



Carol Folt, PhD

*Chancellor,
University of North
Carolina at Chapel
Hill*

Dr. Carol Folt – an internationally recognized life scientist, award-winning teacher, and accomplished academic leader – is the 11th chancellor and 29th chief executive of the University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill. In this role, she has led the university in the national dialogue about issues facing higher education, inclusion and diversity, protecting students from sexual assault, and promoting the advancement of women in STEM fields and academic leadership. She has championed key diversity initiatives to make campus more inclusive and assembled a cabinet that includes women and minority leaders with significant leadership experience in key positions.

Other initiatives at Carolina include a 10-year strategic plan, *The Blueprint for Next*; the *Arts Everywhere* pan-university initiative; and a number of fundraising campaigns to hold true Carolina’s promise to remain of and for the public. As part of the latter efforts, Carolina launched the Red, White, & Carolina Blue Challenge which aims to raise \$20 million dollars in support of need-based scholarship opportunities for military-affiliated students.

Prior to assuming her position at Carolina in 2013, she was provost and interim president of Dartmouth College. As a faculty member in the Department of Biological Sciences at Dartmouth, Folt and her students’ pioneering work on the effects of dietary mercury and arsenic on human and ecosystem health led to numerous changes in national and global policy and consumption advisories around the world.

A deeply committed educator, Folt mentored more than 100 undergraduate and graduate students, and she received the Dartmouth Huntington Prize for excellence in teaching and research in 1991. She was one of the original faculty involved in Dartmouth’s Women in Science Project – a first of its kind program designed to address the under-representation of women in science, mathematics, and engineering. In 2010, she was elected a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Sciences (AAAS) in recognition of her contributions to environmental science and higher education.

She graduated from the University of California–Santa Barbara, earning both a bachelor’s degree in aquatic biology and a master’s degree in biology. She received her doctorate from the University of California–Davis, and conducted postdoctoral studies at W.K. Kellogg Biological Station of Michigan State University.