THE DAILY CLIPS

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Chancellor seeks more flexibility on salaries

BY JOSH HUMPHRIES
The Daily Reflector

East Carolina University Chancellor Steve Ballard wants to see more flexibility for salary increases.

Ballard told the ECU Board of Trustees on Friday that easing restrictions on salaries is vital to the mission of the university and one of his key goals for the year.

For three years, the University of North Carolina system has been limited in the way it has been able to grant salary increases.

Ballard said in order to maintain quality faculty the university has to be able to reward good work.

"I think campuses must have flexibility to reward the best people," he said. "This is the third year of no salary increases. Other states and private colleges know that and they are targeting our best people."

Also Friday, Ballard said finding a way to fund a new bio-science building remains a priority for the university. The Legislature nearly included planning funds for the building in the budget, but it was cut at the last minute in a move that cut all planning capital from the UNC system.

"This is vital to enrollment growth on the east campus," Ballard said. "The Howell Science Building is close to the end of its life cycle. We just have to have a better facility for our great researchers doing work in what are essentially closets."

The trustees also heard from new Student Government Association President Tremaine Smith on his agenda for the year.

Smith's platform includes more communication with students, working to secure an alternate downtown venue for students and holding town-hall style meetings with small groups of students.

Contact Josh Humphries at jhumphries@reflector.com or (252) 329-9565.

See BOARD, A7
‘An overwhelmingly important day’

Presidential candidate’s visit marked a turning point in region’s prominence

BY KATHRYN KENNEDY
The Daily Reflector

It’s almost eerie to watch old film of John F. Kennedy traveling by convertible in Greenville, knowing he would lose his life in another motorcade three years later.

Fifty years ago, Greenville residents knew nothing of the tragedy to come. Kennedy was simply a young, charismatic Democrat seeking the nation’s highest office, vying in-person for their hearts and votes.

A film donated to East Carolina University shows Kennedy atop the backseat of a red Mercury on Sept. 17, 1960. Congressman Herbert Bonner and North Carolina gubernatorial candidate Terry Sanford — another young politician on the rise — sit to his left.

The now iconic figure waves from still photographs and waiving film footage. They cross the Tar River on the old Greene Street bridge, Sycamore Hill Baptist Church still standing alongside. Kennedy is driven through the Five Points business district and onto Fifth Street, where he’ll turn onto the East Carolina University campus — then East Carolina College.

“Nobody had ever seen a presidential candidate,” remembers Janice Faulkner, who then was an English professor at the university. “It was an overwhelmingly important day.”

Faulkner was part of the planning committee for Kennedy’s visit. She calls it a highlight in a life of political activism.

As the alternate delegate to the 1960 National Democratic Convention in California, Faulkner had been there when Sanford broke from the “solid south” and even outgoing Gov. Luther Hodges.

See KENNEDY, A6
Gaylord said he also mentioned the football team and that they were trying to get into the Southern Conference. All the time, Gaylord said, Kennedy was waving and shouting hello to the crowd.

"And I thought," Gaylord said, "Why in the 'H' did you ask me the question if you're not listening?"

But when Kennedy took the podium, Gaylord said he not only mentioned the college's growth but declared, "I understand you're trying to get in the Southern Conference and so am I!"

"Well, he was the smart one," Gaylord said, laughing.

He added that Kennedy was undoubtedly charismatic.

"It was innate," Gaylord said. "It was born in him. He seemed to enjoy what he was doing."

Several people in Greenville that day recalled the festive atmosphere that Kennedy's visit brought.

Jim Bearden, a business professor who would later become dean of the business school, remembered the ECU marching band playing "Dixie" over and over after Kennedy's speech.

"We wouldn't be doing that today," he quipped.

A photo of Bearden in a madras coat and sunglasses appeared in the Charlotte newspaper after the event — "proof I was there," he called it.

Lou McNamee is also proud of her personal connection to the day. Her father, Charles Horne Jr., was also on the planning committee and the then 12-year-old Lou was supremely excited about the event.

"It was dinnertime conversation at our house," she said of the campaign. "It was exciting ... just to know that he (Horne) had worked so hard to bring this young, vibrant and handsome man to eastern North Carolina."

She wasn't the only female interested in Kennedy, it seems.

"He was so tan that it looked like he came out of India or something," retired history professor Joe Steelman said. "The girls just went wild. They couldn't stand still. They just wanted to rush up and touch him."

Steelman said he and other history professors had been writing letters requesting a visit from the candidate but were turned down repeatedly.

"Then, out of blue sky, they said we're coming," he recalled. "It was so sudden."

Kennedy's North Carolina tour started in Greenville but would continue in Raleigh, Greensboro and Charlotte.

"I think the stop here was the most important one," Steelman hypothesized. "It was a big crowd. A big speech."

Both Steelman and Faulkner noted the positive message of the approximately 20-minute speech. It was assured and declarative, Faulkner said. Steelman lamented that politics are much more negative now and expressed nostalgia for the progressive era.

University Historian John Tucker has talked to these longtime Greenville residents and more, as he prepares to deliver a lecture Thursday about the importance of Kennedy's visit to Greenville.

A Greenville native himself, Tucker hopes to raise awareness of the event. He was only a 5-year-old in 1960, and didn't attend the speech.

"But you hear about it and the people who were there are very proud they captured it," he said.

"A lot of people are new to Greenville or grew up here and just don't know," he said. "Regardless of your politics — Democrat, Republican, Tea Party or whatever — there's a historical significance to it."

He began studying the Kennedy visit after President Barack Obama campaigned in Greenville in 2008, delivering a speech at Minges Coliseum. Looking for parallels between the two events, he eventually found the Kennedy visit more interesting and watched Obama's presidency grow increasingly divisive.

Eastern North Carolina would no longer be the backwoods agricultural region ignored by the rest of the state after 1960, Tucker said. Part of that came with the growth of the university and city and increased technology. But he guesses it also stems from one man's example.

"After Kennedy, things are never the same."

Kathryn Kennedy, who is no relation to the former president, can be reached at kkennedy@reflector.com or (252) 329-9566.
PRESIDENTIAL NOMINEE John F. Kennedy speaks at a political rally at East Carolina College.

PHOTOS FROM THE DAILY REFLECTOR IMAGE COLLECTION

WOMEN HOLD a banner reading "A D Pi (Alpha Delta Pi) welcomes Kennedy" on the occasion of John F. Kennedy's visit to East Carolina College.

PHOTOS FROM THE DAILY REFLECTOR IMAGE COLLECTION

PEOPLE GATHER to greet John F. Kennedy's motorcade driving to East Carolina College.
ECU partners with Zipcar to offer 24/7 transportation

ECU News Services

Getting around town just got easier for East Carolina University students who don’t own a car or have one on campus.

ECU is partnering with Zipcar to provide the campus access to a car-sharing service. The partnership provides students, faculty, and staff members, ages 18 and older, access to a convenient and cost-efficient transportation alternative — 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Zipcar is touted as an environmentally friendly transportation alternative. Every Zipcar takes 15 to 20 privately owned vehicles off the road. Gas, 180 miles per day, insurance, reserved parking spots and roadside assistance are included in the hourly and daily Zipcar rates. Cars can be reserved for as short as an hour or for up to four days. Rates on all ECU vehicles start as low as $8 per hour and $66 per day (24 hours).

The annual membership fee for anyone affiliated with ECU is $35, and applicants receive $35 worth of free driving credit applied toward their first month of driving. The annual membership fee is waived for resident advisers, orientation leaders and ECU departments for business driving. Students, faculty and staff can join at www.zipcar.com/ecu.

"We are always searching for ways to help our students save money and the environment, and Zipcar is a big part of the solution," said Bill Koch, associate vice chancellor of Environmental Health and Campus Safety. "Now our school community has a hassle-free way to run errands, attend meetings or get away for the weekend while also doing its part in helping us reduce our carbon footprint."

ECU has two Zipcars, which are located on campus in the Mendenhall Student Center parking lot. The ECU Zipcar members hold their Zipcar cards over a sensor that unlocks the reserved car's doors. Zipcar offers an iPhone application that honks the car's horn to locate it and unlock the door.

"With the state of the economy in flux, it's great to know that ECU will offer its students the benefits of convenience and cost-savings that Zipcar members at universities across North America and the UK have already experienced," Matthew Malloy, vice president of global university operations at Zipcar, said.

Zipcar has established partnerships with more than 200 universities, including the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, University of Florida and University of Virginia. Zipcar uses a network of local vendors to service and clean its fleet. At ECU, the first Zipcars are a Toyota Prius Hybrid and a Scion XB.

For more information, including how to enroll in Zipcar at ECU, visit http://www.zipcar.com/ecu.

ECU to host Women’s Agenda Assembly

Women in Pitt County will gather at ECU on Saturday to voice opinions on what they feel are important issues to bring to the legislative process.

"The Women’s Agenda Assembly — Pitt County," will meet in the Bate Building, Room 1031, from 1-4 p.m. Registration begins at 12:30 p.m. for the free, public event sponsored by the ECU women’s studies program.

This assembly is one of many to be held across the state as part of the N.C. Women United Women’s Agenda Program. N.C. Women United is a coalition of organizations and individuals working to achieve the full political, social and economic equality of all women across North Carolina.

NCWU works to build women’s power through grassroots activism, community organizing, legislative advocacy and engagement in the political process.

Speakers will discuss the specific recommendations set forth in the N.C. Women United 2008 Draft Women’s Agenda. Access to health care continues as a priority for discussion at this year’s assembly.

Small-group discussions will follow, allowing participants to prioritize issues. Results of the breakout sessions then will be compiled to determine the agenda for Pitt County. Priorities determined statewide will be launched on Women’s Advocacy Day scheduled for March.

"Local women’s agenda assemblies lay the grassroots foundation for women’s issues addressed dur-
ing the General Assembly’s long session,” said Dr. Rebecca Powers, coordinator of the Pitt County Women’s Agenda Assembly and associate professor of sociology. “It enables women to learn about, act upon and further women’s issues. It is important that women are empowered and have a voice in the legislative process.”

For more information, contact Powers at 328-4885 or powersr@ecu.edu.

Author to speak on female combat vets

Nationally renowned author Laura Browder will speak at ECU on Sept. 27 as part of the College of Business Cunanan Leadership Speaker Series. She will discuss her recently published book, “When Janey Comes Marching Home: Portraits of Women Combat Veterans,” a multi-media initiative that presents a portrait of service women returning from war zones in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The public may attend this free event at 3:30 p.m. in Wright Auditorium. A related photo exhibit will be on display at ECU beginning next spring.

Browder also is author of “Rousing the Nation: Radical Culture in Depression America,” named a Choice Outstanding Book; “Slippery Characters: Ethnic Impersonators and American Identities;” and “Her Best Shot: Women and Guns in America.” She is a professor of American studies and English at the University of Richmond.

Free parking will be available at the Carol Belk Park and Ride Lot at the intersection of Greenville and Charles boulevards. The permit requirement for the lot will be waived, and shuttles will transport people to Wright Auditorium. Shuttles will pick up and drop off on side of the Belk Building closest to the baseball stadium.

The Cunanan Leadership Speaker Series is made possible by a gift from alumni Steve and Ellen Cunanan of Richboro, Pa. Matching funds also are provided by the Johnson & Johnson Foundation. The series brings distinguished leaders to Greenville, representing for-profit and nonprofit firms, entrepreneurial activities, government and public affairs.

Browder’s visit also is supported by the ECU College of Health and Human Performance and the College of Fine Arts and Communications.

Upcoming Events:

■ Wednesday: Pirate Safety Day, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Mendenhall Student Center Brickyard. Live-burn demonstration of a simulated dorm room will be at 12:30 p.m. At 6:30 p.m., an SBI arson investigator will present, “Remembering and Learning from the Ocean Isle Fire,” in Hendrix Theater. This free lecture is open to the public.

■ Wednesday: “Art with Borders” exhibition opening, 6-8 p.m., Greenville Museum of Art, featuring sculptor Eddie Dominguez and photographer José Galves. This free event is open to the public. For more information, visit http://www.ecu.edu/awb.

See www.ecu.edu/cs-ecu/calendar.cfm for times, places and more information on these events and other ECU upcoming activities.
The S. Rudolph Alexander PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

48th season opens Thursday with the Takács Quartet

East Carolina University enters into its 48th season of the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series, it continues to bring world-class entertainment to eastern North Carolina.

With a variety of one-night entertainment, this year's series offers eight productions that include dance, music and a holiday concert.

The series began in 1962, when Rudy Alexander scheduled four performances in the student center. Since then, the series has offered more than 350 performances, drawing more than a half-million patrons.

The season begins at 7:30 p.m. Thursday with a concert by The Takács Quartet in Wright Auditorium.

For their ECU performance, the Takács Quartet's program will include Schubert's "Death and the Maiden" quartet and Haydn's String Quartet, Op. 71, No. 3. Their award-winning recordings include the complete Beethoven cycle. In 2005, the "Late Beethoven Quartets" won Disc of the Year from BBC Music Magazine, a Gramophone Award and a Japanese Record Academy Award. Their recordings of the early and middle Beethoven quartets collected a Grammy, another Gramophone Award, a Chamber Music of America Award and two further awards from the Japanese Recording Academy.

Here's what the rest of 2010-2011 has to offer:

Oct. 1: John Pizzarelli

John Pizzarelli has cultivated an international career by singing classic standards and late-night ballads while playing the guitar. Using the music of artists like Nat "King" Cole and Frank Sinatra and the songs of writers like Sammy Cahn and Jimmy Van Heusen as touchstones, Pizzarelli is among the prime revivalists of the Great American Songbook. Pizzarelli followed in the tradition of his father, guitar legend Bucky Pizzarelli.

PIZZARELLI
THE TAKÁCS QUARTET performs at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in Wright Auditorium.

who exposed him to all the great jazz music of the era from Erroll Garner and Les Paul to Django Reinhardt.

Oct. 25: Lily Tomlin

As one of America's foremost comediennees, Lily Tomlin continues to venture across an ever-widening range of media, starring in television, theater, motion pictures, animation and video. Throughout her career, Tomlin has received numerous awards, including six Emmys, two Tonys, a Drama Desk and Outer Critics' Circle Award, a Grammy for her comedy album "This is a Recording" and a Peabody Award for the ABC television special "Edith Ann's Christmas: Just Say Noël."

All tickets for this event are $40.

Dec. 1: Emile Pandolfi, pianist

To kick off the holiday season, pianist Emile Pandolfi will perform popular standards, Broadway hits, classical favorites as well as some holiday music. Pandolfi, a North Carolina native, also infuses his on-stage

See SRAPAS, E2
act with doses of comedy. This event is sponsored by the FRIENDS of the S. Rudolph Alexander Performing Arts Series. All tickets are $20.

**Feb. 10: Opole, the National Philharmonic of Poland**

In their first tour of the United States, Opole, the National Philharmonic of Poland, will perform Mozart's Overture to "Die Zauberflote," Chopin's Piano Concerto No. 1 with soloist Jacek Kortus, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 3 in E-flat Major, "Eroica." Since World War II, the ensemble has toured extensively in Spain, France, Holland, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, South America, Hungary, Japan, Italy and Germany.

**Feb. 23: Dayton Contemporary Dance Company**

Rooted in the African-American experience, the Dayton Contemporary Dance Company's mission is to deliver contemporary dance of the highest quality to the broadest possible audience. Four decades and more than 100 original works after its inception, DCDC now boasts the world's largest collection of African-American choreographed dance, performed by a company with well-honed technical skills and passion. For their ECU performance, the evening will conclude with "Highest Praise," a dance accompanied by a large local gospel choir. The music will include "Total Praise" by Richard Smallwood, as well as "Castles" by Richard Smallwood, as well as "Wade in the Water" and "Amazing Grace." This performance is supported by the Office of Equity, Diversity and Community Relations, as well as the Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge.

**March 2: Doug Varone and Dancers**

Doug Varone and Dancers have been honored with 11 New York Dance and Performance Awards (Bessies). While DCDC performs in a contemporary jazz style, Varone's movements are grand, sweeping and ballet-based. The ECU program includes "Lux," set to Philip Glass' "The Light." "Lux" may remind audience members of Maurice Sendak's illustrations in "Where the Wild Things Are." Set to Sergei Prokofiev's "Waltz Suite, Opus 110," the company will perform "Castles." One of Varone's most accomplished works, "Castles" demonstrates a complex but beautifully simple dance to tell the story. The program concludes with " Chapters from a Broken Novel," a National Dance Project-funded work. Varone is a compulsive saver, and years of lists, gestures, snippets of conversation and nuances from the subways have burbled to the surface in the form of Chapters. This performance is supported in part by the National Dance Project and South Arts: Dance Touring Initiative.

**March 21: Midori**

Since her debut at the age of 11 with the New York Philharmonic, violinist Midori has established an international career as a master musician, an innovator and a champion of the developmental potential of children. She joins pianist Robert McDonald, who has performed as part of ECU's Four Seasons Chamber Music Festival, to play some of her favorite contemporary works, including John Adams' "Road Movies" and Huw Watkins' "Coruscation and Reflection."

**April 15: The Russian National Ballet**

The Russian National Ballet — which sold out in the 2008-2009 season performing "Giselle" — returns to campus to stage "Chopiniana" and "Romeo and Juliet." "Chopiniana" evolved from Chopin's "Seventh Waltz." Without a traditional plot — the curtain opens to reveal a picturesque group of ballerinas, frozen in anticipation, the embodiment of the Young Man's dream. The women rise like a romantic vision, circle around the Young Man, spread out like a light fog and then freeze again in their original poses. "Romeo and Juliet," with music by Tchaikovsky and choreography by Marius Petipa, opens with the story of life and love as the souls of Romeo and Juliet meet together in Queen Mab's world of dreams.

Ticket for individual performances are $10-$30 unless otherwise noted. Call the ECU Central ticket office 328-4788 or (800) ECU-ARTS or visit www.ecuarts.com.
Anna Woodall Hudson

WINTERVILLE — Dr. Anna Woodall Hudson, 30, passed away Saturday, Sept. 18, 2010.

The funeral service will be conducted at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Kenly Missionary Baptist Church in Kenly. Burial will be private.

Dr. Hudson, a native of Johnston County, was a 1999 graduate of North Johnston High School, where she was valedictorian. She was a 2003 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of UNC-Chapel Hill, receiving her bachelor of science degree in biology. She was a 2008 graduate of the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, where she was a Brody Scholar. She had served one year of residency at the Family Practice Center at Pitt County Memorial Hospital. She was a member of Riverview Baptist Church in Washington, N.C.

She is survived by her husband, Keith Hudson; parents, Dr. Hal and Sara Woodall of Kenly; sisters, Lisa Johnson of Clayton, and Lori Woodall of Kenly; paternal grandmother, Bessie Woodall of Princeton; maternal grandmother, Gladys Slaughter of Wilson; nephews, Daniel and Michael Johnson of Clayton, and Avery Cahall of Kenly; niece, Emma Cahall of Kenly; father and mother-in-law, Donald and Debbie Hudson of Kenly; and sister-in-law, Kasey Moore and husband Kevin of Gastonia.

The family will receive friends from 6-8 p.m. Monday at the Kenly Missionary Baptist Church. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to the David Johnson Memorial Scholarship Fund at Educational Foundation, PO Box 1075, Smithfield, NC 27577 or the ECU Medical & Heath Sciences Foundation, Inc., c/o Brody Scholarship Fund, 525 Moe Blvd., Greenville, NC 27834. Arrangements by Wilkerson Funeral and Crematory, Greenville, NC.

Golden Living Center supports family medicine department at Brody School of Medicine

**Golden Living Center** in Greenville has donated $112,079 to the Department of Family Medicine at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University to support the department’s nursing home teaching project.

The department provides primary medical care for the residents of the local Golden Living facility on MacGregor Downs Road.

This year is the 29th Golden Living Center has supported the teaching project.

Hal Garland, executive director of the local Golden Living Center, presented the check on Aug. 9 to Dr. Kenneth Steinweg, chairman of the Department of Family Medicine; Dr. Paul Cunningham, dean of the Brody School of Medicine; Dr. Tae Joon Lee, medical director at Golden Living Center; and Maria Knupp, a family nurse practitioner in the family medicine department’s geriatric division. The money will be used to support the instruction of family medicine residents and fellows in geriatrics and to help pay for salaries and teaching materials for the program.

Golden Living Center’s new 72,000-square-foot facility on MacGregor Downs Road houses 152 residents. The skilled nursing facility was the 2008 recipient of the American Health Care Association /National Center for Assisted Living Step I Quality Award.

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**GOLDEN LIVING CENTER** has donated $112,079 to the Department of Family Medicine at the Brody School of Medicine. From left are Dr. Tae Joon Lee, medical director at Golden Living Center; Maria Knupp, ECU family nurse practitioner; Dr. Kenneth Steinweg, chairman of family medicine; Hal Garland, executive director of Golden Living Center; and Dr. Paul Cunningham, dean of the Brody School of Medicine.
Ballard speaks to Kiwanis Club

ECU CHANCELLOR STEVE BALLARD recently spoke to the Kiwanis Club of Golden K about East Carolina University and its contributions to the community. Ballard, second from left, is shown from left with Neil Dorsey, John Lashley and Richard Murphy. The club meets every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. at the Masonic Temple.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Lawmakers become ‘Cardiologist for a Day’

Five local legislators recently participated in the “Cardiologist for a Day” program at Eastern Cardiology P.A.

The lawmakers were given a close-up look at state-of-the-art cardiology care in eastern North Carolina. This included talks and demonstrations of electronic medical records, imaging studies such as echocardiography and nuclear stress tests and research projects in an office based cardiology practice.

They also were given a tour of the cardiac catheterization laboratory at the East Carolina Heart Institute at Pitt County Memorial Hospital and given information about regional efforts to coordinate care among surrounding hospitals and Emergency Medical Services to improve timeliness of care to heart attack patients.

The event was sponsored by the North Carolina Chapter of the American College of Cardiology.
Best-selling author Tommy Spaulding to speak at Leadership Series luncheon

Best-selling author Tommy Spaulding, an East Carolina University graduate and Outstanding ECU Alumni award winner, will be the keynote speaker at a Greenville-Pitt County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Series Luncheon on from noon to 2 p.m. on Oct. 5 at Rock Springs Center.

Presented by Bob Barbour Honda, the event will highlight Spaulding's best-seller, "It's Not Just Who You Know," which ranks No. 1 on the USA Today Money best-seller list, No. 2 on The Wall Street Journal hardcover business best-seller list, and No. 2 on The New York Times hardcover advice best-seller list.

"It's Not Just Who You Know" promotes the value of building powerful relationships in business and in life. It went on sale Aug. 10 and features a forward by Ken Blanchard, management expert and author of "The One Minute Manager."

Spaulding will autograph books immediately following the luncheon.

Spaulding, former chief executive officer of the nonprofit global leadership organization Up with People, recently completed a term as ECU's first leader in residence. In this role, he served ECU in support of becoming "The Leadership University" as espoused in the university's strategic plan.

The College of Business at East Carolina hosted Spaulding as its keynote speaker for the 22nd annual Beta Gamma Sigma Distinguished Lecture Series, held in the spring of 2009. In addition, he was the commencement speaker at ECU's centennial graduation in May 2008.

Spaulding received ECU's Outstanding Alumni Award, the highest distinction awarded to an alumnus of the university, in 2006.

A 1992 graduate of ECU, he is president of The Spaulding Companies, a national leadership development, consulting and speaking organization based in Denver.

Sponsorships, which include seating at the event and books, are available for the luncheon.

Individual tickets are $99 each or $89 each for four or more persons from the same company.

Information and registration is available online at www.greenvillenc.org/events or call the chamber of commerce office at 752-4101.
Cutting hospital cost without hurting care

By CATHERINE L. GILLISS

Would you pay two mechanics with equivalent skills to both work on your car if one of them could do the job alone?

Obviously not, yet that's the kind of unnecessary cost you're likely to pay if you're among the many patients every year who get sick or injured and require anesthesia.

Two groups of medical professionals are trained to administer anesthesia: nurses who have been specially trained as nurse anesthetists and physicians specially trained as anesthesiologists. Despite compelling evidence that both groups provide equally safe anesthesia care, the majority of states, including North Carolina, still adhere to a federal government rule requiring nurse anesthetists to be supervised by physician anesthesiologists when providing care to Medicare and Medicaid patients.

Ironically, this is the same federal government that recently passed a sweeping health care reform bill with a focus on reducing cost and improving access. Astute governors in 15 states have recognized that the requirement for supervision adds cost, and they have put the medical and financial interests of their citizens ahead of custom by "opting out" of participation in this practice.

Did they sacrifice the safety of their citizens in doing so? After all, don't physician anesthesiologists attend medical school rather than nursing school prior to receiving their specialized training in anesthesia? Yes, they do, and training to become a physician is indeed longer in duration and has a different focus than training to become a nurse.

But three well-respected physician anesthesiologists addressed this discrepancy 33 years ago when they wrote the following in their textbook Introduction to Anesthesia: "It is apparent that the physician anesthesiologist offers greater depth of training than the nurse anesthetist, but this does not necessarily qualify the physician as a better anesthetist. By achieving the technical skills and the appropriate experience and knowledge, a conscientious nurse can easily surmount the gap in training."

Today, postgraduate education and clinical training in the specialty of anesthesia is remarkably similar for both groups, occurring in the same settings. As a result, both groups can independently provide an equivalent level of safe and effective anesthesia care.

A recent analysis found that in states whose governors opted out of the Medicare and Medicaid requirements for physician supervision of nurse anesthetists, there was no increase in patient complications or deaths. The independent report by RTI International recommended that nurse anesthetists be allowed to practice without supervision in all states.

Other experts have reached the same conclusion. Physician and nursing leaders at a January 2010 conference sponsored by the Josiah Macy, Jr. Foundation agreed that regulatory and reimbursement policy barriers often prevent the efficient and effective use of nurse practitioners. They called for all providers of care to practice "at the top of their licenses." In rural areas across the country where there are no physician anesthesiologists, nurse anesthetists do practice independently at the top of their licenses by providing anesthesia care to patients who would otherwise not have access to this care.

So how wasteful is a system in which we train physician anesthesiologists who will ultimately supervise nurse anesthetists? According to the Rand Corporation, it costs somewhat more than six times as much to train a physician anesthesiologist as to train a nurse anesthetist, and the anesthesiologist earns twice as much on average per year. Similarly, a 2010 study of anesthesia delivery models by The Lewin Group found the most cost-effective delivery model by far is nurse anesthetists working without supervision.

More importantly, both the Rand and Lewin Group studies found there is no significant difference in quality of care when a certified registered nurse anesthetist delivers anesthesia versus a physician anesthesiologist.

These compelling findings are not a recent revelation. In 1980, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the frequency of adverse outcomes associated with anesthesia was so low that a full-scale study of the issue was unwarranted.

How much longer will we continue to embrace a system of anesthesia care that costs substantially more money without enhancing safety? Consumers of anesthesia care across the country are paying for two mechanisms when they only need one. It is past time to change the process and get the job done in the most efficient and cost-effective manner.

Catherine L. Gilliss is dean of the Duke School of Nursing and president of the American Academy of Nursing.
Today's Columnist

Start cuts among state workers who got salary hikes when most did not

Times haven't been so tough for some state employees.
It seems some 2,673 state workers got discretionary raises last year, even while their counterparts in state government haven't received raises the last two years.
The News & Observer of Raleigh recently reported that those 2,673 workers got raises up to 10 percent even though their job titles didn't change and even as legislators whacked hundreds of millions out of state government.

Not surprisingly, some of the raises went to administrators on the high-end of the state pay scale.

State government refers to these increase as "in-range salary adjustments." Those handing them out justify the raises by pointing to increased job responsibilities as other positions have been slashed. Many pay hikes also went to workers who moved from trainee to permanent status.

No doubt, budget cuts over the last two years have translated into more state employees doing more and doing it with less. Even so, the likelihood that the bulk of those raises went to the middle managers that make state government run is probably pretty slim.

And the timing, coming when many private sector workers faced layoffs, couldn't have been worse.

Another part of the state personnel puzzle that creates the potential for abuse is the use of contractors in jobs that could be done by salaried workers.

For the last few years, legislators have been pushing state agencies to move some computer technology-related contractors into state position. Here's why: On contract, some earn $300,000 or more a year, with hourly rates topping $150; as an agency chief information officer recently told me, the savings to move one of those jobs to a state salaried position will typically range from 25 to 40 percent.

Most state agencies have been complying with the legislative mandate; others have been doing a little foot-dragging.

The result of that foot-dragging is that some information technology contractors have essentially become state workers, working exclusively for the same state agency for seven, eight, or even 10 years.

If the state could save just 20 percent on pay of $200,000 a year, over eight years the savings would total $320,000 on a single worker.

The bad times, though, aren't likely to continue selectively skipping over some in state government.

In the next fiscal year, state leaders will be forced to close a budget gap projected at $3 billion. If Republicans take control over even one chamber of the legislature, they'll likely push to allow a two-year, $1 billion tax hike to expire on schedule.

It's hard to see how that kind of budget gap is closed without doing something that will be especially galling to state employees: unpaid furloughs or outright salary cuts.

If it comes to that, maybe the salary cutting should start by doing away with any of those discretionary salary hikes approved at a time when most in state government got nothing more.

Scott Mooneyham writes about North Carolina government and politics for the Capitol Press Association.
UNC’s Heels must be held to the fire

When UNC-Chapel Hill Chancellor Holden Thorp appeared before the Faculty Council last week to discuss investigations into the Tar Heel football program, the scene was set for the faculty to blitz him with questions.

Thorp signaled serious problems a few weeks earlier in opening a news conference by saying, “To anyone who loves this university, I’m sorry about what I have to tell you.”

Shortly after, 13 players were kept out of the season-opening game in Atlanta.

So how many questions did Thorp get last week from the Faculty Council?
Two.
Not 22.
Two.
One more than one.
The number of points the other team gets for tackling you in your end zone.

Steven Bachenheimer, a microbiology professor, asked whether UNC has relaxed its standards in seeking football glory. Tom Linden, a journalism professor, asked why UNC agreed to pay the associate head coach $74,500 in severance as he left UNC one step ahead of possible NCAA sanctions.

Good for them. But there were more than 75 council members in attendance. Here are a few questions the others should have asked:

1. You are investigating whether a tutor employed by the university to work with football players gave inappropriate aid. That tutor also worked for coach Butch Davis and tutored his high school son. Is it appropriate for a tutor to work for both the university and the football coach?
2. You have indicated that academic misconduct might have occurred. If so, who is ultimately responsible?
3. If the NCAA hadn’t investigated

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football players and their relationships with agents, would UNC have learned of the possible academic cheating? If not, isn’t that a problem?

4. Some players used social media to discuss their travels and possible contact with agents. Shouldn’t UNC’s compliance officers closely monitor Twitter and Facebook?

5. Will you conduct a sport-by-sport review to see whether other athletes might have received inappropriate academic aid?

6. Should the $70 million expansion of Kenan Stadum be cancelled or scaled back, depending on the results of the investigations?

7. Is UNC admitting more football players who don’t meet typical UNC admission standards than it did five or 10 years ago?

8. Are you satisfied with the oversight of the athletic department?

9. Is it possible to have a winning football team and maintain top-rate academic standards for all students?

10. What have you learned about operating a Division I football program since starting your job as chancellor?

The Faculty Council missed an opportunity, but it will have another when it meets with Thorp next month. Our reporters will work to get answers to these questions.

The underside of big-time college sports isn’t pretty. A university needs the faculty to be its conscience. At UNC, faculty members need to get engaged on this issue. They need to get in the game.

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NCSU: Innovation will rouse economy

RALEIGH -- N.C. State University has its own stimulus plan for the lackluster state economy: a new initiative to double the number of private companies it spins off every year, and to boost by 50 percent annually the amount of grants and contracts its faculty and staff win to fund research.

NCSU will open an "innovation hub," where companies can come to gain access to expertise and technology that university researchers are developing, and where faculty and staff can get support to market their technologies or create new companies based on their work. Chancellor Randy Woodson told the Board of Trustees on Friday.

Also, Woodson said that he planned to create a $2.5 million fund for grants to university researchers to use after they have made discoveries with practical applications. These grants would help to pay for things such as prototypes and market research to bridge the gap between lab and marketplace.

"One of the most compelling features of N.C. State is our innovative spirit of entrepreneurship," Woodson said. "And this pulls all these resources into one office so people both inside and outside the university know where to go for information about commercializing the technology created here."

Finding money for new initiatives in a time when state university budgets have been shrinking is tough. But the hub, which NCSU is calling the Springboard Innovation Partnership Portal, wouldn't require significant new money because it will be collating efforts that already exist but are spread among more than half a dozen offices around campus, Woodson said.

The money for the new Chancellor's Innovation Fund, meanwhile, is income from technology NCSU has already licensed. The idea is for the fund to be self-sustaining because it would generate even more paying technology.

According to a university tally, NCSU owns and manages about 700 U.S. patents, and about 70 companies have been started on the basis of discoveries by faculty, staff and students.

Now, the university aims to double by 2012 the pace of creating new companies, from the typical four or five a year, said Terri Lomax, vice chancellor of research and innovation.

That's in addition to the goal of raising the annual research funding from outside grants and contracts by 50 percent - a lofty target given that last year's total includes tens of millions of dollars in one-time federal stimulus funds. But Lomax said she is confident.

As an example of the economic importance of spinoff technology, Woodson cited a new food processing facility in Halifax County by Raleigh entrepreneur Greg Hatem. Gov. Bev Perdue announced the project Thursday. The plant, which would use food preservation technology licensed from NCSU, will employ 200 people.

"This will be great for the horticulture industry in the state, great for Halifax County, and it's another example of how our technology moves industries forward in the state," Woodson said.
One trustee knows intimately how difficult it is to spin off a company from the university, and the impact it can make. John Sall, executive vice president of SAS Institute in Cary, met fellow founder Jim Goodnight at NCSU when they were graduate students.

They started the company in 1976. It now employs 4,400 people in North Carolina and more than 11,000 worldwide, and had revenues last year of more than $2.3 billion.

Fostering new companies and creating marketable new technology is clearly an important function for the university, particularly now, Sall said in an interview.

"North Carolina needs jobs. We need economic growth, and universities are a very important part of the economic engine," he said.

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UNC pays tribute to first black undergrads

Ralph Frasier, John Lewis Brandon and LeRoy Frasier, from left, were the first black undergraduate students at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, in the 1950s. Attendance at UNC football games was segregated by race.

By Tom Breen - Associated Press

CHAPEL HILL -- Three distinguished University of North Carolina alumni looked forward to doing something Saturday that they never could when they were students: watching the Tar Heels play football in the company of people of all races.

When John Brandon and the brothers Ralph and LeRoy Frasier became the first three black undergraduates at Chapel Hill, football games were still segregated by race, as were most public places in North Carolina.

Now, 55 years after a federal court allowed them to register for classes by overturning the university's racist admissions policy, the three are returning to be celebrated as pioneers by a UNC-CH where the most famous alumnus is Michael Jordan and where more black students are enrolled than in any other major research institution.

"Those days were probably the most stressful of my life," said Ralph Frasier, 72, during a visit to campus on Friday. "I can't say that I have many happy memories."

For some of those joining the celebration, the anniversary wasn't only a chance to commemorate the bravery of three Durham teenagers who stood up to Jim Crow laws just a year after the landmark Brown vs. Board of Education decision that outlawed segregation.

The Rev. William Barber, president of the state's NAACP chapter, was the speaker at a dinner praising the three as heroes Friday night. Barber sees their situation as a lesson in a time when issues of racial diversity in public schools have turned into a fiery public debate in Wake County.

"We need to remember history, but not to become angry or bitter," Barber told The Associated Press. "But by plumbing the depths of history, we can recognize the obstructions that try to stop the flow of justice."

The Wake County Board of Education voted this year to scrap the school's long-standing plan that aimed to achieve socioeconomic balance in student populations through busing. The legacy of the civil rights movement has been contested ground in the debate, with advocates of ending the policy invoking the example of Martin Luther King Jr., a comparison that has outraged Barber and other critics of the new policy.
A federal court in Greensboro then struck down the racist policy for undergraduates, and the three young men - two were 18, while Ralph turned 17 on the day of the court decision - registered for classes.

"It's one of three or four critical events in the eventual unraveling of segregation in North Carolina," said Archie Ervin, the university's chief diversity officer. "It signaled a change that now African-Americans could enroll at the flagship institution."

On that distant September day, the three didn't encounter the angry mobs or politicians standing in the doorways, but they quickly learned there were places they couldn't go, and people who wouldn't be seen with them.

"There were some people who were friendly, but there was reluctance on the part of some who didn't feel comfortable having their friends see them being friendly to us," Ralph Frasier said.

All three eventually moved away from North Carolina. Ralph Frasier splits his time between Jacksonville, Fla., and Columbus, Ohio; his brother, LeRoy, lives in Brooklyn, N.Y.; and Brandon lives in Houston.

The men are touched by the weekend of tributes, but accolades were far from their minds in 1955.

"I didn't think of myself as a hero or anything like that," Brandon said. "I'm understanding more about what it meant now than when it was occurring."
17-year quest leads Duke doctor to gout drug

A drug developed by a Duke University researcher to treat severe gout was approved this week by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, capping a 17-year journey from idea to market.

The drug, which will be sold under the name Krystexxa, has been hailed as a lifesaver by many of the patients who tested it. Gout, a painful buildup of a waste product called uric acid, can be debilitating for those who cannot take traditional therapies.

"This is good stuff," said L.T. Matthews, 77, of Burlington, who received the drug in clinical trials at Duke. He said his gout flare-ups three years ago were so painful he was often bedridden. After a regimen of the drug, which is administered in an intravenous drip twice a month, he was pain-free.

Dr. Michael Hershfield, a rheumatologist at Duke and the Durham VA Hospital, began work on the drug in the early 1990s after treating many patients who, like Matthews, were completely wiped out by the condition.

"There's an estimated 3 [million] to 5 million patients with gout in the United States, and more than 90 percent of them do well on available medications," Hershfield said. "But there's a subset of them ... who have progressive gout, and who cannot take or respond to treatment, and they progress to terrible disease."

A doctor and biochemist, Hershfield was uniquely positioned to tackle the problem. He had recently scored a major success helping bring to market another drug that was aimed at a rare immune disorder in babies.

Prolonged healing
therapies has since created other long-lasting treatments.

Hershfield was interested in using that approach for a gout therapy, but he faced numerous obstacles. Money was tight, the interest of corporate partners waned, and experiments that showed promise in animals had flaws when tested in humans.

But Hershfield and his research partner at Duke, Susan Kelly, kept working, convinced that the drug would help desperate gout patients. Finally in 2008, trial results showed the drug was effective in reducing uric acid levels in a substantial number of patients.

Another setback

The drug, which is manufactured by New Jersey-based Savient Pharmaceuticals, was on its way to winning FDA approval in 2009 - only to be tripped again. Federal authorities raised concerns that the manufacturing process had been altered and demanded corrections.

Another year passed, and the decision on the drug's fate was set for Tuesday.

"We were on pins and needles," Hershfield said.

After watching the clock all day, Hershfield headed home. Just as he was pulling out of the parking garage at work, his wife called with the news.

"Truly it was more of a relief," he said, noting that a rejection would have killed any further exploration of the therapy. "I couldn't imagine the drug not being available to patients."

Matthews, the Burlington patient, said he, too, couldn't bear the idea of the drug failing.

"It was a lifesaver for me," he said. "I was really at the point I didn't want to continue living. I was that bad off."

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Tuffy's mascot tryout at game pleases N.C. State officials

RALEIGH -- After giving a second wolf-like Tamaskan dog a tryout at its home football game Thursday night against Cincinnati, N.C. State University officials were pleased and said they hope they have found the right live mascot.

"We had a really good experience," said Chris Kingston, NCSU's senior associate director of athletics, who is overseeing the live mascot project. "I think he did really well with the crowd, and the crowd really liked him."

Fans had been clamoring for a live version of "Tuffy," NCSU's strutting wolf mascot, and student leaders discovered the Tamaskan, a rare Finnish breed that is people-friendly but looks remarkably lupine.

Taking it slow

Athletic Director Debbie Yow wanted to move carefully to ensure the safety of the animal and to make sure everything went smoothly. Another Tamaskan appeared in an unannounced trial run at the season opener Sept. 4.

It was owned by a kennel, though, and Kingston said the university decided to find a dog owned by a family that might be better able to monitor how it was handling any stress from the job.

He declined to identify the new dog's owner, who wants to remain anonymous for now.

Kingston said he wanted to get feedback from the owner about how things went before deciding whether this will be the permanent Tuffy. But he said the search could be over if the owner thinks things worked OK.

"I hope we can move forward," he said. "We don't want to change mascots every game."

When university leaders decided to revive the tradition of a live mascot, they nixed the idea of a wolf hybrid, in part because the shy, nocturnal creatures proved unsuited to large crowds in several attempts in the 1950s. One was sold to a traveling animal show after it had to be dragged across the football field, snarling and scrabbling, in its lone appearance. The next died almost immediately, and the third wolf reportedly had a nervous breakdown after being exposed to the crowds.

A fourth wolf, purchased in 1966, didn't have the same problems, but turned out to be a coyote.

That's not a problem this time, said a highly placed source.

"I patted it." Chancellor Randy Woodson told the university's board of trustees the morning after the game. "It's not a coyote, I can guarantee you that."

Given the history, though, it should probably be noted that Woodson is a plant scientist.
Duke rolls out the red carpet for Tide fans

DURHAM -- Hundreds of miles from home, sitting on a folding chair in the midday heat, Cary Hill of Tuscaloosa, Ala., meticulously assembled his dinner onto skewers.

Mushroom, onion, pepper, beef. Mushroom, onion, pepper, beef. After finishing a couple of dozen to grill for his friends and family, Hill paused only a moment before answering the "why" question - why travel all this way to watch a football game and cook dinner in a parking lot - as if that were the silliest thing he'd heard in a long while.

"It's fun, man!"

When the Duke Blue Devils take on the No. 1 Alabama Crimson Tide this afternoon in sold-out Wallace Wade Stadium, players will be greeted by a sea of red. Fans of Alabama, the defending national champion, snatched up the school's allotment of 7,000 tickets.

About 600 Alabama residents purchased Duke football season tickets this year. Duke officials expect that 50 RVs, many of them flying Crimson Tide flags, will make their temporary home this weekend in the parking lot of a closed Durham supermarket, set aside for exactly that purpose.

Alabama fans are a fervent, dedicated group. Some work three-day weeks during football season so they can travel to games. Handshakes between strangers are often accompanied by the team's battle cry, "Roll Tide," before the exchange of names.

Still others teach their dogs tricks to disparage Alabama's most hated rival, the cross-state Auburn Tigers.
And with that, Jasmine, a tiny Yorkshire terrier wearing a $65 custom-made University of Alabama polka-dot dress, rolled over and played dead.

DuBose, a swimming pool contractor who lives in Niceville, Fla., will attend his 147th consecutive Alabama football game today. He works long hours most of the year and cuts back in the fall. "This is our vacation," he said.

Knowing that plenty of Alabama football fans feel that way, Duke University worked hard to welcome them, said Samuel Veraldi, the school's parking and transportation director.

Duke leased the parking lot, usually home to a flea and farmers' market on the weekends. It sold RV passes for $100 and will provide a shuttle to the game. Veraldi said the school hopes it is turning around its football fortunes and that rolling out the red carpet this weekend will help it better handle large crowds in the future.

Alabama fans seemed pleased Friday. As the day wore on, more RVs pulled in the parking lot, more stereos were cranked and more beers were cracked open.

Although many of the owners of RVs seemed to be of retirement age, there was a smattering of younger folks. Jeremy and Rebecca Pepper of Tuscaloosa, who graduated from Alabama in 1999, met on their first day of class.

They brought their four children, who range in age from 3 to 8. The older ones skipped school Friday but brought their homework with them. Driving to games is a hobby, said Jeremy, an emergency room doctor. And anyway, football season only lasts 12 weeks.

"The rest of the year we save our money for the next 12 weeks," Jeremy Pepper said.

Traveling is a way to show pride in the university, said DuBose’s wife, Shelby.

"It’s not just football," she said. The couple also has season tickets for softball, basketball and gymnastics. "If they played tiddlywinks, we'd be there."

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