Excerpts from Residence Halls Dedication
Coastal Carolina University President David A. DeCenzo
April 15, 2011

Welcome to this special day in the life of Coastal Carolina University.

We gather this afternoon to celebrate three men – Fred Hicks, Ron Eaglin and Ron Ingle – who have guided the development of Coastal Carolina University from its humble beginnings as a two-year college to the comprehensive university of today. We are indebted to each of them for their vision, leadership, and commitment.

The work of these men would not have been possible without the firm foundation provided by former chancellor Dick Singleton, who has joined us today with his wife Pat. Dick, on behalf of all who are here today and the thousands of students, alumni, faculty and staff whose lives have been touched by your leadership, please accept our heartfelt thanks for all you have done to build a proud Coastal Carolina University.

Fredrick W. Hicks III served as chancellor of USC Coastal Carolina College from 1983 to 1985, following the retirement of long-serving director and chancellor Dick Singleton. At the time, enrollment topped 2,000 students, 14 degree programs were offered, state appropriations were more than $6 million, and there were no residence halls. During his tenure, campus technology improved and the addition to Williams-Brice opened, providing much-needed space for student recreation.

Fred, in recognition of your commitment and service to the students of this university, the Coastal Carolina University Board of Trustees dedicates Frederick W. Hicks III Hall in your honor on this day, April 15, 2011.

Ronald G. Eaglin was named chancellor of USC Coastal Carolina University in 1985 and served in that role until 1992. As the largest branch campus of the University of South Carolina, the college had grown to more than 4,200 students and employed more than 400 faculty and staff. Under his leadership, the first residence halls opened in 1987, 10 new degree programs were added, grants and private giving increased more than 500 percent, and the average SAT score improved more than 100 points. He was at the helm as discussion of independence with USC became heated and eventually led to the establishment of Coastal Carolina University in 1993 when former Governor Carroll D. Campbell signed the legislation on the steps of the Singleton Building. With many community leaders, it was Ron Eaglin's support that established our Coastal Carolina University.

Ron, in recognition of your commitment and service to the students of this university, the Coastal Carolina University Board of Trustees dedicates Ronald G. Eaglin Hall in your honor on this day, April 15, 2011.

Ronald R. Ingle served as chancellor of USC Coastal Carolina University for a year until 1993 when the first Board of Trustees, chaired by Jimmy Johnson, named him president. He retired in 2007. During Ron's tenure, the new university's progress was unimaginable. He guided the establishment of traditions – the logo, a mace, an alma mater… and football. Enrollment doubled, buildings were added (including those we dedicate today), international programs were initiated, and academic accolades and major grants became reality. Nobel laureate Desmond Tutu visited campus in 1999.

Ron, in recognition of your commitment and service to the students of this university, the Coastal Carolina University Board of Trustees dedicates Ronald R. Ingle Hall in your honor on this day, April 15, 2011.

Thank you for being here today and for being a part of the Coastal Carolina University family.