

Judith Cone, M.S.

Vice Chancellor for Innovation, Entrepreneurship and Economic Development, UNC-Chapel Hill at UNC-Chapel Hill

Chapel Hill, NC, US

Putting important ideas to use for the public good

A veteran of national and international entrepreneurship programming, former Kauffman Foundation executive Judith Cone brings extensive experience to drive UNC-Chapel Hill's innovation agenda. Cone is vice chancellor for innovation, entrepreneurship and economic development. She leads Innovate Carolina, a pan-university commitment to being a place where innovators thrive. A main focus is on expeditious action to help solve the most pressing problems in North Carolina and around the world. She is a co-founder of Launch Chapel Hill, Blackstone Entrepreneurs Network and Carolina Research Ventures.

Before coming to Carolina, Cone served as vice president of emerging strategies and entrepreneurship at the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, capping a 15-year career with the Foundation. During her tenure, Cone led many of the foundation's signature education and entrepreneurship initiatives and programs, including a business startup training program that has been used worldwide by millions of entrepreneurs; an award-winning web resource for entrepreneurs; and the Kauffman Campuses Initiative, which has transformed the culture on university campuses by making entrepreneurship education accessible to students and faculty across all fields of study. As global ambassador for the Kauffman Foundation, Cone worked with leaders around the world to help transform economies.

For the previous 12 years, Cone co-founded two management consulting firms serving Fortune 500 clients. Her first career was as a learning disabilities teacher working with disadvantaged children in a low-income area, where she experienced first-hand the pervasive and devastating effects of poverty on children and families.

Cone writes and lectures nationally and internationally on entrepreneurship and innovation.

Keynote, Moderator, Panelist, Host/MC

Education/Learning, Business Services, Corporate Leadership, Corporate Training, Philanthropy, Writing and Editing, Capital Markets, International Affairs

Entrepreneurship, Innovation & Economic Development, Management & Leadership, Humanitarian Affairs, Commercialization

Kauffman Foundation, iBridge Network, Frank Hawkins Kenan Institute of Private Enterprise : Interim Director, Launch Chapel Hill Startup Accelerator: Co-Founder, Carolina Research Ventures Fund: Board Member, Carolina Angel Network: Board Member, State of North Carolina Department of Science, Technology and Innovation: Board member, University of North Carolina School of the Arts, Kenan Institute for the Arts: Board member, North Carolina State University, Kenan Institute for Science and Technology: Board member

William Jewell College
M.S. Education, Psychology

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