

# The OPEN DOOR

A Publication of the North Carolina Community College System

Fall 2005 ♦ Vol. 8, No. 2

## State Board Has Four New Members

### *Glover, Ford, Brenner and Shaw Join State Board of Community Colleges*

The State Board of Community Colleges has four new members. Raichelle (Rai) Glover of Charlotte was sworn in at the board's September meeting. Jimmie Ford of Goldsboro and John Shaw of Dunn were sworn in at the board's October meeting. Nancy Brenner of Greensboro was sworn in at the board's November meeting.

Glover is the senior vice president and market development manager for Bank of America's Global Business and Financial Services Division covering headquarters in Charlotte and North Carolina. In that capacity, she serves as liaison between the community and the bank. Her responsibilities include market development, marketing, communications, foundation and sponsorship activities.

A native of South Carolina, she joined C&S (which later became Bank of America) in 1983. Glover received her bachelor's, master's and bankers school degrees from the University of South Carolina. She received her certification in non-profit management from Duke University.

Glover is a member of the President's Council at Central Piedmont Community College. She is a board member for the Education Foundation for Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and the United Way of Central Carolinas. She has served on the board of visitors for Johnson C. Smith University. Glover is married and has two children. Her term on the State Board ends on June 30, 2011.

Ford, a Wayne County native, retired as associate vice president from Wayne Community College in 2000. A former Wayne County Commissioner and a former member of the North Carolina House of Representatives, Ford is a self-employed motivational speaker.

A graduate of Wayne Community College, Ford received a bachelor's



**L to R: John Shaw, Rai Glover, Nancy Brenner and Jimmie Ford get to know each other at the fall retreat for the State Board of Community Colleges in October at Sandhills Community College.**

degree from Shaw University and a master's degree from North Carolina State University. A past chairman of the Wayne County Economic Development Commission, Ford currently serves as chairman of the Goldsboro Enrichment Center. He is a member of a number of community organizations including Communities in Schools and the United Way of Wayne County.

Ford is the recipient of numerous awards including Boss of the Year at Wayne Community College and the Goldsboro Human Relations Award. He is a deacon and treasurer at the Barnes Missionary Baptist Church in Rosewood. Ford and his wife, Priscilla, have two children. His term on the State Board ends on June 30, 2011.

Shaw is the president and chief executive officer of New Century Bank in Dunn. A graduate of North Carolina State University, Shaw received a certificate from the School of Banking at the University of North Carolina and a certificate from the School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University.

A former agent with the North Carolina Agriculture Extension Service,

Shaw worked as a county supervisor for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farmers Home Administration in Vance and Bladen counties. Shaw served in various executive positions with United Carolina Bank in Harnett, Lee, Sampson and Bladen counties.

Shaw is a past chairman of the Economic Development Commissions in both Harnett and Bladen counties. A past president of the Dunn Rotary Club, he is a member of the Dunn Area Chamber of Commerce. A former Bladen County Commissioner, Shaw is a member of the Central Carolina Community College Foundation, Shaw has served as vice chair of the college's board of trustees. His term on the State Board ends on June 30, 2007.

Brenner is a 1975 graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a bachelor's degree in political science. She served as an adult probation and parole officer in Guilford County from 1975 to 1980, and was president of a mail order company, Med Industries from 1980 to 1991. Since 1991, she has been a community volunteer, with her activities centering around Greensboro Day School (serving on the Board of Trustees from 1997 to 2003) and the Greensboro Jewish Federation (including service as President of the Board of Trustees from 2002 to 2004). She has also assisted as a board member with Family and Children's Services, the National Conference for Community and Justice, the Brenner Children's Hospital, and the Parents Council at Chapel Hill. Her husband, Frank, is the owner of Atlantic Scrap Metal Recycling in Winston-Salem and a member of the board of the Pittsburgh Pirates baseball team. They have two children. Her term on the State Board ends on June 30, 2011.

# Community College News

*(news about community college people and programs)*

**Dr. Suzanne Owens** is the new president of **Mayland Community College**.

Owens, who has worked at Mayland for 18 years, is the college's current vice president for student development. She received her bachelor's

and master's degrees from East Tennessee State University and a doctorate from East Texas State University. Owens replaces Dr. Thomas Williams, who retired earlier this year. She begins her new responsibilities on December 1...**Dr. Ralph Soney** is the new president of

**Roanoke-Chowan Community College**.

Soney received his bachelor's degree and master's degree from Appalachian State University. He later received a

doctorate from North Carolina State University. Soney was most recently the vice president for academic affairs at **Pitt Community College**. He has also worked as an administrator and instructor at **Wayne Community College** and **Western Piedmont Community College**. He is a member of the first class of Herring Fellows at the Institute for Future Presidents. He began his new duties on November 1...In September, the government of Mexico presented **Dr. W. Michael Reaves**, former president of **Brunswick Community College** with the Ohtli Award. Armando Ortiz Rocha, consul of the Mexican Consulate in Raleigh, said that Reaves is the first non-Hispanic individual to receive the award, given to those who promote the well being of Mexican citizens



Owens



Soney

abroad. As college president, Reaves helped to establish the Brunswick Educational Transition Center, a collaborative effort between the college, the local public schools, and the Mexican government. He also established a relationship with the National Polytechnical Institute, the largest university system in Mexico. This allows Brunswick students and Mexican students to take courses through the Internet from both the college and the institute. Brunswick County's Latino population is currently 15 percent of the county's total population...The month of October brought several items of good news to community colleges across the state. **Haywood Community College** learned that it is a recipient of a \$1.69 million grant from the U.S. Department of Labor. The grant is designed to create more jobs in the state's forest industry. The college will update equipment in the college's natural resources department, fund seven additional positions in the department, develop 45 Internet courses and take five existing degree programs online... **Catawba Valley Community College** learned that it will receive a \$397,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce. The grant to the Hosiery Technology Center will be used to introduce American hosiery producers to Japan's retail market. The center, based at the college, helps hosiery firms compete internationally through training, research and development, testing and product development. Also in October, Governor Mike Easley announced that the state will provide more than \$1 million for the opening of 23 new Learn and Earn high schools in 22 counties across North Carolina. **Learn and Earn** high schools are a partnership between the **North Carolina Community College System** and the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction. Students in the program are enrolled in community college courses for the last two years of high school, allowing them to earn a high school diploma and an associate degree or two years of college credit at no cost... **James Sprunt Community College** received the A.J. Fletcher Award on October 8 from NC Beautiful, a non-profit organization that promotes environmental stewardship, education and research in North Carolina. The college received the first place award

because of its installation of a popular garden area on campus in 2002.

College officials plan to use the prize of \$500 and 100 azaleas to continue beautification projects around the campus...In September, **South Piedmont Community College** dedicated the new library on its Old Charlotte Highway Campus in Monroe to the memory of Sallye W. and Frank W. Carpenter Jr. The Carpenters and their family are long time supporters of South Piedmont...**Central Piedmont Community College** rededicated its bookstore in October in honor of Powell Majors, former employee and long time supporter of the college. Local bond referendum funds from 1999 were used for the bookstore, located in the college's Professional Development building... **K. Ray Bailey**, president, **Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College**, received two awards in October. The Asheville-Buncombe Community Relations Council presented Bailey with the 2005 Distinguished Service Award for Lifetime Achievement. The award is given to individuals with a record of outstanding community service. Two days later, Bailey received the Rotary Centennial Service Award for Professional Excellence from the Asheville Rotary Club. Award recipients are non Rotarians with records of exceptional professional achievement consistent with the ideals of the Rotary organization...This fall, students in the automotive technology program at **Forsyth Technical Community College** helped to restore a 1968 Camaro. Shane Colton, a soldier from Texas, who died in Iraq in 2004, owned the car and was helping his 11 year old son, Lance, restore it. When Colton died, student at Central Texas College in Killeen worked on restoring it. When most of those students were deployed to Iraq, Forsyth Tech students took over the project. At press time, the car was scheduled to be presented to Lance Colton at a auto trade show in Las Vegas...**Freddie Bynum Jr.**, a former baseball player at **Pitt Community College**, played part of the recent baseball season with the Oakland A's. Bynum played left field in his first game against Los Angeles. While Bynum did not score, the A's won the

*See News page 10*

## Community Colleges Help Katrina Survivors

### State Board Waives Tuition for Evacuees; Campuses Send Volunteers and Goods to Hurricane-Ravaged Gulf Coast

By Peggy Beach, System Office, Public Affairs

When hurricane season ends on November 30, North Carolinians as well as the residents of the storm-ravaged Gulf Coast will breathe a collective sigh of relief. North Carolina suffered only minor damage from Hurricane Ophelia in September. However, the state's residents, very familiar with hurricanes, rushed to the aid of the citizens of Louisiana and Mississippi when Hurricane Katrina hit those states in late August.

In September, the State Board of Community Colleges approved a resolution that will allow a tuition waiver for any evacuee who has already paid community college tuition in his or her home state and will allow an in-state tuition rate for evacuees who enroll for the first time. "We are happy to be able to help in this way," said Hilda Pinnix-Ragland, board chair. "Education is so essential and job preparation will be vital as these individuals begin to rebuild their lives. This action will make that transition a bit easier."

After talking with his counterpart in Mississippi, H. Martin Lancaster, system president, asked for contributions to help students in the community college systems of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. The contributions can be sent to the North Carolina Community Colleges Foundation and the money will be divided between the three systems. (See *Donations page 4*)

Students, faculty and staff at individual community colleges throughout the state raised money, collected food and other goods, and even sent volunteers to the Gulf Coast. Several community colleges now have students from the hurricane-damaged region.

Some of the community colleges reporting fundraising and other hurricane relief efforts were: **Asheville-Buncombe Technical, Beaufort County, Caldwell, Cape Fear, Catawba Valley, Central Piedmont, Edgecombe, Fayetteville Technical, Haywood, Isothermal, James Sprunt, Johnston, Lenoir, Mayland, Mitchell, Piedmont, Pitt, Randolph, Robeson, Rockingham, Sandhills, Southeastern, South Piedmont, Wake Technical, Wayne,**



**Bryan Scyphers, associate dean of health and public safety at Davidson County Community College, (center, bending over patient) shows student how to put on a cast. Scyphers traveled to Gulfport, Mississippi to help with relief efforts after Hurricane Katrina.**

#### **Western Piedmont and Wilson Technical.**

Tricia Woolard, coordinator of education media and graphic services, **Beaufort County Community College**, and her husband, John Charles, drove a truckload of supplies collected at the college to Gulfport and Biloxi, Mississippi.

"I was reminded of the scenes of Princeville (North Carolina), back when Floyd hit in 1999," wrote Woolard in her trip journal. "House after house had been flooded out or damaged by the wind. People were living in tents outside their homes. The smell was still strong." Woolard said that she received many thanks from grateful residents.

Bryan Scyphers, associate dean of health and public safety at **Davidson County Community College**, also traveled to Gulfport, Mississippi. He and his wife, Marsha Myers, a former faculty member at the college, are members of the NC-1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team sponsored by FEMA.

Scyphers told *The Dispatch* that it took the team more than six hours to drive 80 miles because of all of the downed trees on the highway. When the team set up at Memorial Hospital in Gulfport, "we started treating cuts, nail punctures, broken bones, skin infections and other things. There was nothing left in the area. Wherever these people stepped, they were stepping on nails, wood and sheet metal." He said that the team also ran a pharmacy.

While Scyphers helped patients, Myers, an administrator for FEMA, kept the field hospital stocked, the staff paid and fed and supplies coming in. She also keeps records of those treated, injuries and other information that will help in preparations for the next hurricane.

Julie Eldridge, architectural technology instructor at **Wake Technical Community College**, volunteered at an animal rescue operation in Tylertown, Mississippi. "We were all volunteers," she said. Eldridge said that she wore a mask and walked through layers of dried mud to get to animals and clear debris. Conflicts were common, she said, because of so much tension. "It was both a good and bad experience. It is discouraging to see so many animals in pain and suffering; however, it was encouraging to see the constant stream of volunteers coming in from around the world to help the hurricane victims." Instructors John Barile, Tom Maynard and Rose Flederbach traveled to Livingston, Texas to offer medical assistance.

*See Help page 4*

#### *The Open Door*

Vol. 8, No.2 Fall 2005  
**The Open Door** is an information and idea exchange for employees and friends of the North Carolina Community College System. The ideas and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the official policy or view of the State Board of Community Colleges or of the Community College System.

Submissions should be addressed to the following:

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*Hilda Pinnix-Ragland, Chair  
 State Board of Community Colleges*

*H. Martin Lancaster, President  
 North Carolina Community College System*



NORTH CAROLINA  
 COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM  
 Published November 2005  
 Distributed Electronically  
 AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

### Help from page 3

Some students did not have to travel very far to volunteer. Jim Fleming, a student at **Durham Technical Community College**, drove to a hurricane relief shelter in Raleigh when he could not get through on the phone. Fleming and Barbara Baker, vice president for student support services, organized a team of volunteers from the college to escort evacuees from New Orleans onto buses to take showers at the RBC Center. More than 364 evacuees came to Raleigh to stay at a shelter at a former Nortel facility. "It was great to be able to do something to help," said Ilene Britt, director for the early childhood associate program. "You felt so helpless watching it all on TV."

Some students had family members in the Gulf Coast and were anxious to find them. Stephen Gibson, a student at **South Piedmont Community College**, received donations from his fellow students so that he could travel



**Faculty, staff and students at many community colleges collected donated items to send to hurricane victims in the Gulf Coast. Here, faculty and staff members from Beaufort County Community College load items onto a truck for delivery. From left to right: Sherry Stotesberry, purchasing director; Rebecca Spain, SGA coordinator; Tricia Woolard, webmaster and graphics designer; and Judith Meyer, psychology instructor.**

to New Orleans to find his parents. He brought his parents back to North Carolina, refusing the additional donations raised while he was gone. He asked that the money be given to hurricane relief in the college's name.

Johny Hoare of New Orleans has found a new home in Sanford and at **Central Carolina Community College**. Hoare works in the lab at Central Carolina Hospital and is enrolled in the college's nursing program. "Everyone at the hospital and around town is working with me," he said. He plans to stay in Sanford.

Kristie Smith of Slidell, Louisiana, also plans to stay in North Carolina. She and her family were rescued by boat when the hurricane flooded their house. Smith came to Granville County to live with her brother and enrolled in **Vance-Granville Community College**. She was in the computer systems specialist course at Louisiana Technical College, and fortunately, had kept her school records in a box that she took with her when she left her house. "Everyone here has helped me to catch up in my classes," she said. "I just thank God we're alive. North Carolina is very beautiful, the people here have been so nice to us, and I plan to stay here."

## Community Colleges Participate in The Great American Smokeout

On November 17, the North Carolina Health and Wellness Trust Fund kicked off a campaign to help college students stop smoking.

Lt. Governor Beverly Eaves Perdue, a member of the State Board of Community Colleges, took part in opening ceremonies at North Carolina A&T University. Under the leadership of the North Carolina Association of

Community College Presidents, the state's 58 community colleges are also participating in the campaign.

The centerpiece of the campaign is the North Carolina Quitline, a toll-free number available at 1-800-QUIT-NOW. Callers can find coaching and support by calling the toll-free number. A full description of the campaign can be found at The Health and Wellness Trust

Fund website at <http://www.hwtfc.org/pdffiles/PressGreatAmericanSmokeout11-17-05.pdf>

For more information, contact Chancy M. Kapp, assistant to the president for external affairs, System Office at [kappc@nccommunitycollege.edu](mailto:kappc@nccommunitycollege.edu) or at 919-807-6962.

## Donations Pour In For Katrina Victims

### Community College Family Rallies to Help Those in Need

Like most North Carolinians, H. Martin Lancaster, system president, was profoundly affected by watching the television coverage of Hurricane Katrina.

"I knew that community colleges students in those areas would have many needs," he said. "I felt certain that our people would want to help in any way they could."

After talking with his counterpart in Mississippi, Lancaster asked community colleges across North Carolina for financial contributions to help students in the community college systems of Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama.

The contributions were sent to the North Carolina Community Colleges Foundation (NCCCF) and the money will be divided between the three systems.

Students in the art and humanities departments at Cape Fear Community College took Lancaster's request to heart. "We felt that our students were not wealthy but definitely wanted to help out," said Ben Billingsley, art instructor. The students held a bake sale and an art auction. Billingsley said that about 100 paintings, drawings and sculptures were donated and most were bought. Nearly \$3,000 was raised from the all-day event.

Isothermal Community College also participated. The college chapters of Phi Theta Kappa and Sigma Chi, held a bake sale in October. The groups sent a check to NCCCF for hurricane relief. Lancaster said that Dr. Bill Lewis, president of Isothermal Community College was the first to send a personal check. Many faculty, staff and students at Isothermal as well as other community colleges sent in personal donations.

"The response to my request was so significant," Lancaster said. "I am very proud of our family for coming to the aid of students in need."

## Community Colleges Celebrate Constitution Day

Community colleges across North Carolina joined other organizations in celebrations for Constitution Day in September. The celebrations were in response to a federal law passed earlier this year requiring that all agencies receiving federal funds observe the anniversary of the adoption of the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787.

While the celebrations may have been mandated, that did not keep the colleges from having fun at the same time. At **Sandhills Community**



*James Madison (aka Buddy Spong, dean of student life at Sandhills Community College) talked with students about the U.S. Constitution.*

**College**, James Madison (aka Buddy Spong, dean of student life) talked with students about the U.S. Constitution. The founding father, known as “The Father of the Constitution,” made regular appearances on the balcony of the Dempsey Student Center and generated a lot of applause from an amused student body. **Pamlico Community College** received a visit from Richard Dobbs Spaight Sr., one of signers of the Constitution from North Carolina. Spaight (aka Jim White, college history instructor) talked with students about the Constitution and life in 1787. Megan Colborn, a student at **Durham Technical Community College**, visited several sites on the campus in period costume to read parts of the Constitution.

Faculty and staff members at **Montgomery Community College** regaled the fall convocation audience with a musical version of the Preamble to the Constitution. Calling themselves “The School House Rockers” were Gary Hatley, Rebecca Dickerson, Michele Haywood, Tammy Owens, Brenda Ritter and Lynne Hancock.

**Craven Community College** invited local organizations to set up booths on campus and share their views with students. **Pitt Community College** and **Lenoir Community College** held essay contests. **Western Piedmont Community College** and **Richmond Commu-**

**nity College** showed videos about the history of the Constitution.

Many colleges hosted lecturers and held panel discussions on constitutional issues including **Central**



*Faculty and staff members at Montgomery Community College regaled the fall convocation audience with a musical version of the Preamble to the Constitution. Calling themselves “The School House Rockers” were Gary Hatley, Rebecca Dickerson, Michele Haywood, Tammy Owens, Brenda Ritter and Lynne Hancock.*

**Carolina Community College**, **Central Piedmont Community College**, **Cleveland Community College**, **Fayetteville Technical Community College**, **Isothermal Community College**, **Johnston Community College**, **Nash Community College**, **Piedmont Community College**, **Wake Technical Community College**, **Wilson Technical Community College**.

## Workforce Development Awards Are Highlight of Conference

The Governors Awards for Excellence in Workforce Development were the highlight of the annual Workforce Development Partnership Conference held in October in Greensboro. The North Carolina Community College System was one of the sponsors of the conference.

Awards were presented to the individuals and businesses that have shown their ability to meet challenges in their lives or the lives of their employees, generally with the help of a community college. The Governors Awards honor individuals for their outstanding accomplishments and businesses for their contribution in helping the state achieve its workforce development goals. Job Link Career Centers from across the state were also recognized for the service they provide to their clients.

**Butler Manufacturing Company of Laurinburg** is a **Governors Outstanding Workforce Development Employer**. The company is a leading manufacturer of pre-engineered metal buildings and serves customers across the southeast. Butler employs 227 people and was selected because of its dedication to employees, regard for safety, contributions to the local and state economies, and strong support of the community. Butler provides on-site blueprint reading training to their employees and prospective employees through **Richmond Community College**.

**Hickory Springs Metal Complex of Hickory** is the other **Governors Outstanding Workforce Development Employer**. The company is one of the nation’s largest manufacturers of sleeper mechanisms for contract, industrial and consumer markets and is

a leader in the manufacture and distribution of metal components for the furniture industry. Hickory Springs Metal Complex employs 625 and has been a leader in the community of hiring persons with disabilities.

All of the individual honorees have either used or plan to use their local community college to overcome personal hurdles or as a major educational resource.

**Holly Norris, Hayesville - Governors Award for Excellence in Workforce Development, Outstanding Adult Participant**. A divorced mother of seven, Norris dropped out of high school to have her first child at 14. She got her GED and worked as a waitress to help her self-employed husband. She was pregnant with her seventh child when she entered the

*See Awards page 10*

## Campus Highlights

### **Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College Asheville, North Carolina**

- ◆ The college's curriculum headcount grew more than 5 percent this fall over last fall, setting a new record of 6,350.
- ◆ In September, the Duke Endowment gave the college a grant of nearly \$400,000. The money will enable nursing students to learn lifesaving skills on medical mannequins that give them instant feedback and a risk-free way to practice. The college is partnering with Mission Hospitals and Western Carolina University to develop a medical simulation lab for nursing students at the college's Enka campus.
- ◆ Sixty ninth-graders from the Buncombe County School System are enrolled in a new Early College High School on the Asheville campus. Early College allows rising ninth-graders to earn a high school diploma and an associate degree in five years. The program is part of the Learn and Earn high school reform initiative launched by Governor Mike Easley in 2004.
- ◆ The college earned four first-place awards, more than any other college or university in the country, at the Phi Beta Lambda national leadership conference this summer in Orlando, Florida.
- ◆ A 1998 culinary technology graduate, Justin Wangler, prepared dinner at the famed James Beard House in New York in October. Wangler is executive chef at the Kendall-Jackson Wine Estates in Sonoma County, California.

### **Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute Hudson, North Carolina**

- ◆ Groundbreaking and construction of the Faye A. Broyhill Building began in spring 2005. Scheduled for completion in 2006, the four-story building will house the Appalachian State University Center with an initial focus on teacher education. The college is slated to have two functioning high schools, a community college and a facility dedicated to full university programming, finalizing its concept of "seamless education."

- ◆ Caldwell held a grand reopening for its Broyhill Civic Center in 2004 after completion of major renovations. The center now has more breakout conference rooms, a concession and vending area in the lobby, and a hospitality lab/kitchen. The 2000 Higher Education Bond Referendum funded the project.
- ◆ The college's Automotive Systems Technology program achieved national certification as an ASE master program, approved in all eight areas. This is the highest level of achievement in the industry recognized by the National Institute for Automotive Excellence.
- ◆ In response to recent layoffs in the area, the college hosted "Directions," the community's first large-scale event to help displaced workers. With a total of 23 community agencies and government officials, the one-stop event helped 400 unemployed residents find assistance with healthcare, finances, insurance, taxes, claims, counseling and education.

### **Craven Community College New Bern, North Carolina**

- ◆ Craven is participating in the Strategic Horizons Program, an initiative sponsored by the Consortium for Community College Development at the University of Michigan. The program is an effort to help community colleges prepare for future challenges. A team of experts visited the college in September to assess the college's strengths, limitations and opportunities. The group later will make recommendations for how the college can improve.
- ◆ Groundbreaking for the new, \$7.4 million Bosch and Siemens Advanced Manufacturing Center is scheduled for April. When finished, the 30,000-square-foot center will provide state of the art training in manufacturing methods and processes. Meanwhile, initial construction is under way on Craven's new Business and Technology Building, its new maintenance facility, an expansion of the college's machining center in Kelso Hall and the final segment of a loop road around the New Bern campus.
- ◆ Moviemaker Frank Capra Jr. kicked off this year's "Explorations Lecture Series" in September. The lecture series, which is co-sponsored by the college and Public Radio East, will

also feature National Public Radio movie critic Bob Mondello and author Joan Carris.

- ◆ Dr. Scott Ralls, college president, recently returned from a trip to New York, where he served on a delegation that is assisting the British government with potential changes to the United Kingdom's college system. He and others outlined how American community colleges and workforce development programs operate.
- ◆ In recent months, the National Institute of Metalworking Skills (NIMS) has awarded more than 40 certifications to Craven students and instructors.

### **Central Carolina Community College Sanford, North Carolina**

- ◆ In September, the college broke ground on a nearly 17,000 square foot classroom building on the Harnett County campus in Lillington. The new building will house classes in a variety of programs including university transfer, cosmetology and continuing education. The facility will face U.S. 421 and will be the fourth building on the Harnett campus.
- ◆ Also in September, Chatham County Schools received a \$45,000 grant to establish a middle college program in conjunction with the college's Chatham County campus in Pittsboro. The grant is part of the state's Learn to Earn initiative, which seeks to lower high school dropout rates.

### **Central Piedmont Community College Charlotte, North Carolina**

- ◆ In October, the college rededicated the bookstore on its main campus in honor of a longtime former employee, Powell Majors. Majors, a retired executive with Lance, Inc., served as executive director of the college's foundation from 1971 to 1990.
- ◆ In September, the college dedicated a new crime scene simulation center at the Claudia Watkins Belk Center for Justice on the North campus. The 2,000 square foot facility is part of the American Academy of Applied Forensics CSI program at the

### ***Campus Highlights continued***

college. The new center will include an area that will be used to recreate crime scenes in outdoor settings.

- ◆ In July, The Community College National Center for Community Engagement named Central Piedmont a winner of the 2005 Collaborations Award in the K-12 division. The awards are given annually to people and organizations that encourage collaboration in the community. In the past year, students at Central Piedmont spent more than 5,000 hours tutoring students and helping teachers at 50 schools in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg area.

### **Durham Technical Community College Durham, North Carolina**

- ◆ In August, the college's board of trustees voted to name the campus' newest building, now under construction, after Dr. Phail Wynn, Jr., college president. Wynn, the first African American college president in the North Carolina Community College System, became president at Durham Tech in 1980. The Phail Wynn Jr. Student Services Center, a three-story, 58,500 square foot building, is scheduled for completion in February.
- ◆ A former Durham Tech student who participated in the NC TABS program, has returned to the campus as an adjunct biology instructor. Shanta MacKinnon enrolled in the pharmacy technology program in 1997. After graduation at Durham Tech, she transferred to North Carolina Central University, where she majored in biology. She earned a master's degree in neuroscience, also from North Carolina Central University and is now working on her doctorate. NC TABS is a program sponsored through a grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) that provides under-represented students with educational opportunities in biomedical research.
- ◆ Dr. Kathy Zarilla, instructor of biology/microbiology, has been named statewide coordinator of the NC TABS program. Zarilla will continue to serve as a Durham Tech faculty member, teaching a lecture section and two lab sections of microbiology.
- ◆ Seven inmates recently graduated from the REPAIR Project, a new federal pre-release program designed

for a successful transition from incarceration back into the community. Participants learned construction-related skills, as well as job interviewing and computer skills. The class also included sessions on handling finances, applying for a loan, and managing debt. The students were carefully screened to participate in the 14-week program, a collaborative project among several community programs.

### **Johnston Community College Smithfield, North Carolina**

- ◆ In June, the college dedicated "The Rescue," a 3,000 pound bronze sculpture by artist and retired college faculty member Frank Creech. The sculpture is now a permanent fixture outside the Paul A. Johnson Auditorium.
- ◆ Also in June, students and faculty of the college's early childhood program, presented a curriculum demonstration at the North Carolina General Assembly in Raleigh.
- ◆ Caterpillar, Inc. donated a TH210 Telescopic Handler to the college in July. The machine, valued at \$62,000, will be used for various educational projects.
- ◆ In August, Cold Stone Creamery established an annual scholarship to benefit a Johnston Community College student.

### **Mitchell Community College Statesville, North Carolina**

- ◆ In October, voters in Iredell County approved a bond referendum authorizing \$6 million in expansion funds for Mitchell Community College.
- ◆ In August, students began classes in the college's new Technology and Workforce Development Center, 701 West Front Street, Statesville. The 37,000 square foot facility was financed through local bonds and the 2000 Higher Education Bond Referendum.
- ◆ The official portrait of Dr. Douglas Eason, college president, was unveiled during the college's fall convocation. The portrait will be displayed in the college's alumni lobby along with portraits of former presidents.
- ◆ More than 150 students, faculty and staff attended a remembrance ceremony on September 12 at the college's Historic Circle. The ceremony was held to remember the lives lost in the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, the wars in Afghani-

stan and Iraq and in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina.

### **Piedmont Community College Roxboro, North Carolina**

- ◆ As an outgrowth of a college-led strategic planning process in Caswell County, the college is partnering with the Town of Yanceyville to provide a training facility to house the college's Public Safety Center. At press time, the facility was expected to open in November. College officials anticipate more than 1,000 public safety personnel will be trained per year at the facility.
- ◆ Curriculum programs continued to experience record growth in 2004-2005. Enrollment increased five percent over 2003-2004. Similar increases are anticipated for fall semester 2005.
- ◆ Construction on the college's new classroom building on the Caswell County Campus in Yanceyville is well underway. Financed through the 2000 Higher Education Bond Referendum, the building should be ready for occupancy in February 2006.

### **Robeson Community College Lumberton, North Carolina**

- ◆ The college held a grand opening ceremony for the NCCCS BioNetwork BioAgriculture Center in May.
- ◆ The college and the University of North Dakota signed an articulation agreement in May for a 2+2 aviation program. Students will take their first two years at Robeson, earning commercial and private piloting credentials/certification by completing required flight training. Afterwards, they may transfer to UND in Grand Forks to complete a bachelors degree in areas such as airport management and air traffic control.
- ◆ The U.S. Department of Education awarded Robeson \$1.09 million in funding for the TRIO program. TRIO provides Student Support Services (SSS) for modest income, first-generation college students to help them achieve academic success. The program officially started on September 1 under the leadership of Jennifer McLean, SSS Program Director.
- ◆ New programs beginning at Robeson this fall included surgical technology; emergency medical science and radiography.

# Pottery Is Not Just A Hobby At Community Colleges

By Meredith Hines, System Office, Public Affairs

*Note: Governor Mike Easley has declared 2004 and 2005 as the Celebration of North Carolina Craft. Crafters, including potters, weavers, and jewelers, contribute \$538 million annually to the state's economy. Only crafters in California and New York contribute more to their state's economies. The story below focuses on how community colleges in North Carolina train potters. For more information on other craft courses, contact your local community college.*

Phil Morgan finished his business degree at **Montgomery Community College** in Troy after serving 14 months in Korea during the Vietnam War. However, after working as an office manager, he decided he wanted a career change.

"I decided I didn't want to get dressed up in a suit and tie every day," said Morgan who grew up in Montgomery County. Morgan talked to people at Montgomery Community College about learning a trade at the college. It was not until he accidentally walked into the pottery classroom and ran into Mike Ferree, lead clay instructor at Montgomery, that he knew what trade he was going to learn.

"I've loved it since the minute I walked through the door," said Morgan. Ferree spoke with Morgan about the program, and in 1973 Morgan enrolled. Thirty-two years later, Morgan has his own successful pottery business in Seagrove, and Ferree is still teaching his craft to students at Montgomery.

In fact, thanks to Morgan and his wife, Julia, Ferree's students will soon participate in a unique learning experience. Ferree is recruiting students for a special project the Morgans told him about for Discovery Place in Charlotte.

Students will create 10 large vessels about six feet in height to be displayed as part of the Dead Sea Scrolls exhibit scheduled for February 2006.

Many potters come to the community colleges to learn their trade. Three other community colleges in North Carolina have the Professional Crafts: Clay program including **College of The Albemarle** in Elizabeth City, **Haywood Community College** in Clyde, and **Western Piedmont Community College** in Morganton.



**L to R: Susan Underwood and Myron Whitaker, students at Montgomery Community College, are doing a pottery process called Raku.**

Students in programs may complete an A.A.S. degree, diploma or certificate. **Central Carolina Community College** has a sculpture program which includes clay. Most classes are taught in studios in Siler City. The classes do not only focus on the technical aspects of pottery. They also cover business and marketing aspects.

"They have to coexist," said Gary Clontz, clay instructor at Haywood Community College. "The emphasis is still on design, but business really sustains the craft."

Some of the courses in the curriculum focus on small business specifically. Haywood Community College has started looking into adding courses that teach students how to use the Internet for marketing. However, Clontz said that students need to first develop their craft to the fullest extent. He said that human contact with the works is best for sales because typically, those who are most interested in craft want to buy the pottery in person.

"Marketing is very important for the students to learn," said Ferree. "They need to find the market and learn how to explain the market to customers... like why pieces can be so expensive."

The design classes range from functional pottery instruction to design

and decorating technique instruction. Design theory is included in this instruction and is blended with practical appliance of the concepts.

"They use this knowledge to enhance their work," said Ferree, "so that it stands out among other functional pottery. This gives them a competitive edge in the marketplace."

Ferree said the Montgomery program started as a one-year diploma and certificate program. It later became a degree program. In 1972, Ferree said, about 98 percent of the pottery students at Montgomery were from other states. Since then, more in-state students from a wide range of age groups have participated.

High school students also take ceramic classes because of the Huskins Bill, which allows the students to take classes at community colleges and get credit for them.

Montgomery Community College's location is only 30 minutes away from Seagrove, aiding in the program's popularity. "Many students from the clay program settle in Seagrove," said Ferree. "They do not really have to advertise their craft in Seagrove because people from all over the country go to Seagrove specifically to buy pottery." Often, former students living in Seagrove and in nearby towns where Montgomery, Randolph, and Moore Counties come together have come back to Montgomery to host and participate in workshops. When Morgan completed the pottery program in the mid-seventies, there were only six or seven potteries in Seagrove. Now there are at least 100 potteries in the area.

Students at Haywood Community College also benefit from their campus' location. The area around Haywood attracts many tourists, who attend craft shows and fairs held by the school and other organizations.

For example, the Southern Highland Craft Guild hosts craft shows for all types of crafts including clay, fiber, jewelry and wood. Clontz said that the guild's board has started a category of Education Center Members which includes the college.

"These are colleges or craft schools that offer craft programs," said Clontz, "and are located in the traditional

*See Pottery page 10*

## 2005 — A Strong Budget Year for Community Colleges

Before the General Assembly left Raleigh in August, System President Martin Lancaster predicted that 2005 would be a strong budget year for community colleges. He was right.

While the final budget did leave out some important community college requests, the tally demonstrated that this session was one of the best ever in terms of budgets for the North Carolina Community College System.

Full enrollment growth funding, \$7.1 million for the BioNetwork, \$2.6 million for the new Customized Industry Training Program, \$10 million for much-needed equipment, and \$1 million for the Small Business Centers reflect the realization by lawmakers that community colleges provide an excellent vehicle for economic recovery and growth.

Several budget provisions directly affect salaries. A two-percent salary increase for faculty and professional staff at the colleges continues the important plan to improve community college faculty salaries. (Faculty and professional staff were also included in the \$850 or two percent increase given to all state employees by the General Assembly.) The legislature also set a minimum salary for faculty, based on educational credentials and adjusted the salary schedule for community college presidents.

Students do have to pay more to attend a community college. Lawmakers passed a four-percent tuition increase for resident and non-resident students. The in-state tuition rate rose

from \$38/credit hour to \$39.50/credit hour, with a maximum of \$632 per semester. Non-resident tuition increased from \$211/credit hour to \$219.50, with a maximum of \$3,512 per semester.

Lawmakers also increased the financial aid funds available to community college students. The budget was increased by \$2 million to offset the loss of Pell Grant Funding, and another \$1 million was added because of the tuition increase. The total Community College Grant program has now grown to \$13.9 million.

Colleges with special circumstances received additional help in this budget. Colleges experiencing growth of more than five percent this year have access to a \$2 million dollar reserve to help them offset the budget problems excessive growth creates. New criteria allow community colleges in poor counties to carry forward unexpended state funds and use them for maintenance of plant and some other uses.

Those special appropriations for individual colleges include: \$500,000 for the physical plant renovation at Bladen Community College; \$650,000 for multiple campus improvements at Central Carolina Community College; \$1 million for the Automotive Technology Center at Central Piedmont Community College; \$3.7 million for Craven Community College's Advanced Manufacturing Center; \$1 million to College of The Albemarle for expansion of the Chowan Campus and an additional \$250,000 for the college's Allied

Health programs; \$1 million to Cleveland Community College for an Allied Health & Science Building; \$300,000 to Edgecombe Community College for its Allied Health and Science Building; \$200,000 for the Military Business Center at Fayetteville Technical Community College; \$3 million for the Center for Emerging Technologies at Forsyth Technical Community College; \$1.2 million to Gaston College to complete renovations on the Textile Center campus and an additional \$500,000 for equipment and capital funds; \$150,000 for equipment for the Hickory Metro Higher Education Center at Catawba Valley Community College; \$1.5 million for the Lifelong Learning Center at Isothermal Community College; \$200,000 for a simulated cell area at Lenoir Community College; \$300,000 for a science building at Nash Community College; \$100,000 for the Scotland County campus at Richmond Community College; \$500,000 for the Workforce Development Center at Robeson Community College; \$300,000 for renovation funds at Sandhills Community College; \$3,000,000 for biotechnology facilities at Southeastern Community College; \$325,000 for the viticulture center at Surry Community College; and \$300,000 for green buildings at Wilson Technical Community College. The NC REAL program received \$250,000 and the Partnership for Defense received \$2 million.

## Deadline for Submissions for 2006 Art Exhibition Nears

The deadline for submissions for the 2006 President's Art Exhibition is Wednesday, November 30.

Submissions are welcome from full-time and part-time faculty, students, alumni and staff of North Carolina's community colleges. Submissions are encouraged from curriculum and continuing education areas, from the full range of fine arts and crafts, and from related fields such as advertising, graphic design, computer design, photography and film.

H. Martin Lancaster, system president, makes the selections and supervises the placement of the artwork in the Caswell Building. The selections he makes from the photos, slides and digital images submitted are conditional. Final decisions about accep-

tance and placement for display will be made after the actual work is in hand. Selected works will stay on display through 2006.

Artists should submit images of their artworks (not the actual works) to the attention of Chancy Kapp, kappc@nccommunitycolleges.edu, North Carolina Community College System, 5001 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-5001. The street address is 200 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27603. The preferred method of submission is digital images on CD. Also acceptable: emails, website galleries, slides and photographs. Each submission must be labeled with the name of the artists, the name of the community college, the name of the artwork (if untitled, then include a

visual description), the medium and the dimensions. Artists should make sure that their digital images are labeled in such a way to distinguish them from hundreds of others. "It is very difficult to sort images named "001, 002, 002", even with a separate printed guidesheet," said Kapp. "Slides and photos should be labeled on slide holders or photo backs, if possible."

Kapp said that colleges may present submissions as a package but that artists may also submit individually. She said that all media are welcomed.

For any more information about the art exhibition, please contact Kapp at 919-807-6962 or at kappc@nccommunitycolleges.edu

### Pottery from page 8

Appalachian Region of nine states and in specific mountain counties. ” Haywood students participated in a craft fair hosted by the Southern Highland Craft Guild at the Asheville Civic Center in July. The guild allows these members to participate in various craft shows and fairs after faculty members at the centers review student work. Each piece is labeled as student work. Many craft show visitors become interested in the clay program. Clontz said Haywood Community College has

a waiting list for its program.

“What is different about our program at Haywood, and other community colleges as well, is that we have defined ourselves as very different from other craft schools and programs at universities,” said Clontz. He said this is because instead of focusing on design exclusively, the community college programs teach design skills and instill business skills into them. “We want to make it so in the end,” said Clontz, “students can receive all their income from the craft. ”

According to Morgan, most of the clay program graduates that stay in Seagrove open up their own pottery businesses rather than work for others. Morgan said that craftsmen need support in order for their businesses to survive. The community spirit in Seagrove has helped to nurture new potters.

“If you don’t produce and you aren’t dedicated, you won’t survive,” said Morgan. “Pottery is not nine to five. It’s a lifestyle.”

### News from page 2

August 29 game 2 to 1...**Dr. Pat Skinner**, president, **Gaston College**, was named 2005 Woman of the Year by the Gaston County Women’s Commission in August. Skinner received the award because of her commitment to volunteer activities in the community...**Jay Tyson**, a filmmaker and puppeteer from Havelock, recently filmed a production called “Pods,” at **Craven Community College**. The hour-long film features puppets Tyson made in his Havelock workshop...More than 200 faculty, staff, trustees, family and friends of **Sandhills Community College** volunteered during the U.S. Open held at Pinehurst in June. The volunteers, known as the “Ecology Crew,” emptied the 1000 green cardboard trash cans around the golf course during the event. More than 45,000 people a day attended the prestigious golf tournament...In July, the Duplin County Board of Commissioners voted to support the **William Dallas Herring** Center for the Study and Ad-

vancement of the Community College. Herring, a native of Duplin County, is considered the “godfather” of the North Carolina Community College System. The center is a collaboration among **James Sprunt Community College**, the Duplin County Historical Foundation and North Carolina State University...**Willa Dickens** is the new associate vice president for economic and workforce development at the **System Office**. Since January, Dickens has been the director of the Small Business Center Network. Before then, she was the director of the Small Business Center at **Halifax Community College**. Dickens began her new duties on November 1...**Barbara Currier** is the new coordinator for local foundation support and alumni affairs at the System Office. She is the former foundation director at **Piedmont Community College**...Students and personnel at **Southwestern Community College** recently extended the campus nature trail as part of a community service project. The group removed

hazardous trees, picked up trash, cleared brush, laid mulch and installed water breaks for trail stabilization. Other plans include three new trail areas and picnic benches. The trail will soon be open to the public...Gazprom, an energy company in Russia, signed an agreement in October with **Forsyth Technical Community College**. Under the agreement, the college will train Gazprom executives in western-style management techniques. The training sessions begin in January at the campus in Winston-Salem and also at the Gazprom College of Oil and Gas in Volgograd, Russia. Dr. Gary Green, college president, said the college hopes to bring 10 to 12 executives to the campus to interact with students. According to the Associated Press, Gazprom is the largest gas producing company in the world with a 20 percent share of world gas production and it also controls one-third of Russia’s oil output. More than 500,000 people work at the company and its subsidiaries.

### Awards from page 5

nursing program at **Tri-County Community College**. Despite her son’s serious accident, her personal illness, a divorce, and financial problems, she eventually finished the program with honors and is now a registered nurse working in the operating room at Murphy Medical Center.

**Jerry Oliver, Piney Creek - Governors Award for Excellence in Workforce Development, Outstanding Adult Participant.** A dislocated worker at the age of 50, Oliver studied nuclear medicine at Surry Community College. His wife, Sudie, entered **Wilkes Community College**. Despite benefits from the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), it became necessary for Sudie to return to work. Jerry continued classes and in May 2005, he gradu-

ated. Jerry is now employed by Twin County Community Hospital in Galax, Virginia.

**Candinda McCurdy, North Wilkesboro - Governors Award for Excellence in Workforce Development, Outstanding Youth Participant.**

McCurdy took care of her younger sister while their mother earned a two-year degree. She also recruited high school classmates into the WIA program. McCurdy graduated from Wilkes Central High School and is working toward an associate’s degree at **Wilkes Community College**. She wants to be a drill sergeant in the United States Army.

**Dustin Roy, Lumberton - Governors Award for Excellence in Workforce Development, Outstanding Youth Participant.** The incarceration of his father and abandonment by his mother

led Dustin to drop out of school at 16 to care for his younger siblings and his sisters’ two children. He enrolled in WIA and the Adult High School at **Robeson Community College**, while continuing to work full time. He graduated and received a scholarship based on his high GPA. He plans to pursue an associate degree at Robeson Community College.

**Caleb J. Forbes, Jr.** is the Lead Career Consultant at the **Beaufort County JobLink Career Center in Washington**. He is the recipient of the **Wayne Daves Award for Outstanding Achievement in Workforce Development**. Forbes helps adults and dislocated workers acquire new occupational skills. He has been described as a dedicated public servant and a positive image for workforce development.