

The OPEN DOOR

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A decade of great art

(System Office celebrates 10th President's Art Exhibition; opening reception March 15)

By Peggy Beach, System Office, Public Affairs

When he began the President's Art Exhibition in 1998, H. Martin Lancaster had no idea how successful the event would become.

"Every year the collection gets better and better," said Lancaster, system president. "The variety of media we have exhibited is impressive. I wanted to showcase the excellent work our people do." Each year, the exhibitions have included quilts, pottery, painting, sculpture and a variety of other media.

Since the first exhibition in 1998, Lancaster has chosen a total of more than 1100 pieces of art from each of the 58 community colleges. The 2007 exhibition includes 154 pieces from 55 community colleges.

After the artwork is selected, it is put on display at the System Office's headquarters, the Caswell Building in downtown Raleigh, for the remainder of the calendar year. System Office staff members frequently put in

requests for their favorite pieces to be displayed on their floor. "It is such a delight to see the reaction of the staff as they view each new piece that comes



At the 2005 opening art reception, H. Martin Lancaster, system president, (left) shows Justice David Britt (right) his portrait. Britt's son-in-law, J. Craig Greene, a faculty member at Wilkes Community College, was the artist. Many System Office staff members often commented that while walking past the portrait, they felt the need to say "I did not do it, your Honor."

into the building," said Lancaster.

When the year is up, the art returns home unless it is sold or selected for exhibit elsewhere. The North Carolina Department of Insurance has displayed community college art in its Raleigh facilities for more than five years. Bryant Tyndall coordinates the building's artwork for Jim Long, North Carolina Commissioner of Insurance.

"The artwork from community colleges has really livened up our conference rooms," he said. "The staff really enjoys having art in the building and Commissioner Long is especially fond of North Carolina scenes."

In 2006, 15 photographs from previous exhibitions were put on display in the education wing of the North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh. "It was the first time the museum had displayed works by community college artists. I was

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Statement on Governor's expansion budget from President Lancaster

"I applaud the Governor for making community colleges a high priority," said Lancaster

On February 21, Governor Mike Easley released his expansion budget recommendations for the 2007-2009 biennium. Below is a statement from H. Martin Lancaster, president, North Carolina Community College System.

"As he has since he released his first recommendations for the North Carolina Community College System in 2001, the Governor has placed a strong emphasis on the role that the System plays in the continuum of providing education to North Carolina's citizens.

"The Governor's budget includes the largest amount in our System's history for delivering on-line community college

classes, particularly in the state's public high schools; provides the most substantial level of support for financial aid and counseling ever; sustains his commitment to workforce development with recurring funds for equipment; funds program modularization and new academic programs for high growth areas; provides the largest amount of funding for faculty enhancement, including degree completion, advanced credentials for nursing faculty, and professional development; and continues the Governor's emphasis on bringing our faculty salaries to the national average paid to their peers.

"The budget also fully funds enrollment growth and provides a reserve for growth that may occur beyond the budgeted amount. The budget recommendation increases funding for library resources for the first time since 1997.

"I applaud the Governor for making community colleges a high priority among the many competing fiscal needs of the state. I believe that the Governor recognizes and appreciates the important role that we play in higher education, in preparing North Carolina's workforce, and in delivering anytime-anywhere learning at a reasonable cost."

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thrilled because this allowed more North Carolinians to see what talented people we have on our campuses,” said Lancaster.

Many community college artists have gone on to have many other successes.

Ashley Fetner, a photographer from **Randolph Community College**, has exhibited at the System Office for several years. Some of his photographs will now be featured at the opening exhibition of the restored historic

house soon to be the home of the Center for the Study of the American South at University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

In 2006, “Horseless Rider,” a painted steel outdoor piece by David Sinkiewicz, an artist from **Alamance Community College**, was displayed on the lawn of the Caswell Building. Sinkiewicz has been accepted into the master of fine arts program in visual arts at UNC-Chapel Hill. He credits



“Steeple,” an oil painting by Renee Matthews, a student at Gaston College, was a part of the 2005 exhibition. It is now on display at the North Carolina Department of Insurance in Raleigh. Renee’s sister, Shirley Williams, has also exhibited her art at the System Office.

President Lancaster’s recommendation as a big part of his acceptance.

Will White, an alumnus of the **College of The Albemarle**, has sold at least two of his pieces as a result of the show and, according to his mother Melody White, an employee of the college, is using the proceeds to help finance his further education at Campbell University.

Cathy Crowell, frequent exhibitor, is the head of the photography program at **Carteret Community College**. A visiting artist at Carteret years ago, Crowell began to build a photography program. Students from that program

continue to send photography to the System Office exhibit.

System Office staffers are hard pressed to name their favorite pieces but most agree with Sean Hall, business and technology applications analyst.

“This year’s art is the best ever,” he said.

You are invited
to an informal reception honoring artists from the North Carolina Community College System on Thursday afternoon, March 15, 2007 at four o’clock in the Caswell Building at 200 West Jones Street in the state government complex in downtown Raleigh. Artwork from the community colleges will be on display in the Caswell Building, headquarters for the System Office, throughout 2007. No RSVP necessary. Bring as many guests as you like. Questions: Call Peggy Beach, 919-807-6964. Visitor parking is available (for a small fee) in the state government deck at Lane and McDowell streets.



“Three Bags Full,” a watercolor by Lelia Brigham, a student at Vance-Granville Community College was one of many highlights in the 2006 exhibition. Several System Office staff members guessed the title before looking at the label.

State Board approves lottery allocation to assist community college students

By Audrey Bailey, System Office, Public Affairs

“Finally, some good news about the lottery,” said Estell Lee, member, State Board of Community Colleges, during the finance and capital needs committee meeting on February 16. Lee’s comments came as the committee gave preliminary approval to the plan to distribute the projected funds the North Carolina Community College System will receive in scholarship assistance from the North Carolina Education Lottery.

In the full board meeting later that afternoon, Kennon Briggs, vice president for business and finance, told

the members that the new funds will increase the number of students receiving state financial assistance and increase the amount of state assistance they will receive. Combined with existing community college grant funds, more than \$12.3 million will be awarded to eligible students to cover the cost of tuition, books, supplies and transportation expenses.

The total amount of state financial support a student can receive is tied to the amount of federal Pell Grant assistance they get. With the addition of lottery funds, the maximum of

state assistance has risen to \$3,200, up from \$2,500 last year. System Office staff also estimate more students will be eligible to receive assistance because the allowable contribution from the student’s family has also risen. Part time students will also receive money, although a smaller amount. For more information, students should contact the admission offices at their local community college.

“This is unprecedented in terms of total support for our students,” said Briggs.

Owen visits Asia with Secretary Spellings

Dr. H. James Owen, president, Piedmont Community College, was among a delegation of 12 American college and university presidents who visited Japan, China and Korea with Margaret Spellings, U.S. Secretary of Education. The purpose of the November trip was to promote stronger ties between higher education institutions in the United States and the three Asian countries.

Owen and Dr. Stephen M. Curtis, president of the Community College of Philadelphia, were the only two community college presidents on the trip. Owen and Curtis pointed out “the value of community colleges” to their counterparts, sharing the programs of study offered at community colleges.

Participants included, among others, the presidents of Ohio State University, Johns Hopkins University, Rice University, Indiana University, and University of California at Santa Barbara.

Owen said that the trip was an outgrowth of a January 2006 higher education summit that he attended in Washington, D.C.

“During that trip, we discussed education issues with Secretary Spellings, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, and President



Dr. Jim Owen, president, Piedmont Community College, visits Tiananmen Square in Beijing as part of a trip he took to China, Japan and Korea, with a delegation headed by Margaret Spellings, U.S. Secretary of Education.

George W. Bush,” said Owen. “That discussion led to the proposal of sending several delegations to Asia, India and the Middle East to promote the value of U.S. higher education and to talk about the importance of international education.”

The Asia visit was the first trip. The U.S. delegation met with Asian college and university presidents, ministers of education, students, and government leaders.

Dr. Owen said the group received a warm welcome from the education officials and was successful in deliver-

ing the message that the United States welcomes foreign students who want to study here. “After 9-11, it was more difficult for foreign students to come here and although the process has become easier in the years since, many foreign students don’t realize they are welcome to study in the U.S.,” said Owen.

Owen said that another mission for the delegation was to assure Asian nations that the U.S. welcomes increased collaboration, partnerships, and exchanges with foreign universities for research and development. “We must work together to equip all students to compete in the global economy,” he said.

Owen also said that the delegation hopes to open the doors for U.S. students, who have traditionally studied in England, France and Germany, to study in Asia, where they may be able to take advantage of Asia’s strength in science and math programs. Dr. Owen said he made contacts that could be helpful in setting up an exchange program between Piedmont Community College and a college in Beijing.

Editor’s Note: for more on the trip, check the December 5, 2006 issue of *Community College Times*.

Mitchell Community College receives United Way Spirit of North Carolina Award

At the United Way’s annual meeting in Pinehurst in February, Mitchell Community College received a United Way North Carolina Spirit Award for the college’s 2006 campaign.

Having increased per capita giving 28 percent and exceeded the campus goal by 45 percent, the college was recognized for active leadership, effective meetings and meaningful examples of how the United Way helps members of the community.

“I am proud of the generosity shown by our faculty, staff and students,” said Dr. Douglas Eason, college president. “Everyone worked hard on this campaign and we appreciate this recognition for our efforts.”

“All of us at United Way of Iredell are so pleased that Mitchell Community College won this Spirit Award. The folks there are very supportive of United Way’s work in the community. Mitchell is the first community college

to win this award. The competition is steep which makes receiving the award even more special,” said Pat N. Stewart, local United Way executive director.



L to R: Pat N. Stewart, United Way of Iredell County; Dr. William Findt, Mitchell Community College; Loraine Watt, Mitchell Community College; and Debbie Howell, United Way of Iredell County. Mitchell receives the United Way Spirit of North Carolina Award in February.

Loraine Watt, college instructor and campaign coordinator, participated in the *Spirit of North Carolina Best Practices Showcase*. Her presentation

– “Make it Easy, Make it Simple, Make it Real” — highlighted the college’s strategy of success.

The Spirit of North Carolina Award for Campaign Excellence is sponsored annually by the United Way of North Carolina. The awards program provides statewide recognition for exceptional commitment and support to communities through local United Way involvement. The competitive awards are presented to honor corporate and not-for-profit organizations that demonstrate excellence in their United Way campaigns.

National Award Goes to Drake Enterprises and Eastern Band of Cherokee

Two groups recognized for their contributions to Southwestern Community College

Drake Enterprises and the Eastern Band of Cherokee received the National Benefactor of the Year Award in November in Washington, D.C.

The award, presented by the Council for Resource Development, recognizes those benefactors who have made significant contributions to a community or two-year college. Drake and the Eastern Band were chosen for their work with Southwestern Community College.

In 2003, Phil Drake, founder and chairman of Drake Enterprises and Michel Hicks, principal chief of the Eastern Band, with the help of Southwestern Community College, formed BalsamWest FiberNET (BWFN) to address a lack of affordable advanced high-speed broadband



L to R: Cecil Groves, president, Southwestern Community College, Michel Hicks, principal chief, Eastern Band of Cherokee and Phil Drake, founder and chairman, Drake Enterprises, enjoy the prestige of a national award.

telecommunications access in far western North Carolina, upstate Georgia and eastern Tennessee. Spanning more than 250 miles, this fiber-

optic network has enabled BWFN to become a leading provider of enterprise broadband services, allowing more economic development and delivery of health and educational services.

"We are most grateful to Southwestern for their leadership and support in helping develop this critical infrastructure resource for our region," said Hicks.

"In our desire to make life better for ourselves, our children and the generations to follow, I believe this network that Southwestern helped create is fundamental to making that happen," said Drake.

The Council of Resource Development is an affiliate of the American Association of Community Colleges.

This just in...

As *The Open Door* was going to press, two stories came across the news desk.

Wake Technical Community College unveiled its new simulation and game development lab.

"We are extremely proud to be the home of the state's most advanced game development facility," said Dr. Stephen Scott, college president. "We think it demonstrates our commitment



Dr. Stephen Scott, president, Wake Technical Community College, greets guests at the opening ceremony for the new simulation and game development lab.

to training a world-class workforce that can meet the growing needs of this high-tech industry."

The computer lab is the centerpiece of Wake Tech's new associate's degree in simulation and game development.

The program began last fall when the college received an \$858,000 award from the National Science Foundation. The International Game Developer's Association and local industry leaders helped create the program's curriculum.

Eighty-four students are currently enrolled. Graduates of the program will be in high demand because the Triangle area is home to more than 30 companies in the digital game industry. These companies employ designers, artists, animators and technicians at competitive salaries. The first class graduates in July 2008. A sample of some of the students' work can be seen at <http://www.dgxp.com/movie/SGDMovie.mov>.

Helen Thayer, the first woman to travel to the magnetic North Pole, spoke at **Mitchell Community College** and **Central Piedmont Community College** in late February to kick off celebrations for National Women's History Month.

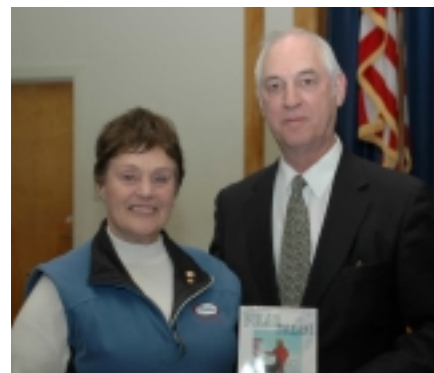
Thayer, 69, a native of New Zealand, is a photographer and author. She lives in Snohomish, Washington, with her husband, Bill. In 1988, Thayer and her Canadian husky, Charlie, trekked across the magnetic North Pole, averaging about 12 miles of walking every day in making a 364-mile trip. During the journey, according to the *Statesville Record and Landmark*, she used the global positioning system given to her by the U.S. Marine Corps to test. Thayer also had several close encoun-

ters with polar bears.

"But I saw them in the distance on many other occasions," she said. Thayer learned about dealing with polar bears and other dangers by living with a family of Inuits, an indigenous Arctic people.

The Thayers are planning a trip to Bhutan, Tibet and Nepal in 2007. Some of the couple's previous endeavors include kayaking the Amazon River, walking across the Gobi, Sahara and Mojave deserts and scaling some of the world's highest mountains. "There are cultures on this earth that are endangered," she said. "And someone has to document them before they are gone."

Thayer's web site is www.helenthayer.com.



Thayer talks with Dr. Douglas Eason, president, Mitchell Community College.

Community college libraries implement changes after survey

By Peggy Beach, System Office, Public Affairs

Most of us take libraries for granted. Not David Goble and Catherine Lee.

Goble, dean of libraries at **Central Piedmont Community College** and Lee, learning resources center director at **Cape Fear Community College**, initiated a survey of 15 community college libraries in the spring of 2006.

"We wanted to see how the patrons viewed community college libraries," said Goble.

So Goble and Lee recruited the libraries to participate in the LibQUAL+™ survey, a project administered by the State Library of North Carolina as part of the federal Library Services and Technology Act. Community colleges participating in the study were **Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College, Beaufort County Community College, Cape Fear Community College, Central Carolina Community College, Central Piedmont Community College, Cleveland Community College, Davidson County Community College, Durham Technical Community College, Edgecombe Community College, Guilford Technical Community College, Haywood Community College, McDowell Technical Community College, Pitt Community College, South Piedmont Community College and Wake Technical Community College**. Plans to include other community colleges in an upcoming survey are in the works, said Goble.

While Central Piedmont participated in the survey in 2004, this is the first time that a group of community

colleges in North Carolina completed the study. "This study actually measures the customer experience from a neutral perspective," said Goble. "It's not the librarians talking, it's the students and faculty."

The survey found that most survey takers are pleased with the librarians and their ability to instill confidence in



A student at Asheville-Buncombe Technical College studies in the college library. A survey found that students still value print materials as well as electronic equipment.

library users. Getting individual attention from librarians also ranked high in the survey. The survey also found that an increased level of noise is a problem in many libraries.

"People are participating in more study groups as well as individual study," said Goble. "This can lead to more noise obviously so we need to find ways to accommodate more study groups and individuals."

The survey also found that print materials are still highly valued. "That is the number one thing I took from the survey," said Lee. "People want print materials even if they like electronic

formats. Users want both and having both different formats caters to different learning styles."

Ibrahlim Ismail, a student at Wake Tech, works as a library assistant at the college. He agreed that print materials are valuable. "Oh, yes, we definitely need more books, especially history books," he said. "Our patrons use interlibrary loan services a lot."

Ismail said that the librarians at Wake Tech are good at keeping the noise down. "I can see how someone can get the impression of a lot of noise," he said. "More people are doing study groups now so we have a lot more people asking for group study rooms now. I had a huge study group for one of my classes a few weeks ago."

The results are already proving useful to many of the colleges. McDowell Tech and Central Carolina have both implemented faculty orientations so that instructors are more aware of library services.

Durham Tech has added additional space for individual and group study needs. A-B Tech has added additional weekend hours. Cape Fear redesigned its website for improved access and added additional wireless access. Edgecombe bought new computers for its Rocky Mount and Tarboro campus libraries. Pitt has developed more subject resources for specific classes and developed a new web site.

Whatever changes happen to libraries, most would agree with Ismail. "I love the library. I could not do what I need to do in school without it."

Time schedule for the Academic Excellence Awards Luncheon

The Academic Excellence Awards Luncheon will be held at the Hilton North Raleigh on **Tuesday, April 24**. At the luncheon, two students from each community college are recognized for their academic and leadership achievements. The following is a time schedule for the event.

March 2 – profiles of the student recipients are due to System Office.

March 9 – RSVP date for invitations mailed out in February.

March 19 – deadline for colleges to submit registration forms and payments.

If you need any further information about the luncheon, contact Dr. Stephanie Deese at deeses@nccommunitycolleges.edu or at 919-807-7159.

"The student has his Rome, his Florence, his whole glowing Italy, within the four walls of his library. He has in his books the ruins of an antique world and the glories of a modern one."

Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

Campus Highlights

Beaufort County Community College Wilmington, North Carolina

- ◆ In September, the college signed an agreement with East Carolina University establishing the college as a hub for a partnership intended to educate future teachers in north-eastern North Carolina. The university will offer degree opportunities in elementary education, special education-general curriculum and middle grades education with concentrations in math and science through Wachovia Partnership East's new Northeast Consortium. University faculty will teach at the community college, online classes via the Internet or combined face-to-face and Internet classes using the college's tele-conferencing capabilities.
- ◆ The college was awarded nearly \$375,000 in grants that will help fund a \$1.05 million expansion of its nursing program. The grants, along with renovations to the building housing the nursing program, will lead to a 43 percent expansion of the associate degree nursing program and a 50 percent expansion of the practical nursing program. The awards include \$140,255 each from the Duke Endowment and from the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust as well as \$50,000 from Beaufort County Hospital to fund three new nursing school faculty posts over the next three years. The college also received a \$42,388 award from University Health Systems to fund professional development for existing nursing school faculty.
- ◆ The college received a \$172,705 grant from Golden LEAF to implement a truck driving school. Land on the east end of the campus will be used to build a driving track for the program. The school will begin in February of 2007.
- ◆ The college unveiled its new Beaufort College Academy in the fall. The academy is a new way of packaging Huskins and dual enrollment classes for high school students. It features coursework options in college transfer, pre-nursing, computer science/networking, and career skills. More than 60 high school juniors and seniors enrolled.
- ◆ In February of 2006, the college officially opened its new public service building. The 24,652 square foot building houses the cosmetol-

ogy, early childhood development and human services technology programs. This building is the last of the two new construction projects on the campus financed by the 2000 Higher Education Bond Referendum.

Cape Fear Community College Wilmington, North Carolina

- ◆ The college received a flawless evaluation from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools in November. A reaffirmation committee of the association made no recommendations for improvement – a rare occurrence for any college. "We didn't quite expect to receive no recommendations because that seldom happens. That's not to say we can't improve," said Kim Lawing, vice president for institutional effectiveness.
- ◆ In December, Cape Fear announced plans to form an exploratory committee to pursue the construction of a replica of a Civil War-era blockade runner ship on the college's waterfront. Supporters hope the ship will become a tourist attraction as well as an educational tool for students. The ship will be constructed using private funds and donated materials.
- ◆ In February, the college announced its first "Teachers at Sea" program, designed to give high school science instructors the chance to experience three days of real-life marine research in the ocean.

Davidson County Community College Lexington, North Carolina

- ◆ The college cut the ribbon on its new 2,500 square-foot automation technology lab in December. The lab was built by students in the electronics engineering technology program using a \$250,000 grant from the Duke Energy Foundation. It simulates an advanced manufacturing environment and gives students valuable hands-on experience with computer-based programmable logic controllers and robots.
- ◆ The work of internationally acclaimed glass sculptor Jon Kuhn is featured in the college's spring art exhibit, "Perspectives," along with 140 additional pieces of art by 11 other North Carolina artists. Kuhn's sparkling glass sculptures are featured in permanent collections of more than 30 art galleries and

museums around the world including the Smithsonian Institution, The White House, and the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Ten watercolor paintings by Lexington artist Leslie Frontz are also on view in the show that will remain through May 18. Frontz is a curriculum art instructor in the college's new associate degree program in fine arts.

- ◆ The college hosted an 18-member team of Turkish dancers from the University of Cankiri in February. The visit was part of a cultural exchange between the college and the Republic of Turkey. The exchange was made possible by Dr. Mary Rittling, college president, who visited Turkey in April 2006 as a delegate for Community Colleges for International Development. Linda Burke, director of Instructional Services, was a guest lecturer at various Turkish colleges and universities in November and December.
- ◆ The new welding lab on the Davie Campus is "home" to two racecar frames donated in November by NASCAR owner Richard Childress. Welding students are perfecting their skills using the cars once driven by Jeff Burton and Clint Bowyer in Busch Series races. Students are gaining real-world experience much like the welders employed at the Childress Racing Shop in Welcome.
- ◆ In October, the college dedicated and named its Uptown Lexington Education Center for the late Rochelle and Robert Grubb, a Lexington couple who strongly believed in education. A memorial gift to the college foundation by their sons enabled the purchase and renovation of the satellite campus, doubling its size. The center opened in May 2004 and soon outgrew the original space.

Halifax Community College Weldon, North Carolina

- ◆ The college will celebrate its 40th anniversary on September 7, 2007 using the theme, "40 Years of Bringing Learning to Life."
- ◆ Former student Chester Williams was recognized in September as the Minority Access National Role Model Award recipient during a conference in Las Vegas. Dr. Julie Galvin, science instructor nominated Williams because of his work with

Campus Highlights continued

the North Carolina Transfer Assistance in the Biomedical Sciences (NC-TABS) program, a student transfer venture between the North Carolina Community College System and the University of North Carolina. Williams works with Sylvan in Roanoke Rapids.

Martin Community College Williamston, North Carolina

- ◆ Three guidance counselors with the Martin County Schools are serving as transition counselors for the schools and the colleges. Susan Harris of Roanoke High School, Sharon Griffin and David Freeman of Williamston High School spend a part of their day on the college campus, serving as a bridge for dual-enrolled students, helping them to adjust to college studies.
- ◆ The college launched a “fall mini-semester” to students in the fall 2006. The mini-semester is completed in nine weeks. Courses offered are hybrid (traditional classroom and Blackboard instruction) or fully Internet classes.

Pitt Community College Greenville, North Carolina

- ◆ In December, the college announced that its future student services center will be named for Craig Goess, owner of Greenville Toyota and several other businesses. Goess, who has given the college’s foundation over \$100,000, has pledged to give another \$400,000 over the next five years.
- ◆ The college’s volleyball team, led by second-year coach William Way, went 20-0 to win the Region X Conference regular season.
- ◆ Construction has begun on a new locker room/press box facility at the Minges-Overton Baseball Complex. The new fieldhouse is part of an overall project to improve the ballpark and is scheduled for completion in spring 2007.
- ◆ Several faculty and staff members attended the second annual World View Community College Symposium, a two-day event held at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to focus on global economic issues and the relevance of global education to the classroom.
- ◆ Anna Barrett of the Pitt County JobLink Center received the Wayne Daves Award for Outstanding Achievement in Workforce Development in November.

Rowan-Cabarrus Community College Salisbury, North Carolina

- ◆ In January, the college opened its adult career development center near the North Carolina Research Campus in Kannapolis. **Refocus, Retrain, and Re-Employ, or R3**, is the center’s mission and motto. Intensive career development services are available to displaced workers who are unemployed or underemployed. The goal is to connect workers with jobs at the developing research campus and elsewhere in the region.
- ◆ The college published the first issue of *YOUR Community College* in September. The quarterly newsletter provides a new channel for news and information about the college.
- ◆ Rowan-Cabarrus is expanding its Cloverleaf Cosmetology Center. The newly added space will allow the college to double its high school enrollment for cosmetology, provide access to the program to two more area high schools, and accommodate 32 seats for a new high school program in esthetics by fall 2008.
- ◆ Dr. Ed Otto is the college’s new director of biotechnology. He is the former manager of the North Carolina BioNetwork Pharmaceutical Center in Winston-Salem.

Vance-Granville Community College Henderson, North Carolina

- ◆ The college will significantly enhance its health sciences programs in the spring 2007 semester with the opening of the allied health science simulation center at Maria Parham Medical Center in Henderson. A new North Carolina Community College System grant worth \$153,565 will help make sure the simulation center is fully equipped to prepare students for success in the health care field. The center is located at the health center because space is not available on the campus for a lab of this size and scope. The hospital is located only two miles north of the main campus.
- ◆ In October, April Culbreth, a nursing graduate, received the Governor’s Award for Excellence in Workforce Development.
- ◆ Leaders from North Carolina Central University and Vance-Granville signed in December new articulation agreements. The leaders also discussed how to boost enrollment of African American males in higher education, especially in community college programs. The articulation

agreements allow students to more quickly and conveniently finish degrees that prepare them for careers in nursing and in the biotechnology field.

- ◆ Vance-Granville awarded 524 GEDs and 116 AHS diplomas during the 2005-2006 academic year, the third highest behind Central Piedmont Community College and Wake Technical Community College.

Wilson Technical Community College Wilson, North Carolina

- ◆ The new building at the Coastal Plains Law Enforcement Training Center is nearing completion. The small business center has moved to a temporary location on campus until it moves to the new business incubator when it is completed in downtown Wilson. The bid process for the new student center is expected to begin in March.
- ◆ The college received a grant from the Health and Wellness Trust Fund Commission and kicked off a health and wellness initiative on campus last spring.
- ◆ In continuing its sustainability efforts, the college has offered a program on manufacturing biodiesel, an energy awareness seminar and a class on the green advantage program for contractors. Recycling efforts on campus continue to grow each month. The college also approved a new mission and vision statement to include our sustainability efforts.
- ◆ Six new certificates, one new diploma, and four new associate degrees were offered in 2006. These are: two certificates in early childhood (infant/toddler and lateral entry), three certificates in information systems (security & certification prep, Cisco Networking, and A+ certification prep), one certificate in mechanical engineering (drafting and design); one diploma in mechanical engineering (drafting and design); four associate degrees in early childhood education – special education, middle school special education (college transfer pre-major), information systems security, and networking technology.
- ◆ The college, in conjunction with Bridgestone Firestone, is teaching a tire manufacturing class that has already enrolled over 250 students.
- ◆ The college is a pilot site for the Career Readiness Certificate (CRC) Initiative.

Community College News

(news about community college people and programs)

Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr. began his

tenure as the fourth president of **Halifax Community College** in December. Griffin earned a bachelor's degree from Bluefield State College and his master's degree from Western



Griffin

Illinois University. He earned a doctorate in education from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. Griffin was previously president of West Virginia State College and Community and Technical College...

Dr. Bob Shackelford Jr., began his

tenure as president of **Randolph Community College** on January 1. Shackelford was previously vice president for student development at



Shackelford

Rockingham

Community College. He earned a bachelor's degree from the School of the Ozarks in Missouri. He later earned a master's degree and a doctorate at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro...**Jim Fleming**, a college transfer student at **Durham Technical Community College**, was named the recipient of the Robert W. Scott Student Leadership Award in November. Fleming, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran, was among 44 nominees from community colleges, across the state. He is currently vice president of the student senate and president of the math club. Fleming also organized shifts of Durham Tech students, faculty and staff to volunteer at a local evaluation center for Hurricane Katrina refugees. Fleming will be recognized at the Academic Excellence

Awards Luncheon in April in Raleigh. The North Carolina Community College Presidents Association sponsors the award...A culinary team from **Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College** took first place and a gold medal at the North Carolina State Student Hot Food Competition in Charlotte in February. The team included captain **Jason Huang, Daniel Gorman, Chambli Stuber, Michelle Bailey** and **Matt Gruber** with **Kim Aasland** serving as an alternate. **Bronwen McCormick**, manager and instructor and **Charles deVries**, hospitality education instructor, served as coaches. The team will advance to the Southeast Regional competition in April in Nashville... **Randolph Community College** received \$244,200 from the Duke Energy Carolinas' Community College Grant Program for state-of-the-art machining simulation training equipment. The grant will fund the purchase of five GE Fanuc Computer and Numerical Control (CNC) simulators, four initial training sessions provided by the manufacturer, a Haas CNC turning center and supplies. The simulators will be used to teach associates of The Timken Company in Randleman specific advanced machining skills needed in their jobs, as well as to provide training to students in the college's machining technology curriculum, said Mitchell Kiser, chair of the college's mechanical & industrial department and program head for



L to R: Jim Fleming, recipient of the Robert W. Scott Leadership Award, with Scott, former governor and former system president.

machining technology...**Cleveland Community College** and **Mayland Community College** each received a grant from the Economic Development Administration. U.S. Representative Patrick McHenry (R-NC) announced in December that Cleveland Community College will receive a \$1 million grant. The funds will be used to build the Bailey Allied Health and Science Center, a 50,000 square-foot facility. McHenry also announced that Mayland will receive a \$899,000 grant. The funds will be used with money from the 2000 Higher Education Bond Referendum to construct a new allied health sciences building on the main campus in Spruce Pine...In January, students at the Tarboro campus of **Edgecombe Community College** participated in an online video presentation with the North Carolina Museum of History. The museum unveiled new distance learning programming that will allow patrons across the state and nation to "visit" exhibits at the Raleigh site. During the presentation, **Monika Fleming**, chair, English and Humanities Department at Edgecombe, gave tips to students on how to conduct interviews with World War II veterans...The Northern Wake Campus of **Wake Technical Community College** will be the first college



Allen

campus in North Carolina to meet the standards of a new nationally-recognized environmental rating system called LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design). The new campus will open this fall...**Tim Allen**, instructor of history and religion at **Randolph Community College**, was selected to participate in the 2007 Oxford Round Table in Oxford, England. Forty scholars and leaders from around the world will gather to discuss the separation of church and state at Harris Manchester College at the University of Oxford in July. The event is by invitation only.

More Community College News

A graduate of **Randolph Community College** received an award from the North Carolina Press Photographer's Association in January. **David Smith**, staff photographer with the *Fayetteville Observer*, was named clip photographer of the year. The honor goes to the photographer who accumulates the greatest number of points in the association's monthly news photo clip contest. Smith, who has an associate degree in photography from Randolph, has been on the *Observer* staff since 2002...Two community college students were among 24 college students selected for spring internships with state agencies. The two students were **Andrew Bunting** of Newport, a sophomore aquaculture major at **Carteret Community College** and **Mallory Cooper** of Salisbury, a second-year criminal justice major at **Rowan-Cabarrus Community College**. Bunting is an intern with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources at the North Carolina Aquarium at Pine Knoll Shores. Cooper is an intern with the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention's Stonewall Jackson Youth Development Center in Concord...**Diane Althouse**, a student at **Central Piedmont Community College**, was a top five finalist in an essay contest sponsored by the North Carolina Museum of History. Althouse, who wrote the essay for her North Carolina history class, discussed the "Good Roads" movement and the use of chain gangs in North Carolina...In December, **Central Piedmont Community College** celebrated the 100th birthday of **Powell Majors**, a retiree and long time supporter of the college. Majors, the former director of the college's foundation, was the treasurer for Lance, Inc. for more than 25 years. The college announced the formation of a scholarship in Majors' name...In October, **Fernando Trulin**, director of the Brunswick Educational Transition Center (BETC) and coordinator of Hispanic/Latino programs for **Brunswick Community College**, won the Diamante Award. The award is presented to those who "serve as a catalyst for change by nourishing cultural and community participation among North Carolina Hispanic-Americans through cultural and community events, verbal communication, education and dissemination of information." Trulin was instru-



Powell Majors, a retiree from Central Piedmont Community College, (seated) celebrates his 100th birthday, with three of the college's presidents. L to R: Dr. Tony Zeiss, Dr. Ruth Shaw, and Dr. Richard Hagemeyer.

mental in the creation of the BETC, a joint venture with the college, Brunswick County Public Schools and the Mexican government to provide the Hispanic/Latino community with better access to education...**Surry Community College** received an Outstanding Innovation Award from the North Carolina Community College Adult Education Association in October. The college received the award for an ambulance simulator built into one of the college's classrooms. The simulator was created from parts taken from ambulances no longer in service. Students can practice life-saving skills learned in class. **Kirk Killon**, director of emergency medical programs, designed the simulator and accepted the award for the college...**Jane Fountain**, a student at **Central Piedmont Community College**, received the inaugural North Carolina Campus Compact Community Impact Student Award in November at North Carolina State University. The North Carolina Campus Compact is a statewide coalition of community college and university presidents and chancellors established to encourage campus engagement in the community.

...Students in the advertising and graphic design program at **Alamance Community College** had artwork selected for the fifth annual Shakori Hills Grassroots Festival in Chatham County. Selected were the artwork of **Kim Van Wieren**, poster; **Whitney Cox**, handbill; **Greg Mullis**, program cover; **Amy Danner**, print ads; **Trey Foster**, print ad;

Jazmine Baynes, print ad; **Heather Harden**, print ad; **Beth Glidewell**, print ad; and **Yvonne Jones**, t-shirts and bumper stickers. In all, the winning students' designs will be prominently featured on a poster, handbill, program cover, publication ads, t-shirts and bumper stickers in print runs numbering approximately 100,000. The student-designed campaign blitz will blanket the Greensboro-High Point area. The festival is scheduled for late April...As part of their campus quality enhancement plan, **Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute** has opened a new writing center on its Caldwell

campus for students who want to improve their writing skills ...The Outer Banks Homebuilders Association has donated a roll up garage door and its installation to the **College of The Albemarle**. Association members installed the door at the cabinetry and carpentry building on the Roanoke Island campus in Manteo...Catherine Ellis, professional crafts-fiber instructor at **Haywood Community College**, is participating in an exhibit at the Danny Simmons Corridor Gallery in Clinton Hill, Brooklyn. The exhibit, called 3Dc2: Define, Discover and Discuss Contemporary Craft, features cutting-edge contemporary craft by artists associated with the Penland School of Craft. The exhibition remains on view until March 31. Ellis' piece in the exhibit is entitled "Four Hundred Steel Threads." Proceeds of sales from this exhibit will be used to create a scholarship for young craft artists from the Clinton Hill community.



L to R: North Carolina Senator Janet Cowell (D-Wake); Jane Fountain, student, Central Piedmont Community College and North Carolina Representative Linda Coleman (D-Wake). Fountain received the inaugural North Carolina Campus Compact Community Impact Student Award. The North Carolina Campus Compact is a statewide coalition of college and university presidents and chancellors established to encourage campus engagement in the community.

Important Dates in 2007

Compiled by Peggy Beach, System Office, Public Affairs
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NOTE: some events may be subject to change. Please contact the individuals listed for further information.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings in 2007 of the State Board of Community Colleges: **March 16, April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, December 14.** Note that State Board committee meetings are held the day before the regularly scheduled meeting. The Board does not traditionally meet in June and December. Those dates are placed on the calendar in the event of issues requiring the Board's attention. For more information, contact Richard Sullins at sullinsr@nccommunitycolleges.edu or at 919-807-6969.

March

March 9-11 – N4CSGA (North Carolina Comprehensive Community College Student Government Association), Sheraton Imperial, RTP. Contact: Charletta Sims, simsc@nccommunitycolleges.edu

March 14-March 16 – Public Relations Information Managers Association. (PRIMA). Courtyard Marriott, Carolina Beach. Contact: Mary Miller, Catawba Valley Community College, mkmiller@cvcc.edu or at 828-327-7000, x4387.

March 15 – Artists Reception for the 2007 President's Art Exhibition. 4 to 6 p.m. Contact: Peggy Beach at 919-807-6964 or at beachm@nccommunitycolleges.edu

March 20-22 – Community College Tech Prep Conference, Greensboro Koury Convention Center. Contact: Elizabeth Brown, 919-807-7128 or browne@nccommunitycolleges.edu

March 28-30 – North Carolina Association of Community College Instructional Administrators and the North Carolina Association of Student Development Administrators, Sheraton, Atlantic Beach. Contact: Karen Yerby, 919-807-7107, yerbyk@nccommunitycolleges.edu

April

April 1-4 – Southeastern Employment and Training Association, Shearson/Koury Center, Greensboro. Contact: Dr. Stephanie Deese at 919-807-7159 or at deeses@nccommunitycolleges.edu

April 3-5 – North Carolina Community College System Bionetwork Bioforum, Central Carolina Community College. Contact: Norman Smit, 919-807-7181 or at smitn@nccommunitycolleges.edu

April 11-13 – Minority Male Mentoring, Men Are Nurturers, Too Conference, Sheraton Imperial, Research Triangle Park. Contact: Shlonda Brouchet, brouchets@nccommunitycolleges.edu, 919-807-7068.

April 14-17 – American Association of Community Colleges annual convention, Tampa Convention Center, Tampa, Florida.

April 17-19 – North Carolina Employment and Training Association. Grove Park Inn, Asheville. Contact: Dr. Stephanie Deese at 919-807-7159 or at deeses@nccommunitycolleges.edu

April 24 – Academic Excellence Awards Luncheon, noon, Hilton North Raleigh. Contact: Dr. Stephanie Deese, 919-807-7159 or at deeses@nccommunitycolleges.edu

May

May 2-4 – 10th Annual National WorkKeys Conference Hilton Orleans Riverside, New Orleans, LA, Registration information available soon at, www.act.org/workkeys/conf/index.html

May 23-25 – North Carolina Distance Learning Alliance, Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College. Contact Cindy Pannill, pannillc@nccommunitycolleges.edu or at 919-807-7062.

June

June 10-15 – Community College Student Leadership Institute, Peace College. Contact: Karen Yerby at yerbyk@nccommunitycolleges.edu or at 919-807-7107.

August

August 1-3 – Basic Skills and Family Literacy Conference, New Bern. Contact: Katie Waters, 919-807-7136 or at watersk@nccommunitycolleges.edu

September

September 17 – Constitution Day. System Office will commemorate the date during the week of September 11-15.

October

October 10-12 – Association of Community College Business Officials (ACCBO) Fall Meeting, Sheraton Capital Center, Raleigh. Contact: Jan Hopkins at 919-807-7069 or at hopkinsj@nccommunitycolleges.edu

October 12-21 – North Carolina State Fair, State Fairgrounds, Raleigh.

October 17-19 – North Carolina Workforce Development Partnership Conference, Sheraton Koury Center, Greensboro. Contact: Dr. Stephanie Deese, 919-807-7159 or at deeses@nccommunitycolleges.edu

November

November 16 – Day of Recognition Awards Luncheon, noon, RBC Center, Raleigh. Host: State Board of Community Colleges. Contact: Peggy Beach at 919-807-6964 or at beachm@nccommunitycolleges.edu

The Open Door

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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.

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

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



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