

For alumni and friends of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke

UNCP Today

Fall
2011



GRACE P. JOHNSON
STADIUM
LUMBEE GUARANTY BAN
F•I•E•L•D

UNCP FOOTBALL
THREE-TIME
TWO RIVERS CLASSIC
WINNERS

UNCP	37	437	GUEST	17
DOWN	0	TO GO	QTR	3
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Homecoming | 2011

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT PEMBROKE

GIVENS

Performing Arts Center



Broadway and More Series

In The Heights - January 24

Tchaikovsky St. Petersburg State Orchestra - February 9

The Royal Winnipeg Ballet: Moulin Rouge - March 20

Ballroom With A Twist - April 24

Hotel California: A Tribute to the Eagles - April 27



Special Events

Rock of Ages - December 5

The Sing-Along Sound of Music - February 4



The Distinguished Speaker Series

Frank Warren - February 7



MOULIN ROUGE

ballroom with a twist



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Fall 2011



UNCP welcomed a near-record class of 1,028 freshmen! p.3

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Faculty member Megan Murphy Kenny thrilled the halftime audience with her rendition of "The Devil Went Down To Georgia."



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Class Notes



With the holiday season approaching, it is time to wish our alumni and friends seasons greetings and best wishes for the New Year. Just as families gather to celebrate the holidays, university families celebrate winter commencement. Coming soon this season, UNCP will be doing both. I hope to visit with many of you when Sarah and I host the annual Alumni Holiday Drop-in on December 8, and no doubt, I will see some of you at Graduate or Undergraduate Commencement on December 9 and 10.

The fall semester is winding down, so this is an appropriate time to reflect on our academic year thus far. On the table of contents page, you will see a portrait of the Class of 2015. This is one of the largest freshman classes in our university's history, and, I am excited to report, it is the highest achieving class in recent history.

Welcoming a new class to UNCP has taken on several new and important traditions. After their class photo on the historic Quad, the Class of 2015 walked north over the Whitney and Alicia Jones Bridge to begin their college experience. When they graduate, those same students will walk south across that bridge for the last time as UNCP students, signifying their commencement into the future.

Convocation is the ceremonial start of the academic year and the start of college careers. This is no mere ceremony. It is the moment the university, its faculty and its staff impart our most important message to our newest members: We have high expectations for these young men and women. We expect they will not merely succeed here; they will thrive!

Rising expectations at UNC Pembroke come with higher standards for admissions and academic standing. These demands for academic performance are part of an evolution of increased expectations and higher standards. I underscore this message now and often to our students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends. My training is in the field of educational psychology, and we are going down a well-traveled path in the belief that expecting more from students is the only way to achieve the high degree of success we know they are capable of.

Beginning a college career is truly an enviable place to be. It is the start of the best years of our lives. Nowhere was this more apparent this semester than during our recent Homecoming. As I watched our students enjoying themselves, I was reminded they would one day return as alumni to relive fond memories of their college years. The outstanding performances of our football team, marching band and cheer squads put an exclamation point on our fun!

I am already on record saying that next year's Homecoming will be the best ever! Next year, we will be celebrating a milestone of this incredible university. The celebration of our 125th year will begin on March 14 with the official kick-off birthday celebration and pep rally scheduled for 4 p.m. in the Main Gym of the English E. Jones Health and Physical Education Center.

This is an exciting time for your university, and I hope you will find an opportunity to share it with us. UNC Pembroke is a remarkable story of perseverance and success. It is worth celebrating.

Best Wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kyle R. Carter". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

University Address

Chancellor Carter got down to business in the new academic year with the annual University Address on August 16.

On the day before classes began, approximately 800 faculty, staff and students listened intently in the Givens Performing Arts Center as the university's leader set expectations high for the new year despite some sobering budget realities. His address followed four familiar themes: 1) fostering student success, 2) becoming an institution of choice, 3) reaching out to the region and 4) the "new normal."

This year, the new normal was first on the list because of budget reductions of more than \$7 million. "Last fall, I knew that we would be challenged by the current economy and would have to look for ways to do more with less," he said. "But I had no idea that I would stand before you today and report that our state appropriation would be 15.5 percent less than last year."

Despite help from the enrollment growth and tuition increases, the university budget was reduced by more than \$7 million. "These reductions are daunting," Chancellor Carter said. "There will be budget tightening across the campus."

Because the university has kept a close watch on hiring over the past three years, only three employees were lost due to budget cuts. Because more than three-quarters of UNCP students receive need-based financial aid, raising tuition before the start of the 2011-12 academic year was not feasible, he said.

In the face of this new normal, UNCP will continue to

"celebrate our achievements and build community," Dr. Carter said. "As difficult as the budget is, we cannot let it stop our progress or dampen our spirit."

Chancellor Carter promised to continue the long-term planning process with a new campus master plan and a new strategic plan.

The master plan includes a new library or information commons, new playing fields, more pedestrian walkways and greenways, a greater connection to the Town of Pembroke and preservation of the historical assets of campus.

There will be no slowdown in the drive to increase student success either, he promised. Chancellor Carter announced a strategic reorganization of student support services effective July 1. The offices for advisement, tutoring, disability support services and other support functions will be consolidated in the D.F. Lowry Building.

Expectations are higher than ever in 2011-12, he said, and the university has already raised admission standards and the minimum GPA requirement for current students. "We hope that raised expectations will encourage students to be serious about their academics from day one," Chancellor Carter said. "Faculty, please remind your students of this change during the first week of class."

Chancellor Carter pledged a new effort on branding of the university's image that will project a consistent look and reflect the university's core values. "Institutions of choice must differentiate themselves from other institutions through consistent and accurate messages that tell their story," he said. "The brand is not only the visual imagery like Old Main and the athletic logo, but also the language used to describe ourselves and what we promise. We have a great story to tell."

Chancellor Carter said the university would seize every opportunity to engage with the region through continuing education, service to the military, partnership with the Town of Pembroke and promotion of service learning to project civic engagement out of the classroom into communities.

In sum, Dr. Carter sought to part the clouds of uncertainty by encouraging adaptability, resiliency and creativity.

"We have a community spirit that many campuses can only aspire to achieve," he said. "We need to work extra hard this year to protect and promote our climate of respect and appreciation for one another – regardless of outside pressure beyond our control."

The entire university address may be viewed online at: www.uncp.edu/chancellor/news/address/2011/index.htm/





Doc Dillard making friends enroute to Indonesia.

In Indonesia: Critical Language Study

After graduation in May, Doc Dillard was accepted into the State Department's Critical Language Studies (CLS) Program. He is spending 7-10 weeks in Indonesia studying language and culture.

The program received more than 5,200 applications for 575 scholarships. It provides group-based, intensive language instruction and structured cultural enrichment. CLS participants are expected to continue their language study beyond the scholarship and apply their critical language skills in their future professional careers.

From Charlotte, N.C., Dillard double-majored in sociology and religious studies with a minor in Asian studies. He has studied abroad on several occasions and was involved in many campus activities.

From Indonesia, he sent this report on August 2.

Q. You were well-traveled as a student at UNCP. Where did you study?

A. I traveled to northern states of Mexico, studied abroad in Korea twice and did an internship in Vietnam. On the way, I have made several stops in neighboring countries in East and Southeast Asia.

Q. As an undergraduate, you were an extraordinarily engaged student. What did you gain from these experiences, and what were a couple of your favorite experiences?

A. I really tried to stay involved because I feel most serene when being active. When I volunteer, my life feels as if there is a bit more purpose. It is our duty to give back to our communities. That said, my favorite highlights, of course, were working with Center for Civic and Community and Engagement. Christie Poteet and Aubrey Swett were there from the beginning and gave me many opportunities to plan, present and work on different aspects of community development. I still remember collecting plants and materials for our community garden with Christie and rehearsing my presentation on my project with Mr. Swett. From past projects, I have learned to be ready for anything and to just go for what you want, even if you are hesitant. In addition, I also learned to be more flexible and creative. Other experiences include working with the admissions office. Whenever there is an opportunity to bridge gaps, I will be there.

Q. What languages have you studied before this summer?

A. I have studied quite a few languages. First, I have studied Spanish and French from an early age. At UNCP, I continued both of these languages and also began studying Chinese. Through studying in Korea, I started learning the Korean language. Actually, these languages have helped in my studies with Indonesian because there are so many "loan" words with the language.

Q. What got you interested in international studies as an undergraduate?

A. I have always been interested in foreign cultures since my youth, but I had my first taste of international studies through traveling with Dr. James Robinson (sociology professor) to

Mexico in summer 2010. I was able to learn so much about immigration and globalization through that program. I strongly encourage professors to construct more hands-on excursions such as this one. Also, building relationships with professors in different departments, such as Dr. Mihwa Choi in the Philosophy and Religion Department and Dr. Kevin Freeman in Political Science Department have also complimented my experiences.

Q. How did you find out about and become interested in the Critical Language Studies Program?

A. Actually, the first time I heard about this scholarship was through our Office for International Programs. Robyn Deemer, who I have worked with previously through study abroad, sent a link out to interested students. I was interested and then applied. I love the support I receive from Robyn and hope that more students will take advantage of her links and support.

Q. It was a very competitive to gain entry. What was the admissions/interview process like?

A. First, I had to write an essay about why I wanted to study my target language. Then, the essay was sent to a panel which determined the appropriateness of the subject matter. After this, my essay was sent to Washington, D.C., and reviewed in front of a larger panel from the American Councils. American Councils

made their pick, while the State Department made the final decision.

Q. How is it going so far?

A. It is going great. It is a very intense program in the sense that there tons of activities and opportunities to engage in the language. I am currently writing my final language paper in Indonesian now. The paper discusses religion and culture within East Java. I am meeting interesting professors and locals who know much about Islam and other interesting cultural facts. The food and people are interesting. Each day, I think of the differences and similarities between the American South and Indonesia. Actually, there are many similarities that students should try to learn about.

Q. What do you plan to do with your new language skill? Job? More study?

A. My goal has always been to break barriers when helping other people. Now, I want to continue my studies and work on starting a nonprofit that helps people in developing areas all over the world (English-speaking world included). Learning Indonesian is one step in helping more people. Of course, I will use Indonesian in graduate school research as well. I am constantly seeking new resources. ✨



"...I feel most serene when being active."



Recovery in East Africa

The persistent crises in Rwanda and Uganda have taken a back seat in the media to the more salient problems in the northern part of the continent, however the region continues to fight an uphill battle against the seemingly intractable problems posed by poverty, HIV/AIDS and malaria. For decades, American and Western nonprofits have been working tirelessly to provide relief to these nations, but the global financial crisis has begun to dramatically reduce the resources available for these efforts.

The Denver-based Global Institute is one of the many organizations focused on improving the conditions in this area of the world. It addresses problems with an innovative approach. Driven by Dr. Jamie Van Leeuwin, the institute is focusing on improving service delivery through network building and improving efficiency and effectiveness through research-based program evaluation.

Understanding that little systematic data exists on needs in the slums of Kampala, Van Leeuwin turned to experts from the UNCP Project for Crisis and Emergency Leadership (PCEL) and the University of Colorado-Denver's Buechner Institute to train a research team and develop an evaluation program.

"I was there as a consultant to train their people to do data collection and evaluation. They really wanted more, but because of federal law governing research, it was impossible to get IRB (Institutional Review Board) clearance to do this sort of work in a reasonable timeframe," UNCP's Dr. Warren Eller said.

"In a foreign country, there is no good way to make sure the respondents are of age and competent to respond. Additionally, they are a vulnerable population, so the logistics of the IRB process would have meant that we could not actually participate in the data collection from the people.

"We did focused interviews with the non-profit leaders," he continued.

Heading the joint project was Dr. Eller and for UCD, Dr. Brian Gerber from the School of Public Affairs. The two worked for several months together to devise a program and spent a month on the ground in East Africa training the nonprofit volunteers in

Dr. Eller, right, poses with local children in Rwanda.



data collection and analysis techniques.

"Many of the problems in East Africa are not unlike the problems we face in the U.S. when we engage in long-term recovery after disaster," Dr. Eller said. "When a crisis emerges, it is always the vulnerable populations that suffer the most and who have the most difficult time recovering."

Drs. Eller and Gerber spent more than a week training nonprofit volunteers in Kampala, Uganda on survey techniques and on methods of safe operations for field research.

According to Dr.

Eller, "Administering a survey is far more complex than simply asking questions, and writing down answers. In places like the Katanga slum, it means being able to move safely through a difficult environment and to do so in a manner respectful to the local population."

In addition to training volunteers for field research, they conducted interviews of organizational heads of the Global Institute's partner organizations in Uganda and Rwanda. This fieldwork has identified several public management practices that would be of benefit in the U.S.

"East Africa has had to deal with difficult implementation problems in an environment of remarkably scarce resources," said Gerber. "This has led to a number of robust programs that have been very successful in curbing poaching and addressing governmental corruption and public health issues."

Domestically, UNCP's Project on Crisis and Emergency Leadership is working with students in emergency training and research projects. The program has provided leadership training and program evaluation to the coalition of disaster-related nonprofits called, the National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster, co-sponsored a national research conference addressing the role of non-profits in disaster and provided training support to emergency response agencies nationally.

The research in East Africa also benefits students at UNCP in several ways. The offers an Emergency Management concentration in its Master of Public Administration (MPA) program.

"First, there is the direct experience brought to the classroom," Dr. Eller said. "Second, experiences like this separate professors from teachers. Professors working in the field remain on the cutting edge of research and are able to add far more value to the classroom."



Survey workers poll at a typical residence.

"Also, there are many lessons learned there that are wholly applicable here," he continued. "For example, the parks services there have been using a profit-sharing system to curtail poaching. These sorts of innovative approaches will become critical to the U.S. as the financial crisis continues and our graduates in public service are forced to do more with less!"

"Additionally, there is the power of experience," Dr. Eller said.

- "You can read the book about the Bishop of Rwanda, but I had dinner with him.
- "You can read about the 800,000 murdered in the tribal genocide in Rwanda, but I saw their skulls.
- "You can read the story about children soldiers, but I met them and held them while they told me about their experiences.

"That is life changing. You cannot read, buy or learn that kind of context to share in the classroom," Dr. Eller concluded.

Dr. Eller said he would continue working on the East Africa project. "At minimum, I will remain as a consultant, but I do not know if I will be able to scare up the resources to get back over there," he said. "I would love to put together a study abroad over there between semesters or over winter break, but I am skeptical that we will be able to do that."

Dr. Eller said international travel is exciting but it all begins at home. "Since January, I have presented in conferences in Denver, Baltimore and Boulder and delivered invited talks in Denver, Dallas and Kansas City," he said. "I have also done research funded by the Department of Education in Louisiana and California in August as well as some travel for my NSF (National Science Foundation) research project. My next travel abroad is to China in the fall. I was invited to talk about emergency response there." ✨

GEOLOGY ROCKS

Earthquake, a goldrush, fracking and offshore drilling come to the Carolinas. These are questions for the Department of Geology and Geography, so we asked the experts:

- Dr. Martin Farley, department chair and a former oil company scientist,
- Nathan Phillippi, a cultural and physical (maps) geographer, and
- Dr. Lee Phillips, a sedimentary petrologist and geochemist, who is also director of the Pembroke Undergraduate Research and Creativity Center and the Southeastern N.C. Regional Micro-analytical and Imaging Center.

On the following pages is the answer to one of life's nagging questions – "Why study geology?"

EARTHQUAKE!

Question. Tuesday, August 23, 2011. Did you feel it?

Answer. Dr. Phillips: Awesome! I was in Old Main. It's the first earthquake I have felt, and I lived in California for a couple of years. I had an earth science class right after it, so we had a lot to talk about. It was a reminder from our physical universe and why we study it.

Dr. Farley: I did not feel it, unfortunately. I was on the ground. For optimal effect, the top of a flagpole is the best place to feel an earthquake.

Q. Did colliding plates in the Earth's crust cause it?

A. Phillippi: It occurred in the Central Virginia Seismic Zone. It was not caused by convergent plate boundaries like West Coast quakes. The Mid-Atlantic Rift in the middle of the ocean is the nearest site with divergent plates.

Dr. Farley: We are in an active seismic zone. The famous earthquake of 1886 in Charleston, S.C., rang church bells in Chicago. There have been others but not as big as that.

Q. Why weren't there aftershocks?

A. Dr. Farley: There were three to four aftershocks by Thursday and eight-10 altogether. Most were magnitude two that can only be measured by instruments.

Q. What's the possibility of a really big quake? I'm talking about the end time.

A. Phillippi: No, we're not in danger. Cultural geographers like me study the phenomenon of people who believe in the end time, but geologists agree we're okay.

From left: Phillippi, Dr. Farley and Dr. Phillips



GOLD FEVER

Q. I read that a Canadian gold mining company purchased land in Moore County. With gold near \$2,000 an ounce, should I get my pan and head for the nearest stream?

A. Dr. Farley: Many people forget that North America's first gold rush was in North Carolina. There is still gold here, and with the price of gold so high, there is renewed interest. In Robeson County? No. The Lumber River is a black water river, which by definition starts and ends in the coastal plains. To get gold in the bottom of your river, it must have its feet in the Piedmont.

Dr. Phillips: I live in Moore County, and there is some interest in north Moore. There is some placer mining going on in streams and stream deposits. Gold has been found in a geologic feature called the Carolina Slate Belt, which is a band of sedimentary and volcanic rock that runs from Virginia to Georgia and cuts through the middle of North Carolina. At current prices for gold, they would be foolish not to look here.

Dr. Farley: There is gold everywhere; it's always a question of how feasible it is to extract it. People in this line of work are born optimists. I don't think gold mining in North Carolina will be economically feasible even at today's prices. There are also environmental issues that come with gold mining especially the use of cyanide in a process called heap leaching.

RARE EARTH METALS

Q. The Chinese are hoarding something called rare earth metals, and mining companies are looking elsewhere.

A. Dr. Farley: These metals are very useful in electronics and for magnets used in windmills. China doesn't have the only deposits. It's because their metals are cheaper to exploit than others. There are environmental issues. North Carolina has some feldspar and quartz mining, but no one is looking for rare earth metals here.

OFFSHORE OIL

Q. From what I've read, North Carolina is a player in offshore oil.

A. Dr. Farley: So far, there have been no test wells drilled off our coast, and sample wells off the Georgia and New Jersey coasts were unproductive. The Gulf of Mexico is a known hydrocarbon province, but it's not the Atlantic. The source rock here is not thermally mature enough. It did not produce enough heat to make large quantities of oil. I've heard politicians talk about oil independence. They may be talking about the oil sands in Canada. The only way to achieve this in the U.S. is to decrease consumption. If gas was \$10 a gallon, we could balance supply and demand.

Q. Do we want offshore oil drilling in North Carolina?

A. Dr. Farley: People in North Carolina want oil and gas, and as long as it comes from somewhere else, it's not a problem for them.

NATURAL GAS

Q. Why is there natural gas in North Carolina? I'm surprised.

A. Dr. Phillips: Again, north Moore County is the target site of natural gas in the Triassic Basin, which has been studied for many years. There is gas there, but the question is how much and can it be extracted safely. The legislature set aside \$100,000 to study fracking, which is currently illegal in the state.

Dr. Farley: It's found in shale deposited in ancient lakes. There is a formation in North Carolina from Durham to Anson counties. It is a tear or rift in the earth's crust that filled with organic sediment. Shale, a sedimentary rock, forms there with gas in it.

Q. Which brings us to "fracking" (hydraulic fracturing).

A. Dr. Farley: This method has been used for a long time. They drill wells vertically, very deep, then horizontally into the formations. A mixture of water, chemicals and sand is pumped in to displace the gas. It creates fractures and the gas bubbles up. The problems begin if there is too much fracturing that allows the chemicals to contaminate water-bearing rock. In some places, it is pretty close to the surface, 1,500 feet. The natural gas can bubble up into well water.

There is a risk; I'm not convinced it's safe.

Dr. Phillips: Unlike oil, North American is natural gas independent. The question is are we willing to compromise the environment to get it?

Q. Why are the "chemicals" used a secret?

A. Dr. Farley: Sometimes the oil and gas companies are their own worst enemies. They put a cloak of secrecy over this to protect themselves from competitors. The risks here are hard to say.

RESEARCH

Q. When did geologist become crime fighters?

A. Dr. Phillips: The microprobe we share with Fayetteville State analyzes inorganic material, and we have formed a partnership with the N.C. Geological Survey. They have taken three to four cases from the district attorney's office to identify the origin of dirt samples. This is truly CSI stuff, and they've gotten convictions.

Q. Are students becoming involved in research using the microprobe?

A. We are introducing students and faculty to research involving the microprobe. It's a great tool. On another project, I've had four students working with me on a Carolina bays research project. We are surveying area bays, and then we'll drill into them to determine their age.

CONCLUSION

Q. Would you say an understanding of geology and geography is important today?

A. Phillippi: It's definitely part of a well-rounded liberal arts education. There are also many interesting jobs in our fields. The study of geology and geography are linked to things that are important to us like water.

Dr. Farley: There are many pressing issues related to these fields of study. For instance, North Carolina has a bigger problem with leaking underground gas storage tanks than with offshore drilling, the potential for which is overestimated in my opinion. Just in this county, we are consuming ground water faster than is sustainable.

Dr. Phillips: The best way to understand your home is to take a couple of geology and geography courses. This leads to better stewardship of our resources. Fortunately, there is a great deal of interest among our students. I agree with Martin. Water is our most important resource. We can live without oil and gas, but not without water.



International Science



Have science, we'll travel. That is how Dr. B. Madhusudana Rao describes his reasons for coming to UNCP's biotechnology laboratories.

Dr. Rao is a Ph.D. microbiologist from India's Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, an arm of the giant Indian Council of Agriculture Research in the Ministry of Agriculture. India is a huge hungry nation with advanced agricultural and fisheries technologies.

"India, through the National Agricultural Innovation Project, is sending its scientists to different parts of the world to get advanced training," Dr. Rao said. "I came here for the fermentation technology in this lab."

Dr. Rao is the fourth international scientist to work in UNCP's Biotechnology Center at COMtech, said Dr. Len Holmes, director. "Their fees help support our labs and the undergraduate research we do here. The international scientists come here to use the fermentation technology, and we learn from them."

After a three-month stay, Dr. Rao returned home with a new UNCP lab coat and some new findings regarding his specialty field. Dr. Rao studies the production of byproducts from shrimp shells, which are used for medical and other purposes.

"I came to learn how to culture the microorganism on a large scale for enzyme production using bioreactors in this lab," he said. "Here, we have done it."

The enzyme Dr. Rao is seeking to produce is used to break down shells into valuable compounds more efficiently and with less environmental impact than current methods.

"Everybody eats the shrimp meat, but we want to use the entire shrimp," Dr. Rao said. The uses of the compounds chitin and chitosan from shrimp shells are many, including antibacterial and antifungal compounds and treatments for cancer, arthritis and malaria.

There was a bonus to studying in Pembroke. Dr. Holmes, a biochemist and Dr. Rao's host scientist, is an expert in bioluminescence research, and these organisms that produce their own light also produce shells similar to shrimp.



Dr. Holmes, left, and Dr. Rao

"Bioluminescent animals all produce chitinase, but nobody knows why. It is something in nature," Dr. Rao said. "I studied the bacteria that produces bioluminescence, and we thought when the bacteria levels are growing, the organism produced more chitinase."

They were wrong; it was the opposite. Science was pushed one step further.

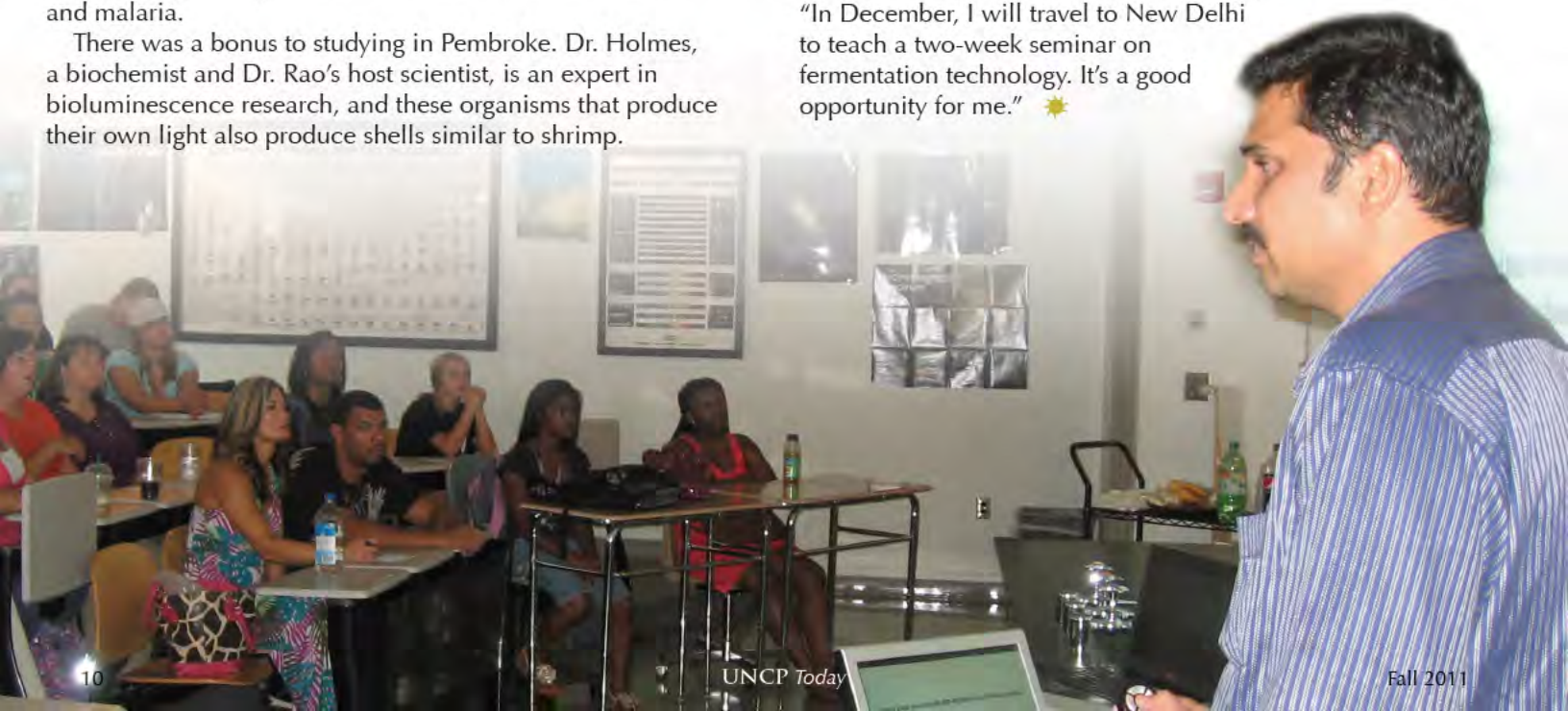
"I had a good three months," Dr. Rao said. "I gained knowledge; there was a good learning curve."

Dr. Rao has been followed by Dr. S.K. Purbey, who is also funded by India's National Agricultural Innovation Project. He is studying the uses for byproducts of litchi fruit cultivation.

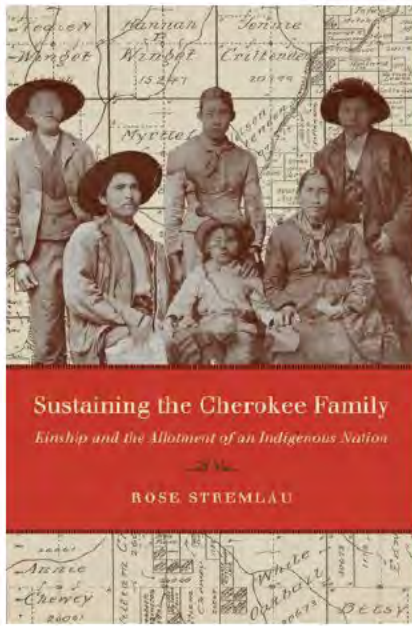
Dr. Holmes expects several published papers from Dr. Rao's work, which will cite UNCP scientists. "He did some really good work here," Dr. Holmes said. "One of the ways we measure the progress of our lab is through published papers."

"This is truly an international exchange," he said.

"In December, I will travel to New Delhi to teach a two-week seminar on fermentation technology. It's a good opportunity for me." ✨



UNC Publishes Historian's Book



Dr. Rose Stremmlau's new book chronicles an historic tale of persistence against great odds.

"Sustaining the Cherokee Family: Kinship and Allotment of an Indigenous Nation," by the UNCP historian and scholar of American Indian history, was published in September 2011, by UNC Press. It is a project of UNC Press' First Peoples: New Directions in Indigenous Studies.

In words and photographs, Dr. Stremmlau's book examines the Cherokee Nation in Oklahoma in the late 19th

and early 20th centuries and its response to the government policy of "allotment." The allotment program was the means by which the federal government divided Cherokee land among individual stakeholders, but for Dr. Stremmlau it became a lens through which to view kinship and culture of the tribe throughout its history.

"By contextualizing the story of allotment into the larger fabric of Cherokee life, I've brought order to the story of an important, misunderstood policy that continues to have an enormous impact on Indian communities today," Dr. Stremmlau said. "The evolution of allotment was complicated; the administration of it was a mess, and the outcomes have been disastrous.

"Against that chaos, I emphasize the consistency of family life and explain how Cherokees adapted to remain a people connected by the values and behaviors associated with kinship," she said. "I told a story of people surviving in difficult times."

Using census data, government documents, newspapers, scant tribal records and two oral history projects from the 1930s and 1960s, Dr. Stremmlau wove together her story.

"I also was really lucky that descendants of the tribe shared family photographs with me," she said. "This is not a Hollywood movie but a good story. It is not a story of the law; it is a story of how people survive unjust laws. Every chapter begins with a family story emphasizing this theme."

The allotment process required the federal government to investigate and publicly document the private lives of Indian landowners, a process that "caused heated conversations between Cherokees and government agents, to say the least," Dr. Stremmlau said.

"When the land was privatized, it became easier for non-Indians to buy or rent land and to extract natural resources without paying Cherokee people a fair price. The policy was meant to eliminate the Cherokee culture by making it impossible

for their families to survive outside of Anglo-American society's margins," she continued.

Before allotment, land ownership was communal, Dr. Stremmlau explained. "They didn't own the land as individuals but as a nation; individual families owned and were able to distribute as they saw fit the resources from the fields they farmed, from the forests in which they hunted, or from the streams in which they fished," she said. "Resources were shared widely among kin, the circle of the extended family, especially among siblings. Family finances were controlled by women, particularly elders."

By privatizing the Cherokees' land, Stremmlau explains, the government expected extended Cherokee families to fragment into the nuclear families idealized in Anglo-American society. Instead, Cherokees surprised everyone and adapted, Dr. Stremmlau said. They continued to support one another, including selling land if necessary.

"To a large degree, families who maintained reciprocity and yet still incorporated elements of the new economy survived," she said. "These are hardworking people. If not for the resilience of Cherokees' kinship system, family-oriented values and labor ethic valuing hard work for the benefit of the extended family, Cherokees would not have survived this government experiment in wealth consolidation."

The loss of access to communal land and resources impoverished the tribe, but it also nurtured the Cherokees' interdependence. Dr. Stremmlau maintains that the persistence of extended family bonds allowed indigenous communities to keep a collective focus and resist the policy of assimilation during a period of upheaval.

The city girl from Chicago's south side struck gold in the solitude of the Cherokee Nation. This process has been a wonderful experience for which she said she is grateful.

"I was fortunate that the First Peoples project had a slot for a book," she said, "and they were very nice to a first-time author."

Her book has been well-received, with positive early reviews. "Complex" and "well-written," wrote Bancroft Prize-winning historian Margaret Jacobs of the University of Nebraska. "An evocative story" and "an intimate account," said Richard Allen, a policy analyst for the Cherokee Nation.

Dr. Stremmlau teaches in UNCP's Department of History and Department of American Indian Studies. ☀



Cherokee families graciously contributed photos for Dr. Stremmlau's research.

Peace Corps Tribute

The Bus Ride

By Janette K. Hopper

A short story by Janette Hopper has been published in "Gather the Fruit One by One: 50 Years of Amazing Peace Corps Stories: Volume II: The Americas," a collection of works commemorating its 50th year.

A painter and member of the Art Department faculty, Hopper's story is titled "The Bus Ride" and describes her experience on March 15, 1967, in Columbia, South America. It was a day she'll never forget.

"When I received a copy of the book, I read the story out loud, and cried," Hopper said. "It was a moving experience, which is a common theme of the stories in the book."

An Idaho native, Hopper married a week before beginning Peace Corp training. She had completed two years at the University of Idaho, but there was a war in Southeast Asia. The newlyweds volunteered for the Peace Corps.

"Idaho was not a diverse place, and I was quite naïve," Hopper said. "The important part of the Peace Corp was the people-to-people relationship and learning from the values of other people."

Hopper and her husband worked in nutrition, agriculture and public health. They planted gardens, started a hot lunch program in the school and promoted a poultry program. Janette often traveled with family health nurses.

"I was already an artist," she said. "I made a few drawings and a painting, but we were very busy."

The story is about the bus ride from their country outpost in Maria La Baja to the city to meet with other Peace Corp volunteers. It's a journey of discovery about culture and mortality.

"Gather the Fruit" is the second of a four-part Peace Corp books series. This edition is written by volunteers who worked in South America. The first edition, "One Hand Does Not Catch a Buffalo," contains stories about Africa, and the third, "A Small Key Opens Big Doors," is set in central Eurasia.

"The books are quite nice," Hopper said. "It's a perfect way to celebrate 50 years of the Peace Corps and my experience."

When she was offered the opportunity to submit a story for the book, Hopper looked through old files for the story she wrote long ago.

"It was awful, but it rekindled old feelings," she said. "Writing is like painting; I let it flow, then work on it. I hoped to bring a poetic quality.

"I like writing that doesn't tell you something directly," she said. "I tried to show the genuine caring of a naïve, young Peace Corps volunteer. I had no idea of people's suffering."

"Gather the Fruit One by One" was published on May 24, 2011, and was edited by Pat and Bernie Alter. ✨



These black and white photos were taken by Robert E. Higgins, Janette Hopper's father, who visited South America while she was in the Peace Corps.

Early in the morning, the roosters begin to crow before first light comes. This is the madrugada: the time of day when the men with their machetes head out for the campo. And on this day the Peace Corps Volunteers will also head out of the village, to the city, going to a meeting and to check on the town's only refrigerator for keeping medicine at the hospital. Somehow, though absolutely essential, it has never been repaired nor made it back to the village.

Thinking about a good meal in the city, the Volunteers rise early at the first hint of morning light and eat a little day-old bread with a black cup of coffee and walk holding hands toward the outskirts of town to catch the bus to the coast. (The villagers who don't know think they are brother and sister because they have no children.) As they first pass the cement houses with backyard stick fences and then the mud huts along the main road away from the center of town, the world comes alive with sound: children's voices and babies' cries, the soft tones of lowered voices and the cumbia that will be blaring loudly on the radio out of every door later on. As they continue out of town, the sounds and smells of the fields and jungle fill their lungs and ears. They remember how they learned in training that Colombia had two seasons: one hot and dry, the other hot and wet. Soon it will be hot, but for now it is the coolest part of the day. She is wearing a simple flowered cotton shift and sandals, he his Levis and cowboy boots. Anticipating insects, the two have light long-sleeve shirts covering their arms. They walk towering over the few people they pass on the way. The road surface alternates between thick dust and hard clay ruts. The mosquitoes aren't bad but the no-see-ums are the worst, and this is their season: quietly they make their burning presence felt on any bare spot of skin.

Upon reaching the stop, they see a few others have already gathered, waiting. A lady with a baby and small child constantly bats at the invisible but real tormenters with a small white scrap of sheet blanket. A man whom they visited about a family garden walks up and greets them patting them on the shoulders. Another villager they don't know joins the group and offers everyone cigarettes. They decline with apology. Another

couple comes up toting a bag of clucking chickens. An old pick up drives by with a load of people in the back heading the other way. At last, the brightly colored striped bus comes, turns around and stops with a screech. Hoping for a seat on the aisle side, they board in turn. Given a choice, the volunteers don't sit by the window, not since the time the child a few seats up vomited leaning out of the bus. There are several seats left, but at the next stop the bus will be full to bursting. The driver has his front seat altar gaily decorated with fringe, hanging dolls, balls, a supply of guardian saints and Marias. This all will bring us all luck as the bus meanders through the countryside picking up people at rural stops and in villages and towns along the route. The people are stuffed into the tight space wearing freshly pressed clothes with splashes of white baby powder on their black skin, ready for the heat that will become oppressive as the day goes on. At one stop, the lady vendors come with baskets filled with "arepas con huevos" on their heads. They shout and rush to sell their wares, quickly reaching up to the window of the bus as folks, anxious to get something to eat, strain to squeeze with their fingers on the latches and slide the windows low enough to send a few pesos out and grab a cornmeal-covered egg.

As the bus takes off, tired of the bumps, she lays her head on the back of the seat in front of her trying not to awaken her stomach to nausea and sleeps a while to make the time go faster. Her young husband puts his arm around her resting his hand on her shoulder as he thinks about the ducks and how he will convince the camposenos to pen them up and feed them. At least it is not rainy so the bus won't get stuck. Soon they will arrive in the midst of the market, and the bus driver will throw off the heavy loads tied on the bus roof onto the ground. The Volunteers will be off to do their work, heading for the office then to lunch: a huge plate of pork and rice at the Chinese restaurant. Perhaps they will run into some other Volunteers, and they will go to the beach after lunch before their return to the village. After a day of business and pleasure, they will hurry not to miss the bus, edging their way through the market to find the right bus to return to the village.

The market place is booming and noisy with people, animals, baskets, cooked food, smelly fish, fruits, and vegetables. A vender carves ice off a block and adds purple coloring for the first child in a line-up for cones. A man stripped down to his loose pants walks by with three wooden chairs stacked up on his shoulders. A child chomps on a mango: thick orange-colored juice runs out the corners of his mouth and onto his distended stomach. Men push carts by the crowds, miraculously not crashing into the women turning sideways to get through. She remembers the day in rainy season when they arrived at the market to catch the bus in a downpour, and how they sat hunched in a cart as it took them to get to the bus, thus avoiding murky waters up to their knees. People gesture and bargain at every stall.

A pregnant woman who sits on the



ground selling her wares holds another baby. Attempting to fan the pesky flies away from the oozing eye of her baby girl, the swarm zeros in, and several reach their goal despite her efforts. The daughter cuddles into her mom's side with a big-eyed smile, ears already pierced and a mal ojo leather bracelet around her chubby little wrist to protect her from harm. Intense noisy bargaining fills the air with shouts and catcalling. A man leaning on the corner of a stall leers at her as she walks by and says something; she tries not to hear what he says under his breath. She stares ahead and doesn't acknowledge his presence and soon stops to buy some carrots. She starts to walk away saying, "Hey, too caro" but then returns, buys some limp carrots to drop in her bag. He calls out, "Here's the bus."

The two scurry up the bus steps, but they are too late as the seats are nearly full. They can't sit together, but at least they won't stand. He goes on toward the back, and she sits on the aisle in the

middle of the bus with a young girl next to her and a skinny man by the window. A heavy woman, old and fat with dirty fingernails comes along, places the board between the two aisle seats with one hand and settles in, her buttocks up against the person on each side of her. The woman holds a bundle, which seemed to be more of a burden. Occasionally her flabby, rough-skinned arm would come to rest on the Volunteer's knee; they share the load.

The young white woman studies her face and would vividly remember it for the rest of her life. The Costenian woman's face was not ugly. Her face was stern, but not unkind. She held within it all that she had suffered. Her eyes were glazed with sadness and hopelessness. Her fat neck and lopping chin fell to her swelling breasts with exhaustion. Her dress had been new, but those were other days.

It was cut low, but had a collar that exposed a hanky clinging there between her breasts. Her ears were pierced and her ear lobes seemed the only part of her that was slim and young, with little dainty turquoise jewels, their gaiety in stark contrast to the preoccupied sorrow smothered deep within the figure. The feet were large and covered in part by chartreuse tennis shoes meant for a man.

Her bundle was well covered with a green and white towel. It was shouldered with strength and pride. At last a few tears escaped across the nose and down the chin to be quietly wiped away upon the collar of her dress. The dust was thick on the road with an endless parade of bumps and lumps. The ride was eternal. At last the woman shifted positions; she hoisted her burden upon her shoulder taking care it stayed well covered. As she rose slowly, the gringa looked back at her companion behind and smiled. She thought about how when she finished working with these villagers, teaching health and nutrition here, he would ranch and she would be an artist when they returned to the states. The encumbered woman pushed off the bus. As her foot left the last step and she hit the ground firmly, she threw back the top of the towel, which revealed the baby's head. She began the whining chant of a woman who had lost her son. Other women took up the chant that met her cries, "Antonio Segundo Sanchez is dead." ✨



SUMMER 2011

winds OF CHANGE

EXPANDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR AMERICAN INDIANS AND ALASKA NATIVES

CONFRONTING THE OBESITY CRISIS IN OUR COMMUNITIES

EXPLORE CAREERS IN HEALTH AND MEDICINE

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN STEM FIELDS

Leading AND Learning

FOR DANIEL LOCKLEAR, GROWTH MEANS STRETCHING FOR NEW OPPORTUNITIES



UNCP's man at AISES

Senior Daniel K. Locklear was elected Junior National Student Representative to the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) Board of Directors. Locklear will serve a year in the junior student post before becoming the senior representative. A national organization with 3,000 members and more than 10,000 alumni, the AISES mission is to increase the representation of American Indians in engineering, science and related fields. Locklear's role on the board will be to represent the interest of its student members. The Pembroke native is the first UNCP student elected to the position during the annual conference of college chapters. UNCP's AISES chapter, which is celebrating its 20th year this fall, is co-advised by Valerie Deese, who attended the conference with Locklear. "Because the conference was in Albuquerque and that region had a strong candidate, I didn't think we had a chance," Deese said. "Then Daniel made his speech at the opening Spirit Stick ceremony."

Politicians everywhere should take a page from Locklear's playbook on making first impressions. "I told them 'I am Daniel Locklear from the home of sweet tea, southern charm and true hospitality.'" "The woman next to me laughed out loud, and everybody broke into applause," Deese said. "After that, Daniel was a celebrity." The win was not lost on Jackie Clark, UNCP's vice chancellor for Enrollment Management, who sat in on the interview. "I know from my daughter's experience how powerful the AISES connection can be," Clark said. "This is a great thing for Daniel and for UNCP. Daniel has remarkable leadership skills." Locklear said membership in student organizations beginning in high school has helped him. "For the state FFA (Future Farmers of America), our advisor told me I was in the extemporaneous speaking competition. I didn't speak in public before that, but I did well." Locklear was later elected vice president of the state FFA. He is currently a member of the Pembroke Volunteer Fire Department and Epsilon Chi Nu fraternity and leader of an after-school program with Communities in Schools. He's also active in his church.

Locklear believes it is important to be well-rounded. "Family, church and community are important, but it's important to get away from home, too," he said. He knows when to come home, too. His first three years of college were spent at NC State University, but an illness in the family brought him home again. "AISES is the type of organization that is very valuable for making connections," Locklear said. "I've made a lot of friends. When my grandmother, who raised me, was in the hospital, I had calls from all over the country." Jackie Clark listened to those comments intently. "Daniel is a wonderful example of an engaged student," she said. "I would like to talk with Daniel later about helping other local students have similar experiences." Daniel agreed, "When you are from this community and commuting, it's natural to go home to dinner and be engaged with your home community. You can do both. "I would like to see more American Indian students take advantage of the college experience at UNCP," he said. "The college experience is important, and it only comes along once in a lifetime." ✨

Undergraduate Research gets \$1.4M

A program to train scientists has a bright future at UNC Pembroke.

The university's RISE Program (Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement) was notified this summer by the National Institute of Health (NIH) that its grant was renewed for five years for \$1.4 million.

The program, which prepares undergraduates for advanced study in science, pairs outstanding students with UNCP scientists for directed research. A summer internship component sends RISE Fellows to study at major research universities across the U.S.

The program was first funded in 2006. For 2010-11, it accepted 16 fellows. The grant is very competitive and results-driven, said Dr. Robert Poage and Sailaja Vallabha, RISE co-directors.

"Of the nine RISE Fellows who graduated in 2010, four are in graduate school and two in post-baccalaureate programs," said Dr. Poage, who is a neurobiologist. "Doing this kind of research helps students gain admission to graduate programs, and it is essential for success in graduate school."

"One of our primary goals," Vallabha said, "is to build confidence in the students so that they can meet the challenges of the rigorous graduate admission programs."

"Our team is pleased to see that their hard work was validated," Dr. Poage said. "I am pleased for the university, our science programs, the faculty who set a high bar for our students and especially for our students for meeting those challenges and excelling."

Chancellor Carter was pleased, too. The teacher-scholar model of interaction with students that RISE exemplifies is important to UNCP's future, he said.

"Faculty research is laudable, and student success is paramount to our mission," Dr. Carter said. "When that scholarly activity involves our students, it builds student success and exemplifies the educational ideal of a teaching university."

"I congratulate the RISE team for their success," he said. "Our students are the ultimate winners. This good news is energizing for all of us."

Dr. Ken Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, said UNCP is a perfect partner for the RISE mission. "The renewal of this grant is due to the strong leadership of Dr. Poage and Vallabha, high quality science programs and faculty who understand the importance of student research," he said. "UNCP's strengths make us an ideal partner for the RISE mission to promote a diverse community of research scientists for the future."

The RISE team consists of co-directors, Dr. Poage of the Department of Biology and Vallabha, a faculty member in the Department of Chemistry and Physics, as well as the program's coordinator Jakyrra S. Tyson and administrative assistant Sonda



Former RISE fellow, Rebecca Howell, with mentor Dr. Ben Bar.

Rogers. They have been waiting for the award letter for almost a year.

Two of last year's RISE Fellows were accepted to medical school, which Dr. Poage said is wonderful, but not helpful on the application. "I am very happy for them, but our role is to build research careers," he said. "One of our graduates, Rhonda McClure, was accepted to a joint M.D.-Ph.D. medical research program at the University of Massachusetts. That was outstanding."

RISE Fellows are paid an hourly stipend for up to 20 hours a week during the spring and fall semesters and up to 40 hours during the summer. This summer five students are conducting research at UNCP, two at UNC-Chapel Hill and one at the University of California at San Diego.

One of the most critical aspects of the program is matching student research interests with faculty willing to supervise them. "We hope to streamline this process in the future by working with the Pembroke Undergraduate Research Center (PURC) to build a single clearinghouse for one-stop shopping," he said.

Faculty members work closely with the fellows during the academic year and summer, although they receive a stipend only during the summer. For the RISE program to succeed, the support of the university and faculty is essential, Vallabha said.

"Without the support of our faculty, it would be impossible to place RISE Fellows," she said. "We have many people to thank—from the chancellor and provost to many faculty members who worked with RISE Fellows."

The program's growing alumni base is another asset, Dr. Poage said. "We are building an alumni base so new RISE Fellows have a better idea what their future will look like. We have an alumni page on our website for students to view," he said.

Student support from RISE comes in several ways:

- help with difficult "core" science courses,
- hands-on research training with a faculty mentor,
- hourly wages for participating in program activities,
- career counseling,
- funds to attend scientific meetings, and
- help completing graduate school applications.

The program is open to students majoring in biology, chemistry, physics or a related field with plans to pursue a graduate degree. ✨

"When that scholarly activity involves our students, it builds student success and exemplifies the educational ideal of a teaching university."

-Chancellor Carter

UNCP ranks high in the U.S. for undergraduate degrees conferred to American Indians

The university ranked 8th nationally for the number of undergraduate degrees conferred in 2009-10, Chancellor Carter announced during a meeting with the Lumbee Tribal Council on October 20.

UNCP is the only institution of higher education east of the Mississippi to rank in the top 20 nationally for American Indian graduates, according to an annual survey by *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education* magazine (July 2011).

With 164 graduates in 2009-10, UNCP showed a year-over-year gain of 21 percent.

Diverse magazine's survey breaks out and ranks American Indian graduates by area of study. UNCP scored even higher in 2009-10 in selected areas:

- social sciences – 1st nationally with 35 graduates in 2009-10
- biological and biomedical Sciences – 3rd nationally, 17 graduates
- public administration and social service professions – 3rd national, 16 graduates
- law enforcement – 4th nationally, 10 graduates
- health professions – 6th nationally, 17 graduates
- education – 7th nationally, 20 graduates
- psychology – 7th nationally, 12 graduates

MSW earns full accreditation

The new Master of Social Work (MSW) program was notified this fall it has won full accreditation from the National Council on Social Work Education.

The program accepted its first students in 2008. With accreditation, the university and its MSW graduates will play an ever-greater role in the region's mental health, child welfare, geriatric care and more.

"The region and its people are the biggest winners," said Dr. Sherry Edwards, department chair. "Social workers are the largest providers of mental health and child welfare service in the nation. MSWs are front-line healthcare and social service professionals."

Dr. Cammie Hunt to lead Distance Education, Outreach

Dr. Cammie Hunt '90 has been named associate vice chancellor for Engaged Outreach effective July 1. She leaves the post of acting dean of the School of Business.

A 14-year employee, Dr. Hunt will lead the Office of Distance Education and the Regional Center for Economic, Community and Professional Development at COMtech. She will report to Dr. Ken Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs.

"Cammie Hunt is uniquely well-positioned to help UNCP reach out to students, groups and businesses in our service area, and I know that she will make her presence felt across the region," Dr. Kitts said.

Dr. Hunt is excited about her newest opportunity. "There is no better job than teaching and working for the success of UNC Pembroke and its students," she said. "I am thrilled to be taking on a new challenge in a unit with an important mission and dedicated staff."

The scope of Dr. Hunt's outreach responsibilities is broad. UNCP is the third largest provider of online courses among the UNC universities. In addition, Distance Education operates four satellite campuses at Richmond, Sandhills and Cape Fear community colleges and on Fort Bragg.

"Building enrollment and providing good service to our students is always important on satellite campuses," Dr. Hunt said. "UNCP is a remarkable success story with online education," she said.

Outreach into the community, through grants and other programs, is the Regional Center's mission, and Dr. Hunt's new office will be located there. The potential of the center is wide open, she said.

"I started my career at UNCP with the Small Business and Technology Development Center (SBTDC), which is in the Regional Center," Dr. Hunt said. "I would like to develop more partnerships between programs like this at the Regional Center and the academic community."

Dr. Hunt, who will continue to teach, is an assistant professor in the School of Business. She has taught courses in entrepreneurship, management, communications and economics.

A Robeson County native, Dr. Hunt is a 1990 UNCP graduate and earned a Master of Business Administration degree from the university in 1997. ✨



Travis Bryant to lead campus safety operations

Travis Bryant '92 has returned to Pembroke as associate vice chancellor for Campus Safety and Emergency Operations. He will lead the 21-member campus police and emergency planning and operations.

Bryant has 19 years of experience with municipal and higher education law enforcement. He teaches criminal justice courses at Robeson Community College (RCC) and provides firearms training to local law enforcement agencies.

A police officer at UNCP for five years, he served as police chief for the Town of Pembroke. He then became director of the Basic Law Enforcement Training and Criminal Justice program at RCC. In 2008, he joined Fayetteville State University as associate vice chancellor for Police and Public safety before emergency operations was added to his title.

Bryant reports to Dr. Diane Jones, vice chancellor for the Office of Student Affairs.

"We look forward to his leadership, coordination and communications for

preventive and emergency preparedness and response planning efforts he will bring to this position," Dr. Jones said.

Bryant said, "It's good to be back home. I have a personal interest in making sure everyone is safe on this campus because many of my family and friends work and go to school here."

A university is like policing a small city, and Bryant is pleased with what he sees at UNCP. "I have a full staff with many well-trained veterans who provide quality service."

After earning an undergraduate degree in criminal justice, Bryant took classes in UNCP's Master of Public Administration program and earned a Master of Arts degree in liberal studies with a concentration in criminal justice from NC State University. ✨



Brandon Blackwell is UNCP's third Esther Maynor Scholar

Brandon Blackwell's dreams literally went up in smoke last winter when a kitchen fire wiped out his family's college savings. His fortunes took a turn for the better this summer.

Blackwell, who is from Ash, N.C., in Brunswick County, enrolled at UNCP this fall as a Maynor Scholar. The scholarship is renewable for four years and pays tuition, fees, room, board and books. It was established by the late Esther G. Maynor, a Pembroke native.

The university's third Maynor Scholar said he has prepared for college by working part time and visiting the school's web site. Blackwell said was very excited when he got the news of the scholarship award.

"I got the letter from the mailbox on my way to work," he said. "I was so excited, I didn't know whether to go to work or call all my friends. I called my dad and went to work."

The Esther G. Maynor Honors College manages the scholarship program. Dr. Steve Bourquin, a professor in the Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, is interim dean of the college.

"It is evident that Brandon is a very determined young man who has distinguished himself as an outstanding student and leader," Dr. Bourquin said. "The Esther G. Maynor Scholarship is designed to help outstanding

scholars who have a high level of financial need," he said.

Blackwell will be the first person in his family to attend college. He said he owes his determination to attend college to his mother.

"She was the driving force," he said. "She didn't want me to throw my life away. My mom pushed me all throughout school to do the best I could."

And then comes the hard part: "Her number one concern, as she lay on her death bed, was whether or not I would be able to go to college and be successful in life."

Blackwell was a good student in high school with a 4.36 grade point average. He was a junior marshal and a member of the National Honor Society and Health Occupations Students of America. He was active outside of school, participating in special events ranging from American Red Cross blood drives to the NAACP Health Fair.

He said UNCP is a good fit for him in several ways. "It's close to home, but far enough away to be independent." ✨



In Memoriam

At the 2006 commencement, retired Professor James F. Hubbard made one of the shortest acceptance speeches on record for as recipient of an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters.

"My life was students, and how I enjoyed it." The crowd roared in approval.

A 20-year faculty member (1965-86), Prof. Hubbard died on June 4. He was 90 years old. He founded UNCP's Department of Psychology.

Dr. Hubbard is the benefactor of several endowments at the university. He was a lifetime member of the Chancellor's Club. He established a Faculty Leave Endowed Fund, the Jump Start Scholarship and was a supporter of the return of football at the university.

Passing rate for UNCP nursing graduates is 100 percent

UNCP's May 2011 nursing graduates had a 100 percent first-time passing rate on the national nursing license exam (NCLEX-RN). By passing the exam, the 19 graduates of the four-year prelicensure Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program will receive their license and be able to practice as registered nurses.

UNCP's first-time pass rates have increased every year since its first graduating class in 2007. Last year, 95 percent of its nursing graduates passed the exam, which is supervised by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing.

Dr. Barbara Synowiez, who has chaired the four-year prelicensure BSN program since it was founded, was especially pleased.

"This achievement speaks volumes for the quality of the UNCP nursing program. I think we have done a number of things right over the years," Dr. Synowiez said.

"Our results not only show the rigor of our program in preparing our graduates to take the NCLEX-RN, but it also shows that our program

provides a strong foundation for clinical nursing practice of our graduates," she said.

UNCP's scores were the highest among the UNC-system universities during the second quarter report period. The North Carolina Board of Nursing's current first-time pass rate standard is 83 percent, and UNC system bar is a little higher at 85 percent.

Dr. Kenneth Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs was also pleased with the results. "These scores reflect the quality of our nursing program," he said. "I am very proud of the faculty, staff and students for the hard work and dedication that made this happen."

The future looks bright for UNCP nursing. ✨



Art Department accredited

The Art Department was granted associate membership in the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD). UNCP is one of only five NASAD accredited institutions in North Carolina.

Another NCBC Fellow

Senior Rebecca Howell made it a "three-peat" for UNCP students when she was named a Fellow by the N.C. Biotechnology Center for 2011-12.

A veteran and Fayetteville resident whose family was displaced by Hurricane Katrina, Howell received a \$5,000 award. She conducts research on Alzheimer's disease with Dr. Ben Bahr in the Biotechnology Lab at COMtech.





'Military Friendly' again
The university was named a Military

Friendly School by *G.I. Jobs* magazine on September 12.

This is the 5th consecutive award. With a satellite campus on Fort Bragg, the university continues to improve the experience for veterans and active duty military men and women from admission through graduation.

Artist a Guggenheim Fellow

James Biederman, an art professor, won a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship to advance his skills in painting. The award is for \$40,000.

An abstract painter from New York, Biederman is the Martha Beach ('58) Distinguished Professor of Art.

UNCP accountable for learning

Scores from our most recent Collegiate Learning Assessment (CLA) show that UNCP students do learn a great deal between their freshman and senior years.

The university placed in the 85 percentile among peer institutions for learning gains. Given every three years, the CLA tests higher order thinking skills and is quite rigorous.

Number 43 is published

Pembroke Magazine No. 43, the university's literary journal, was published in the early fall.



This edition is dedicated to retired editor and poet Shelby Stephenson. This marks the first time his work has been in the magazine, said new editor Jennifer Key.

This is Key's first issue as editor, and its content shows some things familiar and some things new. The editor is seeking out new writers, just as Stephenson did. The next edition will have a familiar theme, the American South.

Wendy Lowery '99 named vice chancellor for Advancement

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved a recommendation by Chancellor Carter on September 16 to hire Wendy Lowery as vice chancellor for the Office of Advancement.

Lowery is a Lumberton-native and a graduate of UNCP. She has assumed positions of increasing responsibility in higher education during her career and, in her last post, served as associate vice chancellor in the Office of Institutional Advancement at Fayetteville State University (FSU).

Chancellor Carter called the move an important milestone for his administration and described Lowery as a key addition to the university and community.

"She will be a great leader for the Office of Advancement, and I am confident that her personal style will be well-received by the university and external communities," he said.

At FSU Lowery held several posts, serving as director of development, interim vice chancellor and associate vice chancellor. She supervised a staff that ranged from 18-30 employees and was responsible for the annual fundraising campaign as well as oversight of public affairs and marketing.

Lowery said returning home to UNCP is a dream come true.

"It's not that often that someone has the opportunity to advance in their professional career in a field that they are passionate about at their alma mater," Lowery said. "I am eager to be a part of the process of promoting UNCP as a school of choice."

Lowery earned her undergraduate degree and a master's degree in public administration

from UNCP. "UNCP can be a great experience for all our students," she said. "Together, we can make this a school of choice."

The bottom line for the Office of Advancement is fundraising, and Lowery is an accomplished professional. At FSU, she increased online giving by 200 percent and implemented "mobile giving" via text messaging.

"The economic climate we have faced these past few years has placed a tremendous emphasis upon the field of fundraising, and I will bring that collaborative framework to UNCP and build upon the tradition of excellence that already exists."

As a frontline fundraiser, Lowery and her team increased participation rates among alumni, trustees, faculty, staff and friends, and they experienced significant success.

One opportunity looms large for the university and its fundraisers. "The upcoming 125th anniversary of UNCP will allow the university to engage all of our constituents in an effort to recognize our past and look forward to a very progressive future," Lowery said. "We will strive to utilize this celebration as another way to make a connection with as many of our alumni and friends as possible and to continue to build upon the private support provided to UNCP."

Lowery is active in the community. She was named one of the "Top 40 under 40 Leaders in Fayetteville" by the *Fayetteville Observer*. She volunteers with the American Heart Association, the Red Cross, Fayetteville Area Chamber of Commerce and the Center for Economic Empowerment and Development and was a member of the board of directors of the Fayetteville Symphony. ✨

UNCP Roots - Lowery's mother, Gloria Tara, designed the Brave logo.



Homecoming 2011

Homecoming 2011 celebrated with a big victory on the gridiron

What is the recipe for a great homecoming? Big crowds, perfect weather, world-class entertainment, a spirited 50th class reunion, victory on the football field and pigs on the cooker. And that was just for starters.



"This is what homecoming should be," said Chancellor Kyle R. Carter after the celebration on October 8. "It was a great week to be a Brave!"

At the Braves Club luncheon before the game Chancellor Carter led a large gathering of alumni and friends in a rousing "Go...Braves!" cheer.

"It's good to see so many alumni getting together to remember the best times of their lives," he said. "I

am going on record right now saying that no one will want to miss Homecoming 2012 as we celebrate the university's 125th anniversary. It will be legendary."

Official attendance at the football game, which UNCP won 58-38, was 4,189. There were many special events, said alumni director Renee Steele '93. "We had something fun for everybody during the week, which is what makes homecoming special," Steele said. "There is no way to count, but I am confident saying that a record number of alumni turned out. The weather was great, and Kool and the Gang's performance in GPAC was outstanding.

"Everywhere I went there were alumni groups like the Tri Sigmas, Pi Kappa Alpha, former basketball players and the Black Alumni Council, who hosted a scholarship gospel sing," she said. "When alumni who were great friends in college get back together after not seeing each other for 20 years, that's a special moment."

The alumni director was not alone in her assessment of Homecoming 2011. Grant Merritt '11 returned for his 5th consecutive homecoming. "My freshman year was the first year of football, and we had fun then," Merritt said. "But this is the

best homecoming ever. They get better every year."

Joel Beachum '97, who was taking homecoming photos for the Indianhead yearbook, agreed. "This is by far the best homecoming in my 10 years doing this," he said.

Tim Brayboy '64, who regularly attends games, said this homecoming inspired him. "This is fun," he said. "It looks like a record crowd."

Matt Lynch '75, who was inducted into the UNCP Athletic Hall of Fame on Friday, summed up his thoughts about homecoming and UNCP. "These were the greatest years of my life," he said. "It's great to come back and humbling to be honored like this."

Class of 1961

Eighteen of the 83 members of the class of 1961 met on Thursday evening. The university—then Pembroke State College (PSC)—was at a turning point, and this class was at the intersection of a proud past and a daunting future.

Led by Pandora Bryant Strickland, who taught music for more than 45 years in the local public schools, the class of '61 gave a recitation and sang their alma mater, "Hail to PSC."

"These were exciting times to be at Pembroke State College," Strickland said. "I loved it, and I still do."

The title of the skit was "An old dirt farmer I will not be, because I'm headed to PSC." The university was founded to lift up a community, noted Dr. Dalton Brooks, who returned to teach physics at the university for three decades.

"When they gathered at Pates (the university's original location), they made plans for a future like this," Dr. Brooks said while delivering the invocation. "This university is a miracle that proves there's nothing impossible with God."

Alumni President Sylvia Pate praised the class for giving back in so many different ways. "Not only have you established a scholarship to benefit future students, during your careers as educators—and most of you were educators—you trained the next generation of UNCP students," she said.

In his message to the gathering, Chancellor Carter said the class of 1961 is evidence that "UNC Pembroke produces great alumni, and you are the tangible evidence."



From left: Outstanding Alumnus Dr. Curt Locklear Jr., Distinguished Service Award winner Buddy Bell, Outstanding Young Alumna Jamie Goins and for Athletic Hall of Fame inductee English Jones is his son, Randall Jones. Matt Lynch, a Hall of Fame inductee, is not pictured

Alumni Awards

The 43rd annual Alumni Awards Banquet on October 7 honored five outstanding individuals as well as major donors to the First and Ten Campaign for Football.

James (Buddy) Bell '58 received the Distinguished Service Award. One of the community's most recognizable citizens, he was captain of PSC's basketball and baseball team his senior year.

Bell's dedication to the university continues today. He was a volunteer fundraiser during the successful First and Ten Campaign, when football returned to UNCP in 2007. He is a former member of the university's Board of Trustees and is a founding member of the Braves Club, UNCP's athletic booster organization.

Dr. Curt Locklear '75, who was also honored Friday night as a major contributor to the First and Ten Campaign, received the Outstanding Alumnus award. A veterinarian, Dr. Locklear is a member of the Chancellor's Club, the university's top donor organization.

Introducing her brother, Cathy Thomas said Curt Locklear "demonstrates the core values of this university: self realization, lifelong learning and mentorship of young people. His commitment to serving the region extends to churches, schools, medical care and more," she continued. "He has shared his time, money and encouragement to foster growth in education, health, churches, charities, the arts and UNCP."

In his remarks, Dr. Locklear said "nobody could have enjoyed being at this university as much as I did. I developed a close relationship with my professors. I spent four good years here."

Jamie Goins, a school counselor and an advocate for youth as a professional and volunteer, received the Young Alumna Award. As an undergraduate at UNC-Chapel Hill, she was a founding member of Pi Alpha Omega, the nation's first sorority for American Indians.

"UNCP has been a major part of my life and the lives of my family members who attended the university," said Goins, who earned a Master of Public Administration and a Master of Arts in service agency counseling degree from UNCP. "It continues to be a big part of our lives with two nephews enrolled."

Hall of Fame

UNCP's former chancellor, the late English E. Jones, and All-American wrestler Matt Lynch '75 were inducted as the 74th and 75th members of UNCP's Athletic Hall of Fame.

The Jones era was a golden age of athletics. The university joined its first conference, won its first national championship and constructed the English Jones Health and Physical Education Center, the home of UNCP athletics.

In accepting the award, his son, Randall Jones '72, remembered a father's love of sports. "My father truly loved this institution," he said. "He believed in athletic programs because it brought students to this school. If he was here today, they'd have to make a place for him on the bench for football games."

Lynch won 100 wrestling matches at UNCP, and he has coached at several local high schools and clubs over the past 36 years. He could not attend the induction ceremony due to another important engagement. He sent a message to the gathering that athletic director Dan Kenney read.

"This is one of the highlights of my life," Lynch wrote. "I regret not being able to accept this award in person, but I am a coach, and this is Friday night.

"If not for wrestling, I doubt I would have found the motivation to go to college," he continued. "I appreciate the university taking a chance on a long-haired young man from New Jersey."

Game Time

UNCP's sixth football game of the season was a thrilling one." Pumped up by a large homecoming crowd, the Braves busted out of the gate and built a 20-0 lead in the first quarter. Running and passing at will, they led at halftime, 37-17.

The Pioneers of Tusculum stayed in the game, however, buoyed by the passing of Torrey Slaven who threw for 448 yards and completed 33 of 45 passes. But UNCP's balanced air and ground attacks overwhelmed the visitors.

School records were broken for total points, 58, and for total yards on offense, 665. Travis Daniels rushed for 177 yards, and sophomore quarterback Luke Charles passed for 367 more.

Coach Pete Shinnick was pleased with the Braves performance that left them 4-2 for the season.

"It's exciting to see guys make some of the plays they have been making," Shinnick said. "I am just really happy for our guys and all of the hard work that they have put in.

"I give Tusculum a lot of credit because they find a way to score a bunch of points. That's a tribute to (Tusculum coach) Frankie (Debusk) and his staff," he continued. "They find a way to fight and scratch and keep themselves in games."

Chancellor Carter also praised the team's performance. "Homecoming is always good fun, but when the home team wins, it becomes great fun," he said. "Credit goes to Coach Shinnick, his staff and the team. They were well-prepared and motivated. The fans truly appreciated their outstanding play." ✨





Travis Daniels scores the first touchdown.

Homecoming 2011



Class of '61 - From left: Naomi Conley, Maxine L. Chavis, Roberta Brown, Rosie L. Jolicoeur, Helen Smith, Mildred L. Placas, Wade Hunt, Pandora B. Strickland, Grady Harris, Carrie M. Jones, Frances B. Averitt, Lae Ruth Alway, Vietta S. Chavis, John P. Locklear, Rolland S. Coulon Jr., Joyce B. Maynor, Dalton P. Brooks and Flora C. Ransom



From left: 2011 Homecoming King Drew Clawson, and Queen Amanda Hooker. Next to them are 2010 King Alex Hudson, Queen Shaketa Williams and Chancellor Carter.

Veteran track coach Larry Rodgers retired

Track and field coach Larry Rodgers announced his retirement on June 28, completing a 30-year career that included 10 appearances at national championships, six conference titles and two district titles.

Rodgers, who will retire on July 1, was an All-American runner at UNCP and became head coach in 1981.

"Larry epitomized what Pembroke is all about in his professional and personal life," said athletic director Dan Kenney. "We wish Larry the best and hope that we can find a way to tap into his talents as a new retiree. We will never be able to thank him enough for all that he has done for UNC Pembroke."

Rodgers' final season was a good one. The men's track and field team finished 38th at the NCAA Division II National Championships. He was named 2011 Southeast Region Coach of the Year by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association.

During Rodgers' tenure, UNCP athletes earned 32 All-American awards, including two by sprinter Maurice Eubanks in 2011. There were 99 athletes named All-Carolinas Conference, 48 All-District and 25 All-Region. Gary Henry won two individual national championships in the 5,000- and 10,000-meter runs under Rodgers' coaching.

Rodgers' teams won first or second place in the Carolinas Conference and NAIA District 26 meets in seven seasons, including six consecutive league championships from 1982-87. The Braves finished in second place at district meets from 1982-85 before winning back-to-back district championships in 1986-87.

As both men's and women's cross country coach from 1981-2008, Rodgers' teams won seven district titles and earned invitations to 14 regional championships and three trips to the national championships. He had 38 All-District, 38 All-Conference, one All-Region and one All-American performers.

Rodgers was a 1972 All-American at UNCP and three-time All-District performer in track from 1968-73. He holds the

school record in the 600-yard run (1:14.9) and a share of a sprint medley relay team record. He was a part of four NAIA District 29 championship teams under his mentor and UNCP Hall of Fame coach, Dr. Ed Crain.

Rodgers issued this statement on his retirement:

"First I would like to thank our administration, faculty, staff and community for the support, the letters and words of encouragement and help that you provided during my 30 years at UNCP. I count it all as a joy and a blessing to have had the opportunity to work with all of you. I will always cherish the memories, the friendships and wonderful time spent here.

"Furthermore, to my coach and mentors, Dr. Ed Crain, Dr. Tommy Thompson, Dan Kenney, and all my former athletes and students, I send a special thanks to all of you.

The awards and championships won and all the success stories that have been written about me or the track and field and cross country teams, I have enjoyed only because of the valuable contribution that you made to help make it all possible.

"To my coaching staff and colleagues, it has been a pleasure working with all of you. You are a special group of coaches that love what you do and have a genuine concern for helping young men and women become mature adults that will make a difference in life. Keep up the good work.

"Lastly, I will miss being at UNCP, but I feel that the time is right for me to say good bye." 🌟



Johnson '07, '10 named wrestling coach

Othello Johnson '07, '10, who served as an assistant coach for five seasons, has been named the university's sixth wrestling coach.

Over the last five years, Brave wrestlers compiled a 51-40 dual meet clip and finished in the top 30 nationally every year.

As an assistant coach, he coached seven NCAA All-Americans, and 16 student-athletes made appearances at the NCAA Division II National Championships during his most recent stint.

"I look forward to continuing the success the program has built over the last five years under coach Jamie Gibbs," Johnson said.

He earned a bachelor's degree in exercise and sports science at UNCP and a master's degree in physical education. 🌟



Stanley '11 named track & field coach

Adonis Stanley '11, who served as an assistant coach the past two seasons, was named the university's third track and field coach.

"I am excited to have the opportunity to lead the track and field program," Stanley said. "I look forward to the

challenge ahead and to continue the successful legacy of this program."

Stanley was recently named Southeast Region Assistant Coach of the Year by the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association. He placed two sprinters in the NCAA championships last spring.

Stanley completed his master's degree in physical education at UNCP in 2011. 🌟

Keith Whitman, Braves' new home run king



Braves baseball has record-setting season

The baseball team completed a perfect run through the 2011 Peach Belt Conference Baseball Tournament with a 2-1 victory over Augusta State in the championship game to earn its first-ever berth in the NCAA Tournament. The Braves capped a 44-12 season with a 2-2 record in postseason play and finished with a 13-10 record in league play – good enough for third in the PBC Eastern Division. A record five student-athletes earned All-Conference honors, including All-American relief pitcher Braxton Lewis and third baseman Jason Coker. The late season run gave UNCP 30 or more wins for the seventh-straight year, but marked the first 40-win season for the Braves in school history. Head coach Paul O'Neil became UNCP's all-time winningest coach with his 339th victory in the back half of a home doubleheader sweep against Chowan in late April. ✨

Tough schedule for tennis

The tennis team put the lid on an 8-15 campaign with consecutive victories over Coker and Belmont Abbey in mid-April. The Braves concluded its most current campaign with a 1-11 mark in Peach Belt Conference play – good enough for 11th in the final league standings. UNCP faced seven nationally-ranked foes over the course of the campaign, including matchups against three teams ranked in the top 10. ✨



Maurice Eubanks, All-American sprinter

Eubanks flies in NCAAs

The track and field team was represented at the NCAA Championships for the third-straight year. Sprinter Maurice Eubanks earned a pair of All-American honors after finishing eighth in the NCAAs in both the 100- and 200-meter dashes. The men's squad took top honors at the NCAA Southeast Region Championships, while the women's team finished second at the same event. The women's squad earned 18 All-Region Awards from the U.S. Track & Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA), including senior Katherine Davis who took home Female Field Athlete of the Year in the region. The men's team earned 23 All-Region awards from the USTFCCCA, including Eubanks, who won the region's Male Track Athlete of the Year honors. Head coach Larry Rodgers, who retired in July after 30 seasons, earned the region's Head Coach of the Year Award, while Adonis Stanley won the Assistant Coach of the Year Award. Stanley was named the program's newest head coach in August. ✨

Spring Sports Round-up

Berry earns all-conference

The softball team completed its 2011 campaign with a 21-24 record, including an 8-12 mark in Peach Belt Conference play that helped the Braves finish eighth in the final league standings. Shortstop Holly Berry earned All-Conference accolades for the second-straight season after earning the club's lone PBC Player of the Week honor in early February. Berry also joined teammate Courtney Hill on the UNCP Invitational All-Tournament team in February as well. ✨

Women's golf soars

The women's golf team captured championships at five events during its traditional spring season, including top honors at the 2011 Peach Belt Conference Championship, while also taking home four individual championships and advancing to their first-ever NCAA Tournament. Four Lady Braves were named to the All-Conference squad, including PBC Freshman of the Year Dana Watkins. Head coach David Synan collected his second-straight PBC Women's Golf Coach of the Year laurels. Katja Dammann, Meghan Moore and Shauna Walor combined to win eight of a possible 11 PBC Women's Golfer of the Week laurels. Dammann was named first team CoSIDA Academic All-America, NGCA All-American Scholar and the female recipient of the PBC's Scholar-Athlete of the Year Award. ✨

Men's golf 2nd in PBC

The men's golf team finished third or better in four tournaments during its traditional spring season, including top honors at both the Richard Rendleman Invitational and the Lander Bearcat Golf Classic. Three players earned All-Peach Belt Conference honors after finishing second at the 2011 PBC Championships and qualifying for their first-ever berth in the NCAA Tournament. Jonathan McCurry earned Golf Coaches Association of America All-American honors after finishing in a tie for fourth at the PBC Championships, as well as in a tie for fifth at the NCAA South-Southeast Regional. ✨

Paul O'Neil bringing baseball success back to the university

By Todd Anderson

It would not surprise most people that baseball head coach Paul O'Neil trotted onto the field following the final out in the 2011 Peach Belt Conference Tournament championship game at historic Golden Park.

After all, his Braves had just completed an incredible undefeated run through the tournament that capped one of the most successful regular seasons in program history with an automatic berth in the NCAA Tournament. But the skipper was more subdued than a majority of his players in the dog pile between the pitcher's mound and home plate. For O'Neil, it was the culmination of an 11-year construction project.

"It was a huge sense of accomplishment," O'Neil said. "It was extremely gratifying. It wasn't only gratifying for me, but for everybody that has been a part of this program for the last 11 years that has been out on the field and sweated through practices and games, got their butt kicked and been at the bottom of the league. It wasn't just for me, it wasn't just for the 2011 team, it was for all of the teams and for all of the players that have been in our program."

For those not acquainted with the history of the baseball program prior to O'Neil's arrival at Pembroke in 2001, the Braves had rarely posed a challenge in the PBC since joining the NCAA Division II. In fact, in the first eight years of the Braves' membership in the then-Peach Belt Athletic Conference, the Black and Gold had finished .500 or better on just one occasion (24-24 in 1996). In 2000 – the year before O'Neil made the trek to southeastern North Carolina – UNCP churned out a 17-36 record, including a 5-23 mark in league play.

Over 11 seasons, O'Neil's Braves had two losing seasons, in 2002 and 2004, and have finished in the top half of the PBC in each of the last four seasons. Last year, O'Neil became the program's all-time winningest coach with his 339th win in Pembroke coming with a triumph in the second half of a home doubleheader with Chowan in late April. He passed former skippers Harold Ellen (331 wins) and Danny "Doc" Davis (338) with UNCP's 44-win outburst in 2011. In 11 seasons wearing black and gold, O'Neil has accumulated a 347-245-1 record.

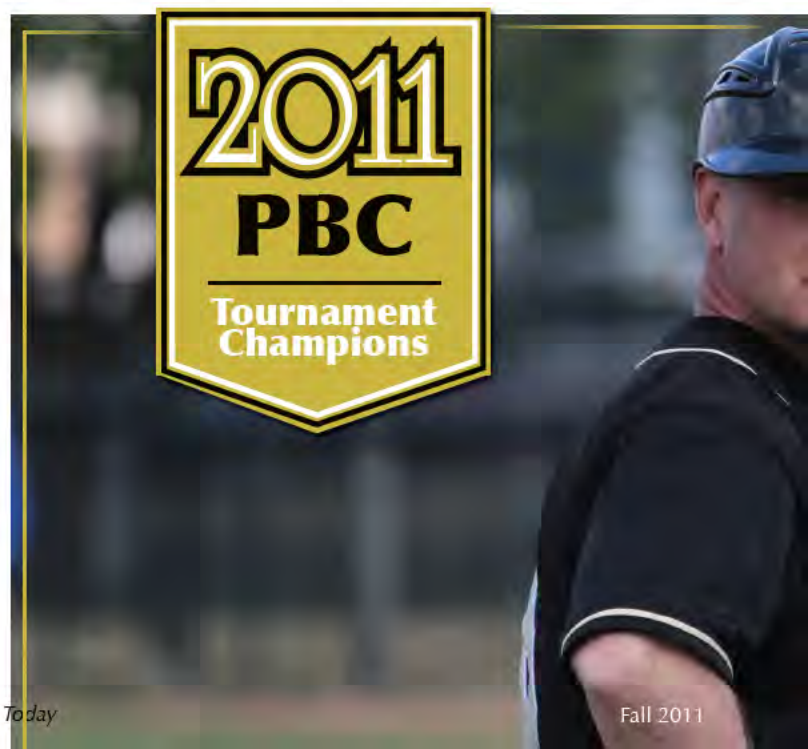
"For the most part, in the last 10 years before I got here, this program hadn't had much success," O'Neil said. "When I got here, we tried to cultivate a different image throughout the state of where we were going with the baseball program. I think that was the biggest challenge. (Previous head coach) Danny (Davis) did a good job with this program, but I don't think he had the resources available to him that we have now."

To say it has been a journey has been an understatement. Although leading the Braves to their first winning season in 10 years during his first season in 2001, UNCP posted losing records in two of the next three seasons and finished in the bottom third of the conference during those campaigns. Behind the outstanding hitting of Barrett Otto and freshman Jason Morales, and the phenomenal pitching of Tyson Van Dam and Sandy



Jacobs, the momentum would swing in the favor of UNCP in 2005. The Braves went on to match a school record with 31 wins that season – the first of a run of seven-straight years with 30 or more wins.

Over the next seasons, the improvement was set in stone. UNCP shattered a school record with 32 wins in 2006, and then eclipsed it with 33 wins in 2008, while winning multiple all-PBC laurels (Morales and closer Ryan Kirkman) for just the second time in the history of the program, while Morales also picked up the baseball program's first NCAA All-American honor. In 2009,



the Braves posted 37 victories en route to landing a program-best four players, Matt McGovern, Seth Kivett, Kevin Dietrich and Jason Coker, on the All-PBC team, while also qualifying for the PBC Tournament for the first time in 12 years. McGovern and Dietrich also gave the program multiple All-American selections for the first time.

"In 2005, we started to get a little more revenue in our program. We started to make a bigger commitment into all of our athletic programs," O'Neil said. "That made a difference right there. It also just took some time to rebuild this team and change the culture. When you don't have unlimited resources, it takes a lot longer to build something than people realize. When you're dealing with a limited budget, you're going to have to make two steps forward and then another step back, and it kind of goes like that until you finally get your footing where the foundation has been built for you.

"That's what happened with our program with getting it established," he continued. "Our success is due to the fact that we can now bring in a better student-athlete now than we were able to in my first couple of years here. That's what started our run. Better players make things easier for you."

But the best was yet to come. The Braves tallied a 34-14 record in 2009, its best winning percentage in 36 years, but, despite finishing as co-champions in the newly formed PBC Eastern Division, the performance was still not enough to lift the Braves into the NCAA postseason. To make matters worse, the senior class that season included a slew of standout players, so future hopes of breaking through to that next level seemed, well, somewhat bleak.

But, something happened in the offseason. Perhaps taking a cue from all of the success of the previous 10 seasons under O'Neil, the 2011 version of the Braves came together more seamlessly than in previous seasons, according to the enthusiastic skipper. Behind the leadership of a decorated senior class, including the school's all-time home run hitter Keith Whitman and pitchers Josh Bagley and Brad Isom, they did what no Braves team had accomplished – eclipse the 40-win plateau, win a conference title and advance to NCAA postseason play. Along the way, the Braves shattered seven team records, registered a 29-2 record at Sammy Cox Field and captured five PBC series.



UNCP sent a program-best five players to All-PBC honors and two players to All-American honors. Three players, including tournament most valuable player, Braxton Perkins, were named to the All-Tournament Team after winning the PBC Tournament title.

"The guys on our team last year bought into what we were trying to do as a team, and they pulled from one another," O'Neil said. "The group of seniors that we had last year was extremely strong. They weren't selfish and weren't concerned about their own personal statistics. That is why we were successful. Was last year's team the most talented team to ever come through UNC Pembroke? I don't think so but, as far as a team goes, they were absolutely the best team to ever come through here."

O'Neil, who is the father of three girls, still thinks the best is yet to come for his Pembroke family. Although a golden foundation has been laid for the program, the goals have already been set higher for 2012.

"I try to think back to players who have come through the program, and I think back to some of the guys that were in our first recruiting class," O'Neil said. "There were guys who were outstanding people and are doing great things with their lives right now. Those are the kids who started the foundation for us. One of those kids, Adam Beaver, drove down from Baltimore to watch us play in the regionals last year.

"I talk to the guys that we have had here in the past that have really pulled for the program," he said. "Those guys sacrificed an awful lot for the good of this program. They are the reason this program is where it is today. When I got here, there were some people that told me there was no way in hell we could win in baseball here. I have just kept that in mind the last 11 years. I guess we proved them wrong." 🌟



Letter to Alumni



Greetings Alumni,

Fall was definitely in the air as we celebrated homecoming this year. It seemed everyone had a wonderful time regardless of which event(s) they attended, from activities such as Kool and the Gang, Class of 1961's 50th Reunion to the annual Alumni Awards Program. A whole week of events culminated with tailgating and a winning football game.

Conversations with alumni indicated that we continue to be major contributors in our respective communities through employment and community involvement, and we would like to think our UNCP experience helped prepare you for some of that success.

We were so proud of our football team and coaches and are also proud of the athletes in all of UNCP's other sports. If you were not able to participate in homecoming activities this year, begin now to make a commitment to be a part of next year's events or another event on campus. The next homecoming is special because it will be part of the university's 125th anniversary.

I was fortunate to represent UNCP alumni at several homecoming events. It was such an honor to recognize the winners of the 2011 Alumni Awards, as they are very deserving individuals. If you see them around, congratulate Dr. Curt Locklear, Mr. Buddy Bell and Ms. Jamie Goins for all of their accomplishments and for giving back in so many ways to their alma mater and the community as a whole. The Alumni Awards Banquet became part of the homecoming celebration this year and will continue in that format in the future. So, please start thinking of potential nominees to be recognized in 2012.

It is hard to believe the December commencement has come and gone. We welcomed more alumni to our growing association. As a reminder, former graduates need to keep the Alumni Relations Office informed with your current contact information (www.uncp.edu/alumni) so we can keep you informed about what is happening at your alma mater. With the 125th celebration coming soon, we will want to keep you apprised about that.

The Alumni Association Board of Directors will hold a strategic planning session in the coming months, and I would welcome your suggestions about alumni relations activities. Please submit them to me via my email: sylvia.pate@uncp.edu.

As always, I would like to express appreciation for your continued support of your university in whatever manner you contribute because those contributions are critical to the success of UNC Pembroke and its students. During the upcoming holiday season, remember your university and the friends you made over the years.

In the Spirit of the Hawk,

Sylvia H. Pate '99

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2012 - 14

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Jason Lowry '48:



Jason Lowry,
director of
admissions
- 1968

'I have a vision'

When Jason Lowry talks, people listen. "Well, I am the oldest rat in the barn," he says with a chuckle.

Lowry's stories always come with a point, and the past is prelude to an idea. At 92, he still has the passion for a good cause, and he is always willing to speak his mind.

"I have a vision I want to share," Lowry said during a recent phone call. The vision was revealed during a visit last summer to his Pembroke residence: "I want President Obama to come to Pembroke ... it can be done."

Before considering the probabilities of a presidential visit, let's take a look at a remarkable life and a remarkable spirit. After more than 50 years of disappointment over the most important issue—full federal recognition of the Lumbee Tribe—Lowry remains steadfastly optimistic.

He believes his people will get the respect they deserve—in his lifetime! Lowry's other lifelong causes are education and his university.

A career educator, Lowry is the former director of the university's Office of Admissions. Five generations of Lowrys are university graduates and have served the university in many roles.

The family's history runs deep with the university and the community.

- His uncle, D.F. Lowry, was the normal school's first graduate in 1905.
- Lumbee hero Henry Berry Lowrie was D.F. Lowry's uncle.
- Half-brother, Zeb Lowry, a 1925 graduate, was a trustee in the 1950s.
- Rev. Welton Lowry, whose family owned land the university now occupies, was a first cousin.

Like the university's founders, Jason Lowry firmly believes that education makes life better for everyone. Federal recognition is the missing link in the land of the Lumbee. Lowry believes it would improve the health of his people and complete the three pillars of social wellbeing—health, education and welfare.

"I want to live long enough to see recognition," he insists. With recognition efforts floundering both at home and in Congress, he continues to keep faith. First, he needs to convince university officials to listen to his plan. He would bring President Barack Obama to Pembroke to give the commencement address in 2012.

Lowry believes that with the president's help, recognition is possible. Obama's unique personal history and the history of the Lumbee are a perfect match, he said.

Lowry has done a lot of things during his long life, and bringing a president to Pembroke would be a first, but not his only "first." For instance, he was told he was a member of at least three tribes. He started life as a Croatan and later became a Cherokee, although he is happiest as a Lumbee.

"I finished high school in 1938 as a Cherokee," Lowry said. "When I went to Lumberton to take the school bus driver's test, I had to ask them how to spell Cherokee."

Lowry has a dry sense of humor, and many of his stories end with a humorous or ironic twist. He has a serious side too, like the story he tells of his enrollment in Pembroke State College for Indians in 1940.

"Tuition cost \$7 dollars a quarter, and \$9 if you wanted high school certification," he said. "I wanted to be an uppity-up, so I needed \$9. On the day I enrolled, Daddy (Abner Lowry) told me to wait out front of Old Main next to the east column."

"He came back with a \$10 bill," Lowry said. "I'll never know where he went to get that money. Daddy believed in education."

OFF TO WAR

Lowry's undergraduate education was interrupted several times, first by lack of funds and later by the draft board, which sent him on a tour of North Africa and Europe during World War II. For a young man who had not traveled far, the war brought many "firsts" to him.

"I was 22 years old and had never been to the beach," he said. "When we got on the boat that was the first time I'd seen the ocean."

The Army was a melting pot, he said. "The boys were from all over America. It was a segregated Army," he continued. "I was in an all-white unit. Nobody asked. Because of my nose, they thought I was Jewish, until I spoke."

It was one of many firsts in Lowry's life. He laughs when he says, "I was the first to integrate that institution." It would not be the last time he said that during the conversation.

The G.I. Bill made college more affordable for Lowry and an entire generation. Like many who went to war, he married his sweetheart before shipping out. Roberta Hammonds was in college when they were married, and she would be among the first to graduate with a four-year degree from Pembroke State College for Indians.

When Lowry mentions the college's name, another thought emerges. "For Indians? What's in a name?" In 1949, the board of trustees dropped "for Indians" from the name.

CAREER IN EDUCATION

After the war and completion of work on his undergraduate degree in 1948, Lowry embarked on a long career in public education. His first job was teaching high school at Fairgrove School, where he met Herbert Oxendine, also a new teacher.

"He said, he couldn't put up with these 'wild children,'" Lowry said. "He was going to graduate school. He and Adolph Dial went to up to Boston (University)."



Jason Lowry, seated second from left, celebrates with the class of 1948.

Oxendine became the first Lumbee to earn a doctorate. Dr. Oxendine spent his career at the university urging other Lumbees to go to graduate school. Many, like Jason Lowry, followed.

Lowry began graduate study at Appalachian State College during summers. He credited a professor at Pembroke with sending him to the mountains. Another color line was broken.

There was no policy permitting Lowry to attend a North Carolina public college, and he had misgivings on several occasions. The first scare came during the admissions process. "The man asked me where I was from, and I told him I was the one and only Robesonian here," Lowry said. "He said 'I'm the one and only Robesonian here from Parkton.' I thought I was in trouble, but he admitted me."

Another time, he was so certain he would be sent home that he packed his bags before meeting with a dean. "I was goofing off with some boys when he came up to me and said, 'Mr. Lowry please come by my office,'" Lowry said. "When I got there, he said, 'I see you are getting along well here. You're in graduate school now, and you're going to need a typist.' I said to myself, 'I'm here to stay.'"

The dean's secretary typed Lowry's papers from then on. His master's thesis in the school counseling program was titled "To Organize and Implement a Guidance Program in a Small High School in Robeson County."

"The things I learned there, I brought home," he said. "There were only 52 counselors in the state in 1949, but they hired me as principal at Green Grove School. That degree served me well."

Eventually, Lowry became the first guidance counselor at Pembroke High School. It was another first in Robeson County. "Guidance and counseling was a new program, and I told them I was not there to run errands," he recalled. "Anybody who offered free tests, the Army, Navy or the employment office, I got them for my students. I felt I was training them to take employment tests in places like Detroit," where many Lumbees went for work at that time.

AT THE COLLEGE

Lowry pushed students toward college too, and as director of admissions at the university, he may have invented the school's longtime slogan: "where education gets personal."

"I had these three local girls from the county, who were good students, all A's," he said. "They couldn't get the 750 they needed on the SAT to get into the college, so I got them into a test prep program," Lowry said. "One of the deans objected, asking me if I knew what I was doing," Lowry said.

"I met with Dr. (English) Jones about it, and he said, 'you know what you're doing; just go back and keep doing it,'" he continued. "Those girls all graduated with

honors, and together they put in 90 years of teaching. Think about that.

"As educators, our job is to motivate every child we come in contact with," Lowry concluded.

At the university, Lowry found himself on the forefront of desegregation again. "I was the first administrator to hire a black employee, which caused a lot of talk," he said. "One of the vice chancellors asked me if we were ready for that. I had traveled the world. I said we had to get ready.

"I know I have prejudices, but I don't see color," Lowry said. "I went to Appalachian to get an education. All students are in school for the same reason, no matter who they are."

If education is the great equalizer, Lowry also believes that full Lumbee recognition would help all people, all 137,000 of them in Robeson County. "My only hope is that I get to see it," he said.

Which brought the conversation back to President Obama making the commencement speech at UNCP in 2012.

"We get Obama down here to speak at commencement and explain to him about this place," Lowry said. "There is no other place that is one third, one third and one third like this, and we could tell him about the 55,000 Lumbee Indians here."

Lowry is certain that the president of the United States, who is a person of unique heritage, would not only understand the Lumbee but help them win recognition. That is the vision from Pembroke's oldest and, perhaps, wisest prophet, who is well worth listening to. ✨



Speaking his mind at 2010 Chancellor's Listening Tour

Class notes

1974

Rynet Oxendine won an externship through the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA). The program enables outstanding young professionals, age 35 and under in the parks and recreation field, to interact with and learn from members of the American Academy for Parks and Recreation and other individuals who attend the NRPA congress and its associated meetings. Up to four externs are selected each year.

1980

Russell Gage is employed with Bechtel Engineering as an interface manager. He lives in Houston, Texas.

1982

Edward J. Phillips resides in Rock Hill, S.C.

1985

Michale Hill is a senior network engineer. He resides in Lincoln, Neb.

Cynthia A. Chavez is employed with the Department of Defense as a senior budget analyst. She resides in Upper Marlboro, Md.

1988

Marion Williams Jr. is employed with the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services as a unit director. He is married to **Deana Tigner Williams '93**. Deana works for Wayne County Department of Social Services as a social worker. The couple resides in Goldsboro.

1989

Peggy Willoughby Somers passed away on July 16.

1990

Joe Williams resides in Durham.

1997

Dennis Watts '83,'91,'97 is an instructor with Robeson Community College. He resides in Lumberton.



Teresa Oxendine is the new director of the Regional Center for Economic, Community

and Professional Development at UNCP. She began her career at the university as the alumni director and was later named the director of donor relations. Prior to her accepting the position at the Regional Center, she was the assistant vice chancellor for the Office of Advancement.

1992

David Malcolm is a brigade chaplain for the U.S. Army and is married to the former Gina Lisa Andrews. The wedding took place in Butler Chapel at Campbell University, where he is pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree. He received a Master of Divinity degree from Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.

Scholarship established honoring Dr. James B. Chavis

An endowed scholarship has been established as a lasting tribute to honor a longtime administrator and friend of the university and its students.

Judy S. Chavis, wife of the late James B. Chavis, finalized agreements for the scholarship in June. Dr. Chavis was vice chancellor for Student Affairs, and the University Center bears his name.

The Dr. James B. Chavis Scholarship is funded by a \$50,000 perpetual endowment and will go to an undergraduate pre-med, biology or chemistry major with a 3.0 GPA or higher and demonstrated financial need.

"The scholarship is a bridge for a student who has the will and ability to succeed but needs some help to get there," Chavis said. "The university gave so very much to my husband, and he gave back during his life. He wanted to give back financially too, so this is from the heart."

Dr. Chavis was a 1963 UNCP graduate. He joined the university in 1965 as director of the Student Center and retired in 1999.



1993

Lt. Col. Patrick Waugh and his wife, Karessa 'Kressy' Cromer Waugh, have transferred with their kids, Tyler, Spencer and Katelynn, to Yuma, Ariz. Lt. Col. Waugh has taken command of Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 13, and Kressy has transferred with her company, USIS.

1994

Vickie L. Ferguson is a teacher with Cumberland County Schools. She resides in Raeford.

Sandra Denise Lloyd-Forbes is employed with the State of North Carolina as director of the Police Academy. She resides in Mebane.

Dr. Manuel Salazar III is the president and principal education consultant for Strategic Education, a national company located in Sacramento, Calif. that works to advance excellence in K-12 education. After earning a bachelor's degree from UNCP, he worked at Lumbee Guaranty Bank for seven years as a controller and went on to earn two master's degrees



Alumni profile: Bundy Locklear

"Nine of us finished out here," Bundy R. Locklear '58 said of his brothers and sisters. "Mr. Bundy" is a regular visitor on campus.

He remembers his student days well. He took an agricultural course taught by English Jones, who became the school's first American Indian president. "I thought it would be a crib course, but he made us work," he said.

Locklear's family played an important role in the community and the university. His father Rev. C.E. Locklear was Pembroke's first elected American Indian mayor. He was a university trustee.

"This university is a blessing, not only for me but for the whole community," said the retired school teacher.

Mr. Bundy recently came back to join the university's legacy bench program. "My bench is in front of Old Main," he said. "That was the main building in my day."

Locklear's grandson recently graduated from UNCP and did research at the Biotechnology Lab at COMtech. "He's got a good job and enjoyed his work in the lab here. The science that goes on out here is a well-kept secret." ✪

and a doctorate degree in education. He started the Liberty Christian Academy, a K-12 private school in Fayetteville, in 1999 and moved back to California in 2005 to teach at the college level. He continues to teach as an adjunct professor, part time. Salazar has been married for 23 years to the former Lisa M. Schoffler (Sampson) of Pembroke. The couple has four children, two boys and two girls, ranging in age from 15 to 22.

1998

Uwe Beltz is employed with Texas Tech University School of Law as an associate director of the law library and computing. He resides in Lubbock, Texas.

Elzetter Maria Oxendine

is employed with U.S. Department of Agriculture in the Food Safety and Inspection

Service. She resides in Pembroke.

Allison Alvarez-Hedrick has been appointed vice president of communications for WEDU Public Media in Tampa, Fla. She is married to **Jimmy Hedrick '98**, who is a team leader for The Nielsen Company. They reside in Gibsonton, Fla.



Sonja P. Anderson of Atlanta, Ga., formerly Sonja R. Pearson of Red Springs, married

Lynn Anderson on June 4 at Hillcrest Church of Christ in Decatur, Ga. Anderson is employed as a law clerk in Atlanta. Her husband is a law enforcement officer. He proposed last June 5, 2010, in

his hometown, Chicago, IL, in the John Hancock Building on the 95th floor in the Signature Ballroom. Sonja was a spring 1997 pledge of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. **Felicia Renee Treadwell '98** served as bridesmaid. Their honeymoon consisted of a New York trip, cruise to Canada, a Myrtle Beach, S.C., visit, and a trip to Lumberton where the two took bridal portraits with the bride's grandmother. The couple resides in Atlanta, Ga.

Renee Drakes is employed by SAIC as a consultant supporting the Defense Information System Agency in Fort Meade, Md. She is a retired major in the U.S. Air Force. Drakes is a consultant in direct sells with Cookie Lee Jewelry; she earned a Mercedes ML350 from the company in two years of employment.

1999

John Charles Peal Jr. is self-employed and resides in Chadbourn.

Amanda Neely is a grants development coordinator with Cumberland County Schools. She resides in Hope Mills.

Christiane Fluellen is employed with Schulzentrum Marienhöhe as a teacher. In 2003, she became a U.S. citizen. She obtained her Master of Arts degree as a reading specialist from Fayetteville State University in 2007. Fluellen resides in Germany and is teaching at her old high school.

2000

John Dial is a car salesman at Rick Hendrick Toyota of Fayetteville. He resides in Rowland.

Former Brave great dies in auto accident

Former Brave basketball great Dr. Everette Hambric '74 died on August 4, 2011, from injuries received in an auto collision in Detroit, Mich. He was 58.

Dr. Hambric grew up in Montgomery County and played basketball at UNCP for coach Lacey Gane. He had practiced family medicine in Michigan for 20 years.

Before attending medical school at UNC-Chapel Hill, he taught high school science in his home county, according to his former principal Ray Oxendine. "He was one of the best teachers I ever had," Oxendine said. "He had an intense desire to become a doctor."

Dr. Hambric's last job was as a home visiting physician. "He was known as a generous and caring doctor. He was a deeply spiritual man, and an ordained minister and a member of Holy Faith Tabernacle Church in Detrc according to Pye Funeral Home." ✪



notes



Alumni profile: John Mangum

John Mangum '68 retired on May 31, 2010, as director of the Cannon Complex at Wingate University.

The Wingate University Athletic Department Service Award was presented Mangum, an 18-year university employee. He joined the Athletic Department staff 1999.

Mangum is a 40-year veteran volunteer fireman for the Town of Wingate. He also served 11 years as a Wingate town commissioner. He is a Lion Club member and American Heart Association volunteer. ★



Tara Clark Bullard '00, '08 was one of 21 teachers selected from 17 school systems in

southeastern North Carolina to join the Sandhills Leadership Academy. She is the daughter of **Jackie Clark '77**, vice chancellor for Enrollment Management.

2001

James Burney is a teacher at Pembroke Middle School. He was elected vice president of the Robeson Association of Educators. He served as a delegate to both the North Carolina Association of Educators and the National Education Association. Burney is a member of the NCAE Professional Rights and Responsibilities Commission and the National Education Association American Indian

and Alaskan Native Caucus. He resides in Lumberton.

Lee Thaxton married Maggie Miller on July 2010 in Greensboro. The couple resides in Greensboro.



E. Ryan Harrelson was promoted to director of Bladen County Cooperative

Extension in May. He is married to **Shanna May Harrelson '01**, a chemistry laboratory teaching associate in the Department of Chemistry and Physics at UNCP since 2004. They also own and operate R&S Brooders for Prestage Farms in Clarkton. They are the proud parents of Levi Judson, age three. He is the grandson of **Sylvia McLean May '72, '89**. The family resides in Clarkton.



2003

Shana Gray is a web and content manager at the Spartanburg Herald-

Journal. She was awarded first place and "best of the best" for her page-one design portfolio by the South Carolina Press Association. Shana has been at the paper, a New York Times Company, since July 2009. She resides in Spartanburg, S.C.

Sara Johnson is married to **Robbie Stephen Johnson Jr, '01, '03**. The couple resides in Fort Belvoir, Va.

Melissa Stricklin Cox is married to Gary 'Jabo' Cox. The couple welcomed their first child, Micah Graham Cox, on February 5. He was born at Cape Fear Valley Hospital at 5:29 p.m., weighing 6 pounds, 10 ounces.

Judy Maples Heffner is a principal with Randolph County Schools. She resides in Southern Pines.

Emily Coble '67 is president of N.C. Peace Corp group

When Emily Coble '67 graduated from Pembroke State College, she joined the new Peace Corps. The experience changed her life, and today she is the president of the North Carolina Peace Corp Association.

After three months of training, she was set to go to Korea, but a family crisis kept her home. A few months later, she went to Guatemala and was there four months before she contracted amoebic dysentery and had to return home.

"Most people would have quit then. They would have said, 'this isn't for me,'" Coble told the *Rocky Mount Telegraph* recently. "But I was determined that I was going to be a Peace Corps volunteer."

Coble recently retired from teaching in Nash County. By the early 1970s with a job teaching in Tarboro, she remembered President John Kennedy's charge to the youth of the country to make a difference in the world. On August 9, 1974, Coble

boarded a plane to Sierra Leone with 179 other Peace Corps volunteers ready to begin a two-year journey that would change the course of her life.

The Peace Corps turned 50 in 2010. In a Catholic school for girls, Coble taught African history, geography and English in Lunsar, Sierra Leone. She lived with two other volunteers in a cinder block house.

In the mornings and early afternoons, Coble taught school. With most of her afternoons free, she volunteered at a hospital.

"What you do is go and try to make it better than you found it," Coble said. "If that is an incremental thing, that is still success."

Coble is married to Craig Smith and they have one daughter, Claire. ★





Artist Delora Cummings '71 adds illustrator to her resume

Artist Delora Cummings '71 provided illustrations for the newly published children's book "Chicora and the Little People: The Legend of Indian Corn" (2010).

The book is a mythological Lumbee tale that was researched and written by Arvis Boughman.

Book illustrating is a first for Cummings, who is a retired art teacher and wife of McDuffie Cummings '74.

"It took me six to eight months to complete," Cummings said. "Arvis had the story all laid out for me. I'm still excited and ready to do another."

The watercolor illustrations are personal, historical and whimsical all at once. Because it is a mythical story, the combination works well.

"I used bright colors," Cummings said. "I chose an impressionistic style because it leaves more to the imagination."

Set in the fall season, Cummings used orange, red and gold to depict landscapes that were drawn from local scenery. ✨

Paula Locklear Archambault completed her Doctorate of Educational Leadership from Fayetteville State University in May 2011. Paula is employed with Hoke County Schools and resides in Pembroke.

2004

Ronda Hall is employed with Scotland High School as a Spanish teacher. She resides in Rockingham.

Joshua Batchelor is president and CEO of Equitable Education Advocacy. He resides in Washington, D.C.

2005

Wendell Marquis Davis is employed with the City of Orangeburg as an athletic supervisor. He lives in Orangeburg, S.C.

Kathryn Ryan Norton resides in Hamlet.

Angela Canon Horner is a controller for Roger Wood Foods. She resides in Savannah, Ga.

2006

Jessica Renee Gilbert is a personal nanny. At homecoming 2009, her boyfriend, Michael, surprised her with a proposal. Jessica's Zeta Tau Alpha sorority sisters and others assisted with the surprise marriage proposal. They were married in February and reside in Mooresville.

Randall Barret Otto is employed with EMC Corporation as a customer operations manager. He resides in Willow Spring.

Michele A. Jones is a math teacher with Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools. She resides in Charlotte.

Sarah Jennings is a music teacher with the Guilford County Schools. She and **Beth Rivenbark '00**, a former UNCP basketball player, currently reside in Greensboro with their two dogs and two cats. The couple is planning an October wedding in Asheville.

Christina Maria Lowery Oxendine married Daniel Oxendine on August 5 in Surfside Beach, S.C. The bride is employed with Primary Health Choice, Inc.

2007

Jennifer Sherman Adkins resides in Charlotte.

Adam W. Jernigan is a science teacher with Columbus County Schools. He lives in Whiteville.

Trooper Alan Humphrey '03 saves family

On patrol on Interstate 95 near Lumberton, Highway Patrolman Alan Humphrey '03 pulled over for a routine check on a stranded minivan. A quick decision, a fire and an explosion, and seconds later, he is a nationally celebrated hero.

The 24-year-old driver, Jessica DePriest, was on her cell phone, while her four toddlers were strapped in car seats. Humphrey told her he would sit behind the overheated van with his lights on until a tow truck arrived.

From his patrol car, Humphrey saw a heat wave rise from the van's engine. He jumped out of his vehicle and helped DePriest get her two-year-old son and 18-month-old triplets out of the car quickly as the engine ignited.

Humphrey got the family to safety, just before the van was engulfed in flames. Then the gas tank exploded, destroying the family's possessions. For the next hour, Humphrey tried to calm the oldest child by giving him a patrol sticker and showing him the fire engines' flashing lights.

"There are so many troopers on the highway that are fulfilling these types of needs and requirements on a daily basis that it sometimes becomes unnoticed," Humphrey told WRAL-TV. "Look, anyone would have done what I did. It's just fortunate everything turned out the way it did." ✨



notes



Kelly McLellan Hayes is employed with FMC-Dillon Dialysis as a registered nurse. She resides in Dillon.

Tiffany Alford is employed with Bladen County Public Schools as an advanced placement grant manager. She is also a part-time illustrator for Cranberry Quill Publishing Company. Alford's illustrations appear in the children's book *Jolly Jonathan and the Town that Couldn't Laugh*, published in September 2011.



Robert Alex Britt graduated with a Doctor of Medicine degree from the Brody

School of Medicine at East Carolina University on May 6. He is completing a three-year residency in Emergency Medicine at Allegheny General Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Rikki Venise Bullard Locklear married Mark Allen Locklear on August 6 in Laurinburg. She is employed with Assisted Care.

Maddox Leon Marshall was born on October 20 in Duke Hospital. He was 7 lbs., 7 oz. and 19 3/4 inches long. His father is **Travis Marshall '07**



and mother **Elizabeth Taylor Marshall '08**. He is the grandson of Charles and Janet Taylor.

Janet works in the Office of the Chancellor.

2008

Sahvanna Locklear is an accounting technician with UNCP. She resides in Lumberton.

Jessica Tew resides in Godwin.

James Campbell is a firefighter-medic for Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Department. He is engaged to **Ashley Wagner '09**. He resides in Woodbridge, Va.

Terrell Jones is an officer in the U.S. Army.

Marquita Brazier is employed with Carter Community Schools as a middle school language arts teacher and is also the head varsity cheerleading coach at Northern High School in Durham. She resides in Raleigh.

2009

Jerry Stogner is an officer in the U.S. Army. He resides in Sherrills Ford.

Meghann Goddard is the assistant director of the Office of Alumni Relations at Queens University in Charlotte, where she resides.

Vela Patrice Martin-Robinson is employed with UCCA Headstart as an assistant teacher and bus driver. She resides in Hamlet.

Bonita Graham is a human resources officer with the U.S. Army. She resides in Sanford.

Jackie Bower '06 worked World Cup for ESPN

Broadcasting graduate and former Brave soccer player Jackie Bower got the thrill of a lifetime by covering the FIFA Women's World Cup last summer for her employer ESPN. She worked the men's World Cup the previous summer.

Bower, who won an Emmy in 2010, has been working with ESPN for nearly five years after a short stint with her hometown broadcaster WCTI-12 in New Bern. She is an associate producer for the giant sports conglomerate, headquartered in Bristol, Conn.

"You can't ask for anything better than working on a sport, and tournament, that you grew up watching," Bower told the *New Bern Sun Journal*.

Bower remains a big soccer fan. "I loved hearing people from home talk about how they were watching and getting into the tournament. You never know what to expect with women's soccer, and I was hugely surprised by the response back home."

She and the crew were busy during the entire tournament. "We typically worked 12-hour days, longer for U.S. games and simultaneous games," Bower said. "Working right outside the stadium was awesome, but at the same time, we were in our own world sitting inside the production trucks. We stood outside and could hear the German fans going crazy in their match played there and could hear the fans chanting, 'U-S-A! U-S-A!' during the final."

Bower was able to work with a handful of members from the 1999 championship team, including Mia Hamm, Brandi Chastain and Julie Foudy. The highlight was watching the former greats play in a pickup soccer game. "I watched them play pickup soccer under the bridge in Frankfurt against a bunch of local kids, which was awesome to see."

Bower, who earned her Emmy at the 32nd Annual Sports Emmy Awards for "Outstanding Live Sports Special," which featured the final match of the 2010 FIFA World Cup between Spain and Netherlands.

Marissa J. Adams is employed with the Social Security Administration as an information technology specialist.

Eric Cuffe is employed with Hoke County Schools as a math teacher. He resides in Fayetteville.

Kyle Sanders is a media technician with WWAY-TV3. He resides in Wilmington.

Mychal Shelton is a project assistant with Registrat Mapi, a clinical research company. He resides in Danville, Ky.



Class notes

Dr. Ashleigh Freeman joins Maxton practice

Dr. Ashleigh Johnson Freeman '03 has joined

the medical staff of Scotland Health Care System at the Maxton Family Practice Center. For Freeman it is a dream realized. At the age of seven she wrote a school paper in which she declared her intention of becoming a "baby doctor" when she grew up.

"All my life I wanted to provide medical care to children," she said. "However, toward my third year of medical school I started leaning more toward specializing in obstetrics and gynecology. But once I began my family medicine rotation, I

knew I had found what I really wanted to do. I love taking care of family members of all ages, seeing children grow and becoming healthy adults. The variety of medical care I can provide to families is exciting."

While at UNCP, she worked at Dr. Joey Bell's medical practice in Pembroke and shadowed other physicians in the community. She majored in chemistry and biology with a biomedical emphasis and upon graduation, taught biology for one year at South Robeson High School.

"During my four years at the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University, Eric and I developed our relationship and married just before I began my residency training at McLeod Regional Medical Center in Florence," she said.

The daughter of Ricky and Sylvia Johnson of Pembroke, Dr. Freeman, lives with her husband Eric Freeman and their one-year-old son, Arlington Eli, in the Prospect community.

2010

Mary Garrett is a clinical trial technician. She is presently pursuing a Master of Arts in counseling psychology at Saint Martin's University in Washington state. She is employed with NovoCure, the biotechnology firm that created the first FDA-approved non-invasive device for treating glioblastoma multiforme, an advanced type of brain cancer affecting 16,000 Americans annually. She resides in Olympia, Wash.

Christina Clemmer is married to Nick Clemmer, and the couple resides in Wahiawa, Hawaii.

Kelsey Cummings is employed with the Public Schools of Robeson County as a music teacher at Piney Grove Elementary School. She resides in Pembroke.

Cassie Mannis is a user support specialist with Duke University. She lives in Durham.

Chante Hargrove is employed with Victorian Senior Care as a community liaison. She is currently enrolled in graduate school at Grand Canyon University, pursuing a master's degree in professional counseling. She resides in Rowland.

Lindsey Jenkins is a materials acquisition specialist with Bae Systems, Inc. She resides in Raeford.

Sophia Lindsey resides in Chatham County.

2011

Bethany Belk is a staff accountant for Yadkin Valley Bank & Trust. She resides in Mooresville.

Shirley Hunt is a correctional officer with the Department of Corrections in Tabor City. She resides in Fairmont.

Rudy Locklear '06, '11 is a judicial magistrate judge. He obtained his Master of Public Administration degree at UNCP in May. He is also second vice president of the Alumni Association. He resides in Pembroke.

Charlina Locklear-Chavis is employed with the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina as a public information specialist.

Stephanie Lewis Skipper married Joseph Skipper on July 23 at Antioch Baptist Church in Lumberton.

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a CAR or CASH value of car!

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Drawing

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All proceeds benefit the **Miss UNCP** Scholarship Pageant.

For tickets, contact Renee Steele, Director of Alumni Relations at 521-6333

Any customer who brings their "Win a CAR or CASH" ticket stub will receive up to \$500 off on their vehicle purchase. For each purchase made with this ticket stub, Lumberton Ford Lincoln will contribute \$100 to the Miss UNCP Scholarship Pageant.

You do not have to be present to win.

UNCP BRAVES CLUB

*Your Gift,
Your Impact*

From the club's founding in 1977, the Braves Club has promoted and supported the student-athletes of UNC Pembroke. Nearly 400 Braves compete as members of the NCAA Division II and Peach Belt Conference. The university's athletic teams continuously strive to build a championship athletic program by setting high standards of excellence. A large component of the endeavor is YOU, the alumni of UNC Pembroke. Whether you were a student-athlete during your time on campus or a proud supporter of Braves athletics, your gift will have a positive impact on each student-athlete. The Braves have reached new levels of success in the classroom and in competition with the assistance of Braves Club members.

Your donations provide scholarship funds. In 2010-11, the Braves student-athletes captured a second-straight Peach Belt Conference President's Academic Achievement Award, and the Braves sent 113 student-athletes to the Peach Belt Conference Honor Roll.

Your donations provide funding for recruiting and team equipment. In 2010-11, the Braves athletic teams recorded a banner year in competition. Five teams and individuals from three sports competed in the NCAA Division II postseason, and the Braves won Peach Belt Conference championships in baseball and women's golf.

In addition to your gifts, the Braves Club hosts a variety of annual fundraising events such as the Car Cash Bash and the Two Rivers Classic Golf Tournament. These fundraising events and annual membership dues provide support to the Braves Club General Scholarship Fund and operational budgets for all 16 athletic programs.

You can become a part of the present and future success of UNC Pembroke's student-athletes by joining the Braves Club. Membership levels range from \$100 to \$1,000, but any donation amount will positively impact the lives of UNC Pembroke's student-athletes.



For more information on the Braves Club or athletic giving, please contact Brian Russo, Assistant Director of Development for Athletics, at (910) 775-4339 or brian.russo@uncp.edu.

www.uncpbraves.com/athletics/Braves_Club

The University of North Carolina at Pembroke's Cherry Laurel Endowed Scholarship

The Carolina Cherry Laurel (Prunus caroliniana) is a remarkably resilient evergreen tree. Native to North Carolina, it can thrive after exposure to hurricanes and other storms. It symbolizes persistence in the face of adversity.

The recipients of The Cherry Laurel Scholarship, like the tree itself, withstand all kinds of setbacks and persevere.

UNCP has long been a place where students can succeed. Caring, talented faculty and staff work closely with students both inside and outside the classroom, sharing knowledge, developing skills, and providing guidance students can use to reach their potential as readers, writers, and thinkers. To achieve this potential and graduate, however, these students often also need something else: perseverance. Indeed, when faculty were asked recently for one word of advice to give to incoming freshmen, that word—*perseverance*—came up again and again, far more than any other.

Named after North Carolina's own resilient Cherry Laurel tree, known to withstand hurricanes and more, The Cherry Laurel Scholarship recognizes students who persevere, overcoming one or more significant personal obstacles during their first two years at UNCP.

Recipients receive scholarships and recognition at the annual awards ceremony sponsored by the College of Arts and Sciences. They also will have the opportunity to advise the UNCP administration on matters related to student success and mentor other UNCP students faced with obstacles.

The Cherry Laurel is an endowed scholarship; once the endowment is funded, the scholarship will exist forever. To help build this endowment, please consider supporting The Cherry Laurel Endowed Scholarship to recognize those students who do not let adversity keep them from achieving their goals.



*To contribute to The Cherry Laurel Endowed Scholarship or obtain more information, contact
The University of North Carolina at Pembroke's Office of Advancement at 910-521-6252.*

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT PEMBROKE



Pictured are the 125th anniversary co-chairs (from left): Mickey Gregory '88, Alphonzo McRae '74 and Dr. Linda Oxendine.

Celebrate the kick-off of UNC Pembroke's

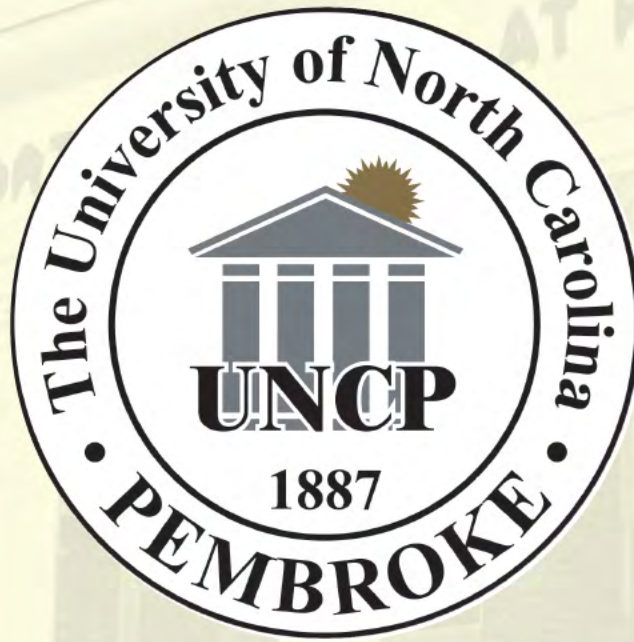
125th anniversary!

March 14, 2012

• 4 p.m.

Main Gym of the English Jones Health and Physical Education Center

www.uncp.edu/125



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT PEMBROKE

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