PHILIP DUBOIS was named UNC Charlotte’s fourth chancellor in 2005. During his tenure, Dubois has overseen dramatic growth in enrollment, capital construction, and academic programs at North Carolina’s urban research University. Dubois has also focused campus attention upon the importance of building strong community partnerships to ensure the institution is faithful to its mission statement to address “the cultural, economic, educational, environmental, health and social needs of the greater Charlotte region.”

A native of Oakland, California, Dubois attended the University of California, Davis, where he graduated in 1972 with highest honors with an undergraduate degree in political science. He then earned master’s (1974) and doctoral (1978) degrees in the field from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His academic career began in 1976 at the University of California, Davis, eventually holding the rank of full professor and the administrative post of associate vice chancellor for academic affairs.

In 1991, Dubois became provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at UNC Charlotte. In 1997, he was named president of the University of Wyoming and was honored by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) with its District VI Chief Executive Leadership Award in 2004.

After returning to UNC Charlotte in 2005, Dubois championed civic responsibility in the education of the University’s students and curricular changes, including a new interdisciplinary minor in Urban Youth and Communities that is focused on civic engagement and service learning. The Levine Scholars Program, established in 2009, is a competitive full-ride scholarship program based on civic engagement, with students ultimately implementing a community project of their own design.
Dubois also encourages civic responsibility amongst faculty and staff. Volunteerism with local nonprofits is a central focus during the University’s annual “Giving Green” campaign. Throughout the year, other volunteer engagement is encouraged, including through the University’s partnership with Governor’s Village, a group of four local schools serving a large number of economically disadvantaged students. This signature initiative includes mentoring and tutoring, campus visits, and special athletic, academic and cultural activities.

Within the region, Chancellor Dubois promotes the University as a driver of economic growth and source of intellectual capital. He serves on several community boards and has helped establish University/industry partnerships to support the growth of jobs. One example is UNC Charlotte’s Energy Production and Infrastructure Center (EPIC), which was conceived in collaboration with the energy industry to meet the growing demand for power engineers.

Chancellor Dubois’ leadership in the creation of partnerships and community engagement initiatives has been recognized with the Belk Innovation in Diversity Award (2013), the Charlotte Energy Leadership Award (2013), the Charlotte Cornerstone Award (2012), the Creative Thinker’s Award (2012), and the Charlotte Regional Partnership “Jerry” Award (2009).