the rescue of your house, conducting walking tours of your “Journey Home” to Henderson Street, and enjoying a new history gallery in your house. Also, that the first-ever sorority exhibit, Phi Mu on View, will be held in Wilson Library to commemorate your UNC heritage. And ANY chapter that can secure a personal appearance by Rameses at its Bid Day, as you did this fall, is certainly something special! My congratulations to all sisters involved in these efforts.

**Alumnae/Collegiate Relations**

* Phi Mu is also a standout among the university’s Panhellenic sororities in terms of alumnae/collegiate relations…you are, in fact, award-winning for it…your alumnae received the Outstanding Chapter Association Award at your 2012 National Convention and the collegians received the 2014 Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life and Community Involvement’s Outstanding Alumni Relations Award this spring.
* The success of any university, or organization for that matter, is built on a continuum of human investment across time. One generation gives way to the next, each one helping the next, and Phi Mu is a fine example of this. I encourage you to stay connected with both the university through the GAA and your sisterhood through the GLCA after you graduate. Doing so will fuel the strength of your Gamma Lambda family in all the years to come…build your careers through networking…and deliver ongoing opportunities to serve others.

**Closing…**

* Additional points the chancellor would like to mention in terms of her own / the university’s goals
* *Summary of Phi Mu in light of its 50th anniversary and its future…* Your spirit, ambition, pursuit of excellence, and inclusiveness, is what has brought your chapter to the admirable stature it holds among our Greek organizations today and will continue to serve you well as you reach toward your next fifty years. I congratulate you on your accomplishments to date and wish you a wonderful celebratory weekend together, renewing bonds with your sisters and developing new ones in the process.