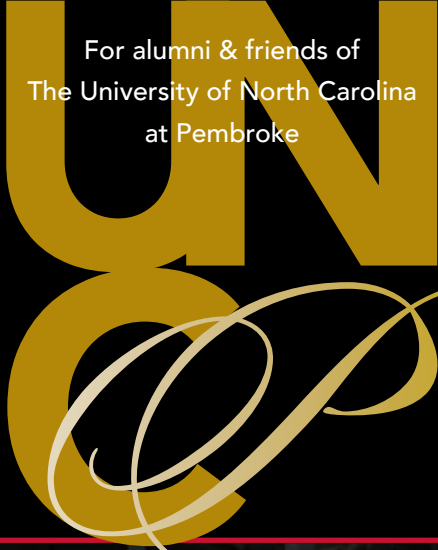


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2 University News

Homecoming 2012 was all about the university's 125-year history. Homecoming week made a little history of its own on the football field and at several landmark events.



5



9

8 UNCP People

A UNCP scientist is studying the box turtle, North Carolina's state reptile. And, Dr. John Roe is giving the public a look at his research in nearby Weymouth Woods.

14 Athletics

Head basketball coach Ben Miller is leading a renaissance in men's basketball at UNCP. Sports Information Director Todd Anderson takes a closer look at this success story.



16



19

18 Good Health!

From across the university, faculty, staff and students are contributing their considerable talents toward making the region a healthier place. The new Health Sciences Building will have a lasting impact in this arena as home to the growing nursing and social work programs.

24 Advancement

Fundraising for a endowed distinguished professorship in Southeast American Indian Studies has been launched with three donors on board. It will bring an outstanding scholar and teacher to the newly expanded department.



25



36

28 Alumni News

The Rev. Simeon Cummings, who dedicated his life to improving his community through his Christian ministry and willingness to help all people, passed away quietly in his home on May 13, 2012.

ON THE COVER: *The ribbon is cut for the \$29 million Health Sciences Building. It is the single largest construction project in university history. It is also the greenest project. Read more about the new home for the Departments of Nursing and Social Work on page 19.*

UNCP Today magazine is published twice a year for alumni and friends of the university by the Office of University Communications and Marketing. UNCP is a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina system. 27,500 copies of this document were printed at a cost of \$0.61 each.

Chancellor's *Welcome*

You may recall when, as the newly appointed chancellor of UNCP, I and some of my colleagues embarked on a nine-stop "listening tour" of southeastern North Carolina. During these feedback sessions, we received two recurring requests: new programs and more outreach, especially in the area of health and human services. I am proud to say that, at this university, we know how to listen and, more importantly, we know how to respond. There is a conscious and continuing effort across campus to fulfill the community's requests. You will see evidence of some of our work in this issue of *UNCP Today*.

Our faculty and staff are working on many health-related projects, from reducing infant mortality to curing Alzheimer's disease. This important work is also making its way into our classrooms. UNCP's programs to train students for careers in scientific research and healthcare are thriving and increasingly demonstrating excellence. The Pembroke Undergraduate Research and Creativity Center (PURC) promotes faculty-student collaboration and encourages students to prepare and present their research at conferences. Our Health Careers Access Program (HCAP) generates interest in health careers among minorities—generally underrepresented in that field. Two UNCP graduates, Erica and Elisha Dellinger, benefited from their HCAP experience and are now pursuing pharmacy and optometry programs, respectively. They took time away from their graduate studies to return to campus and enjoy Homecoming 2012. Through opportunities such as PURC and HCAP—as well as UNCP's ongoing commitment to service-learning, our faculty and students reach out to improve the health and welfare of our region in meaningful ways.

The big news during the fall semester was the opening of the \$29 million Health Sciences Building. With the new facility, we hope to double the number of nurses enrolled and add a master's degree program. Our region needs more nurses with advanced training, and UNCP's four-year, pre-licensure curriculum is one of the top nursing programs in the state, as our nursing graduates' scores on the State licensure exam prove. With outstanding nursing faculty and students, a new building and \$3.5 million invested in training technology, we offer state-of-the-art nursing education, launching a new era in healthcare in our region.

In fact, the launch has already begun. Last fall, we received a grant to help us better serve Columbus County and the eastern part of our region. A partnership was forged with Southeastern Community College and Columbus Regional Healthcare Systems to recruit and train RNs in their community. With the help of these key partners, we will turn RNs into BSNs.

Our academic programs are also contributing to improving community health. The Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program is seeking national accreditation, which will allow its graduates to work with veterans for the federal government, and our Social Work Program prepares graduates for employment in health and medical services, as well as mental health services for the federal government. Future academic offerings under consideration include nutrition and dietetics, as well as physical therapy.

It's an exciting time for this university as we begin to harness the awesome power of 6,200 students and 1,000 faculty and staff. This issue of *UNCP Today* will give our alumni and friends a peek at the future as the university gives the region's health a shot in the arm.



Kyle R. Carter
Chancellor



Degrees conferred on 600 during Winter Commencement



The university awarded diplomas to 600 graduate and undergraduate students during the 2012 Winter Commencement ceremonies on December 7 and 8.

More than 5,000 parents, friends and graduates attended the events, which marked the 140th commencement in the university's history. The institution, founded in 1887, is in the midst of celebrating its 125th anniversary, Chancellor Carter noted in his welcoming remarks.

"Much has changed," Chancellor Carter said, "but the mission of improving the quality of life through education remains the same."

From generation to generation the torch was successfully passed at the university, and that ideal is reflected in this generation of students. Like the university's 125-year history, the route these students traveled included challenges and triumphs.

Commencement speaker Dr. David Nikkel welcomed the graduates to the next era of their lives. He encouraged them to continue to embrace the values of a liberal arts education.

Dr. Nikkel is a theologian and winner of the 2012 UNC Board of Governors Award for Teaching Excellence. Author of three books, he routinely takes on the most complex issues in his classroom while remaining "close to the ground" as pastor of a small church congregation in Fayetteville, N.C.

He defined "liberal" in the classical sense, stemming from the word "liberty." Dr. Nikkel said a liberal arts or general education is liberating and one that encourages life-long inquiry.

However, he warned that there are mounting challenges to this freedom from "persons, institutions and movements that will discourage you from taking advantage of that education and will discourage

you from continuing to grow as broadly educated citizens of the United States and the world."

These "narrowing" forces have resulted in political dysfunction, opposition to scientific literacy and religious movements that advocate violence. They are also calling into question the values of a liberal arts education, Dr. Nikkel said.

"These voices label the education of students in history, art, literature, philosophy, religion, the social sciences and the natural sciences generally as wasteful," he continued. "With digital and other technology changing the specifics of most jobs at ever-increasing speeds, most employers want workers who can think critically and flexibly and express themselves well orally and in writing."

Dr. Nikkel implored the graduates, "as broadly educated citizens, to use your influence to ensure that future students will have the educational opportunity you've received and taken advantage of."

STUDENTS REFLECT

Undergraduate exercises were held in the Main Gym of the English E. Jones Health and Physical Education Building. Degrees were granted to 492 students from the College of Arts and Sciences and the Schools of Education and Business.

In the moments before the processional, some of UNCP's graduates reflected on their educational journeys and what it means for their children.

From a family of 18, Tammy Locklear dropped out of high school and worked in a factory and as a hairdresser, among other jobs, before earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in sociology. She had a quick answer regarding her children's college education.

"My children will have an easier path

than I did, because they will learn from what I did," Locklear said. "My daughter's already in college with a full scholarship."

Rhonda Cooper of Lumberton offered another success story. For eight years, she waited tables at a local seafood restaurant while taking classes to become a teacher.

"My little boy was my inspiration," she said. "I am setting an example, and I hope to give him the same opportunity I had. When he goes to college, he will have the benefit of my experience and a teacher for a mother."

Perhaps the least typical of UNCP's graduates was Amanda Lippard, who travelled from Stokes County to pick up her diploma.

"This is the first time I have ever been on campus," Lippard said. "I took all my classes online and had great support from professors. I hope to meet them in person today."

GRAD STUDENTS

On Friday, the School of Graduate Studies formally "hooded" 108 students on the stage in the Givens Performing Arts Center. Graduate students as a rule are employed, successful, smart and motivated, but they still needed advice and encouragement along the way.

Catherine Entrocaso, a high school English teacher, drove from Wilmington to attend evening classes. After crossing the stage, she wiped away a tear.

"I am married with a daughter, so it was a tough three years," Entrocaso said. "It was worth it. I had a phenomenal experience with the professors here who encouraged me." ■

A come-from-behind football victory and a record-setting parade highlighted a week of activities during an "historic" Homecoming 2012 at UNC Pembroke.

Homecoming adopted the 125th anniversary theme of "Honoring Our Heritage, Soaring Toward Our Future!" Many events—from a class reunion to the Reflections panel discussion of UNCP's first 125 years—showcased the university's proud history.

Early in the week, former professors and students, including Dr. James Ebert, who taught biology at the university for five decades, and Larry Barnes '71, UNCP's first African American student, gathered at the Reflections program to discuss life on campus in the mid-20th century.

With 76 entries and seven marching bands, Wednesday's Homecoming Parade was by far the biggest and most exciting parade in memory. Members of the Class of 1962, who served as parade grand marshals, shared in the excitement. "We got here at two o'clock, we were so excited," Emma Locklear said. The parade started at 4 p.m. and rolled through the Town of Pembroke, with the last float arriving at Grace P. Johnson Stadium almost two hours later.

At the pep rally that followed, Chancellor Carter extolled the procession as the "best homecoming parade ever" and ranked it as his favorite homecoming event. "I loved the parade," he told the Pine Needle student newspaper. "We had such a great response from campus – students, faculty and staff – all had floats. I was really, really proud."

A dinner on Thursday honored the Class of 1962, celebrating its 50th class reunion. Noah Woods, Lillian Harris and Emma Locklear reflected on their time at the university. At the dinner, the class launched a drive to endow a scholarship, as Locklear noted, "to make sure the door I walked through offers the same opportunity for someone else to follow me."

Friday's 44th Annual Alumni Awards Banquet honored five alumni for



Homecoming 2012

Braves' gridiron victory caps an historic homecoming week

excellence in their professions and on the playing field. Shortly after the banquet, Homecoming weekend kicked into high gear, with Clarence Carter, Roy C and Percy Sledge reviving some memories of homecomings gone by at a sold-out concert at the Givens Performing Arts Center.

Although the threat of Hurricane Sandy's high winds and rain prevented a record attendance at Saturday's game, Braves football did not disappoint. Thirty-five hundred faithful fans defied the forecasts to see quarterback Luke Charles throw for 335 yards and two touchdowns. The Braves went on to defeat Newberry College 31-24.

Tailgaters didn't appear to notice the weather. Among the crowds celebrating on the pavement were Alumni Association President Aaron Thomas, who hosted his traditional pig-picking and cookout, the sisters of Gamma Phi Omicron gathered for a tailgate lunch, and the Phi Kappa Tau fraternity reveled outside the stadium gates.

While most folks were in high spirits for Homecoming, a few were feeling nostalgic. Some alumni, such as Lane Hudson '76, were enjoying Homecoming football for the first time, while university seniors, like cheerleader Kamile Weston, were seeing their last Homecoming—at least as students. "I cheered all four years, and this is my last home game," she said. "But I have basketball season to look forward to.

I'll be there."

But at a university celebrating its 125th anniversary, a little nostalgia is fitting. Logan Locklear, after grabbing a photo opportunity with UNCP's red-tailed hawk mascot, described his family's connection to UNCP—ties that also bind his mother, Adrian Locklear '06, '11 and grandfather, Anthony Locklear '78 to the university.

"I am a fifth generation graduate," Adrian said. "We are descendants of Anderson Locklear, who has a building named for him."

Their kinship to one of the university's early trustees seemed especially apropos at this particular homecoming when we remember our heritage while looking to the future. ■

NOW THAT'S FOOTBALL

UNCP's football team made history by winning its fifth out of six homecoming games since the return of football in 2007. Among the most notable plays were T.J. Johnson's catching one touchdown pass and throwing another to help UNCP rally and finally defeat Newberry, 31-24. Quarterback Luke Charles passed for 335 yards and a pair of touchdowns; Te'vell Williams caught nine of those passes for 110 yards and a third-quarter TD. Donald Britt, one of 12 seniors honored before kickoff, caught a career-high eight passes for 73 yards and a touchdown.

"I am very excited for our senior class that we were able to send them out with a victory against a very good football team," said UNCP head coach Pete Shinnick.



Five are honored at the Alumni Awards Banquet



First row from left: Judge James Lockemy, Chris Little, Russell Clark, Kenneth Bowen and Dr. David Brooks

Five outstanding alumni were honored during homecoming week at the 44th Annual Alumni Awards Banquet.

Pembroke veterinarian Dr. David Brooks '74 was named Outstanding Alumnus; South Carolina Court of Appeals Judge James E. Lockemy '71 received the Distinguished Service Award; and Kenneth L. Bowen '02, '07, a high school principal, won the Young Alumnus Award.

Inducted into UNCP's Athletic Hall of Fame were soccer player and coach Chris Little '02, '04 and Russell Clark '86, a two-time All-American in track and field.

Chancellor Carter praised the award winners and thanked all 20,000 UNCP alumni who built an outstanding university over its 125 years.

"We have a lot to celebrate in our 125 years, and for 14 months, we are taking every opportunity to celebrate," Chancellor Carter said. "Tonight, we recognize a group of individuals who have demonstrated excellence in their professions and excellence on the playing field."

OUTSTANDING ALUMNUS

Dr. David Brooks has practiced veterinary medicine in the Pembroke community for 34 years. He is a past member of the Alumni Association and a lifetime member of the Chancellor's Club, UNCP's elite society of donors.

"His outstanding veterinary practice and his service to this university and the community are exemplary," said Dr. Charles Jenkins, a longtime university administrator. "He is truly one of our most outstanding alumni."

Dr. Brooks, who was named the 2012 Distinguished Veterinarian by the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association, said the university has played a significant role in improving the lives of "regular people like myself."

"What a legacy, what a heritage this university has," he said. "All of you have helped shape my life."

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

Judge James Lockemy is a Dillon, S.C., native and has had an outstanding career in the military, law, politics and civic life. He retired as a full colonel from the National Guard and has served two terms in South Carolina's legislature and in the courts as a circuit and appeals court judge.

Like many first generation college students, Lockemy's success was never guaranteed. He transferred to UNCP from the Citadel to better support his young family.

"Judge Lockemy worked three jobs to earn enough money to get a college degree from UNCP," said Bobby Brayboy in his introduction. "Today, he is a larger-than-life individual."

In accepting the award, Lockemy thanked his family and the people who supported him throughout his career.

"These accomplishments are in no way singular ones, but, like all worthwhile deeds, the result of involvement, faith and the work of many people including my family," Lockemy said. "I hope that I deserve this honor, and I will strive to earn its worth in the future."

YOUNG ALUMNUS

Kenneth Bowen, principal of Eugene Ashley High School in Wilmington, N.C., has been on a fast track in the education profession and an effective leader at every stop, said Cherie Graham in her introduction.

"Kenneth has done everything possible to help his schools and students be successful," Graham said. "He is a trendsetter, a man of firsts, who is passionate about students, passionate about making change and about holding educators accountable."

Bowen thanked the university where he is currently working on a third degree in education.

"This is one of the greatest honors of my career," he said. "I had a great experience here as an undergraduate and as a

graduate student. I've been fortunate to have great mentors."

Bowen is also a believer in education for a lifetime. He is nearing completion of a doctorate in education degree from East Carolina University as part of a cohort taking classes at UNCP.

HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

Retired soccer coach Mike Schaeffer said he launched a letter campaign across the Atlantic Ocean to recruit Scotsman Chris Little, and he never regretted it.

"Chris is one of the all-time great players at UNCP," Schaeffer said. "He was a team leader from the first practice."

Little's name is in the record books for career goals and career assists. Team captain for two years, he led the Braves soccer team to their first-ever Peach Belt Conference Tournament finals and a national ranking.

Little has continued to thrive in coaching at Cumberland College, Elon University and in youth development programs.

"Over time you forget about what you did on the field, but you remember the experiences you shared," he continued. "What we have here is a very special place."

Retired track and field coach Larry Rodgers fought hard and won a recruiting battle against the biggest universities in the state to bring high-jumper Russell Clark to UNCP.

"He was the big fish that almost got away," Rodgers recalled. "He had a great career and graduated in four years. His life is a testimony to what a true student-athlete should be."

Clark, who lives in Phoenix, Ariz., carries an understated humility. In spite of still holding UNCP's high jump record at 7-feet 2 inches, he said it is an honor to be mentioned in the same breath with other UNCP greats.

"It's good to be home," Clark said. "This place was the defining moment of my life."

Everything is C-o-n-n-e-c-t-e-d

Forum panel has sweet memories of their time at the university



Longtime biology professor James Ebert and one of his former students, Larry Barnes '71, watched with interest during the discussions.



Emma Locklear '62 talked about time in tobacco and cotton fields and her time in college as Nat Tolar '71 looks on.



Dr. Linda Oxendine, former chair of the Department of American Indian Studies and co-author of UNCP's centennial history, was the keynote speaker.



An audience of more than 100 enjoyed an evening of remembrance that was both serious and humorous at times.

As part of UNCP's ongoing celebration of its 125th anniversary, the "Reflections: A Look Back at UNC Pembroke's First 125 Years" forum kicked off Homecoming's week of activities. More than 100 people attended the event, and as soon as the first guests arrived, the stories started.

Challenging classes and challenging times were the source of most stories, such as whether Dr. James Ebert's Anatomy and Physiology course would be the undoing of Larry Barnes' '71 college aspirations. Or how the university cobbled together its first few hundred dollars to start the normal school. Or how voluntary desegregation became a turning point in the school's history.

"I was a biology major until I heard how hard Dr. Ebert's Anatomy and Physiology class was," Barnes laughed. Barnes wasn't the only student challenged by Dr. Ebert. Harry Mathis, a 1959 graduate, also remembered taking a biology class from Ebert and his disappointment in getting a "B."

But Dr. Ebert came prepared with a few stories of his own, recalling his first class and his first students. "I came to the university in 1956. In my first class I had a group of outstanding students," he said. "I had only a handful of bones and a model torso, but they were great students."

Joining Ebert was a panel of alumni who looked back on their time at UNCP, including university historian Professor Emerita Linda Oxendine, who gave the keynote address. She described the early years of a school founded in 1887 with one teacher and 15 students.

"This is a wonderful story; the most unique story I know," said Dr. Oxendine,

the long-time chair of UNCP's American Indian Studies Department. "The early history of the school is inseparable from the local community, and we're not so far from our origins today. There remains a strong cultural ownership of the school by the American Indian community."

Dr. Oxendine outlined the school's beginnings and the contributions of founders such as W.L. Moore; students like D.F. Lowry; the school's first graduate, and long-time trustees O.R. Sampson, Anderson Locklear and Preston Locklear.

Because the original state appropriation of \$500 was earmarked for salaries, Dr. Oxendine explained, it was left to the Indian community to provide land, lumber and labor for the first school building. But launching the school would be the first of many challenges, including segregation.

1953 was a watershed year for the university—one of the first state institutions of higher education in the nation to voluntarily desegregate, enrolling whites in 1953 and African Americans in 1967. The school's identity, itself, would continue to shift, too. Dr. Oxendine explained the progression of the university's seven name changes and how those changes mirrored the Lumbee tribe's search for its identity.

The evening's storytellers spoke of challenges – but they were all challenges met. And to a great extent, the university helped its students meet those challenges—for an education, a career, or the chance to see the larger world.

"When my family didn't have the funds to send me to college, Pembroke State University chose me," recalled Barnes, the first African American to enroll at the university. "People like Dr. Les Murray

and James B. Chavis (namesake of the University Center) worked it out for me." Barnes' proudest moment, he said, "was graduation day with my mother and father on either side of me. They were both crying."

For 1971 alumnus Nat Tolar, his experience at Pembroke was a doorway to successful employment. After graduation, he started his life-long career with AT&T. "I never even had an interview," Tolar said. "The placement office worked it all out. It's the only job I ever had, and they made it possible."

And for other students, college simply brought them the opportunity to travel outside of the area. Pandora Strickland, class of 1957, recalled fondly her trip to a music conference in Atlantic City, N.J., with a group of students, most of whom had never been far from home.

"We left early," Strickland began, "and we were so excited that by the time we got to Fayetteville, we began eating our lunch." She adds, "We were an excited bunch of college students for a week."

Chancellor Carter, UNCP's fifth chancellor, attended the forum, listened to the stories of students past and, no doubt, considered the stories of his students enrolled today. He offered this observation:

"The current state of the university was made possible by the people here," Dr. Carter said. "The panel tonight has lived many years of that history."

For more information about the university's continuing 125th anniversary celebration, please visit: www.uncp.edu/125/.

Class of 1962 holds its 50th reunion during Homecoming 2012

It was an interesting time to be in college. John F. Kennedy was president, there were missiles in Cuba, John Glenn orbited the earth, and Marilyn Monroe died. Students who lived through those events and graduated from Pembroke State College that year revisited those memories at its 50th class reunion on October 25.

They stayed busy during the week of Homecoming 2012. The class served as grand marshals of the Homecoming Parade and attended concerts and athletic contests. At the reunion, the class shared stories of the college that transformed their lives. They launched an endowed scholarship so that others may have the same opportunities they had.

In welcoming the class to the university, Chancellor Carter recalled that 1962 was a year of significant national events, and it was also the year English E. Jones became interim president of a university—poised to prosper under his leadership.

More than 400 students started college with this class and 97 finished. College for first-generation students is a difficult proposition - ask Emma Locklear or Nell Skinner Lyon.

"My father died when I was seven," Locklear said. "My mother carried herself with dignity and pride as she provided for us."

Like many students of her generation, Locklear toiled in tobacco and cotton fields and found motivation in hard labor.

"I thought 'there has got to be a better way to make a living,'" she said. Locklear became a career educator, as did Nell Skinner Lyon.

"I spent two years at Flora MacDonald College, but my father got sick and I got a job and got married," Lyon said. "With two children, college was not easy."

"I remember meeting with Dr. Herbert Oxendine (dean of students) who was the loveliest man," she continued. "He worked it all out so I could attend classes just three days a week."

Noah Woods, also a career educator, earned his bachelor's degree from Pembroke and two graduate degrees from East Carolina University.

Woods worked in the cafeteria during college.



First row from left Nell Lyon, Emma Locklear, Mary Davenport, Sylvia Deese, Joan Lowry, Lois Bullard, Rosette Locklear. Second row from left: Noah Woods, Mary Locklear, Jeannie Thompson, Carl Clark, Russell Guenther and Deletha Locklear

"I was the very first operator of the new dishwasher in the cafeteria," he said. "I got free meals, and they paid me too. Thank God for PSC."

Tuition was \$87 per semester at Pembroke State College in 1962, and as Chancellor Carter noted, "it's a lot more now."

Locklear made a pitch for the Class of 1962 Endowed Scholarship.

"I always made sure that the door I walked through offers the same opportunity for someone to follow me," Locklear said. "This is what the scholarship means."

"Each of us had someone to lift us up and inspire us," she continued. "I hope the blessings we received, we can give back to help others."

To learn more about the Class of 1962 Scholarship, please contact the Office of Advancement at (910) 521-6252 or email advancement@uncp.edu.



PRESIDENTS ROW – At the ribbon cutting for the Student Government Association President's Wall of Honor from left are former presidents and their years of service: James Morree (1967-68), Renee Steele (1992-93), Wayland Lennon (1984-85), Brian Freeman (1991-92), Chancellor Kyle Carter, John Ray (1961-62), Robert Nunnery, current SGA president, Marvin Jacobs (2006-07), Philip Bowman 1999-00) and Arjay Quizon (2009-11).

Former Student Government Association presidents gathered on October 24 to dedicate their Wall of Honor.

With etched bronze images of every former SGA president dating back to 1947, the wall is located in the James B. Chavis University Center near the current student government offices.

John Ray, SGA president in 1961-62 discussed how UNCP and student leadership changed his life. "I saw this old country boy could get involved and be a leader," he said.

Wayland Lennon was president from 1984-85. "I feel like I'm home," Lennon said. "What PSU (Pembroke State University)

SGA's Wall of Honor dedicated during homecoming

meant to me was success because I had already learned what failure felt like."

"Tommy" Brian Freeman, who is also an educator in Red Springs, laughed about his image on the wall.

"I had a lot of hair in that picture," said the 1991-92 SGA president. "We worked for academic excellence and lobbied for the recognition of outstanding students," Freeman said.

The Office of Student Involvement and Leadership and the SGA put up the wall that replaced a photo exhibit of former presidents. Alumni Director Renee Steele, who helped organize the event, was SGA president from 1992-93.

"As a former president, I appreciate this wall as a nice tribute to the former presidents," Steele said afterward. "Going forward, it reminds current and future SGA senators and presidents of their legacy."

Messianic Zionism

Religion professor's second book is published



Dr. Motti Inbari's second book on religion, Israeli politics and history probes the connection between a messianic religious movement and the aftermath of the Six Day War in 1967.

In *Messianic Religious Zionism Confronts Israeli Territorial Compromises* (Cambridge University Press), Dr. Inbari notes that the war, which greatly expanded Israel's borders, galvanized the messianic movements and stoked their expectations.

The movement, which had been a "marginal voice" without a viable political wing, began to push for new settlements and influence in Israeli politics. However, as the government returned land to the Palestinians and disbanded settlements in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank, the author weighs the ensuing disillusionment.

"This was perceived among religious Zionist circles as a violation of God's order," Dr. Inbari said. "This process raised difficult theological questions. Was the State of Israel no longer to be considered a divine tool for the redemption of the Jewish people?"

Dr. Inbari was born in Jerusalem and educated at the Hebrew University there. His first book, *Jewish Fundamentalism and the Temple Mount: Who will Build the Third Temple?* also reported on a sensitive issue critical to the tinderbox that is the modern Middle East.

"The events of 1967 and 1974 (Yom Kippur War) gave a boost to the views of this group, and this is where my story begins," Dr. Inbari said. "They fueled an idea that God's hand delivered the victory, and the redemption was moving forward."

Religious beliefs turned into political ideology, Dr. Inbari said. His book explains how this messianic movement, once invigorated, dealt with events that did not meet its dream for Israel.

"The messianic religious Zionists found themselves with a reality that no longer matched their faith," he said. "How do the faithful cope with prophetic failure, and how it influenced their religion is the heart of the book."

Dr. Inbari refers to the conflict in psychological terms as "cognitive dissonance."

"Do they stick to the old way with more passion and zeal?" he asks. "In many cases the believers remain unmoved."

The scholar offers several paths for disillusioned believers when a central tenet of their faith collapses. The author theorizes that believers may "rationalize" the conflict, saying the "prophecy did not fail, but continues on a level that is not yet visible," he said. "The realization of prophecy is one step closer."

Among the reactions of the messianic Zionists that Dr. Inbari analyzes is the political response.

"This response acknowledges the set back, and the way to fix it is through politics," he said. "This takeover of the state could be accomplished through or against the political system.

"The last response is to withdraw and wait to seize control of the state," Dr. Inbari said. "It could be compared with radical Islamic movements."

The fallout from territorial compromises is evaluated in later chapters against the possibility of a solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.



Professor co-edited book on a pioneering religious historian



David Edward Harrell Jr., the pre-eminent historian of the South's most remarkable religious movements, is celebrated in a new book, *Recovering the Margins of American Religious History: The Legacy of David Edwin Harrell Jr.*

Dr. Scott Billingsley, an associate professor of history, wrote one essay and co-edited the collection. He was a student of Dr. Harrell's at Auburn University, where Dr. Billingsley earned his doctorate in history.

Dr. Billingsley discussed the book and his mentor in an interview not long after the book's publication by the University of Alabama Press.

"He focused on the marginalized religious movements of the South," Dr. Billingsley said. "His major areas of study were the Restoration movement, which includes charismatics, fundamentalists, the Disciples of Christ, independent Christian churches and the Church of Christ. He wrote biographies on Oral Roberts and Pat Robertson.

"Ed was the leading historian in this field for a long time," he said. "If you are going to study religion in the South, you have to read him."

Dr. Harrell made his mark in 1974 with the publication of *All Things Are Possible*, his groundbreaking work on the early years of charismatic and healing movements. Before that, Dr. Harrell pushed the envelope with his 1971 book *White Sects and Black Men*.

"*All Things Are Possible* was a big hit with charismatics because it was the first time someone told their story objectively," Dr. Billingsley said. "That is why Oral Roberts allowed an academic like Ed to write his biography.

"He was critical, but he was fair," he continued.

Now in his 80s, Dr. Harrell attended the formal introduction of the book during a conference in the summer of 2012. Since 2005, the book has been an on-again-off-again project between the UNCP professor and co-editor B. Dwain Waldrep, a professor and chair of the Department of Arts and Sciences at Southeastern Bible College.

"In 2010, I put everything else away to focus on it," Dr. Billingsley said. "Edited collections can be difficult, but this was a nice experience."

Most of the contributors were students and/or friends of Dr. Harrell, and they are some of the leading scholars in the fields that Dr. Harrell first plowed, Dr. Billingsley said. The UNCP historian contributed an essay titled, *The Midas Touch: Kenneth E. Hagin and the Prosperity Gospel*.

"Although he did not share the celebrity of other charismatic evangelists, such as Oral Roberts and Pat Robertson, Hagin became one of the most influential religious leaders in post-World War II America," he said.

Dr. Billingsley joined the faculty in 2003 and teaches courses in religion, technology and American history.



UNCP scientist studying box turtles' response to fire

Box Turtle Facts

- While it's North Carolina's only terrestrial or land turtle, they have been seen swimming the Lumber River.
- The box turtle is the North Carolina state reptile.
- They can live to be 100 years old.
- Each shell is different, like a turtle fingerprint.
- Its scientific name is *Terrapene carolina*.

A UNCP scientist is studying how one of the forest's slowest creatures survives fires that periodically torch their habitat.

"One of the turtles we were tracking survived two fires," said Dr. John Roe, a conservation biologist and UNCP professor. "But we're only beginning to understand their response to fire."

Dr. Roe is conducting a study of Eastern box turtles and their response to prescribed burns in the longleaf pine forests of Weymouth Woods, a state nature preserve in Moore County. He is in the first year of a three-year study in the 900-acre preserve with a control study in the Lumber River State Park's Wagram site.

With two student interns, the team has tagged 10 turtles in each park with radio transmitters, and now they are tracking their movements and plotting GPS coordinates. In his third year at UNCP, Dr. Roe has been studying turtles and snakes since he was in college.

Facts about Dr. John Roe

- From Nashville, Tennessee, he studied water snakes in Michigan and Indiana while earning a master's degree from Purdue University.
- While earning a Ph.D. from the University of Canberra, Australia, he studied long-necked turtles.
- Dr. Roe got the idea for his box turtle study while hiking in Weymouth Woods with his family.
- You can accompany him on a turtle walk by checking the Weymouth Woods website for his next tour.

Studying turtles is a slow business, he says, but the study is breaking new ground in box turtle conservation. The box turtle is North Carolina's state reptile.

"The box turtle is the only terrestrial or land turtle in North Carolina," Dr. Roe said. "They are a 'management priority,' but no one has established how the turtles respond to fire."

Park rangers in Weymouth set prescribed

burns that preserve the longleaf pine forest habitat. In nature, wild fires accomplish the same thing. But what of the slow moving turtles?

"It will be useful to know what the collateral damage is from the fires," Dr. Roe said. "They are slow, so what do turtles do when they encounter fire? Can they survive such an encounter?"

The information Dr. Roe records will be useful for park rangers. Several papers and presentations are forthcoming, including one at a box turtle conservation meeting this spring at the North Carolina Zoo.

"It's early in the study, so we don't have enough observations of encounters between turtles and fires," he said. "We are following burn-over survivors to see how they fare."

The turtle who was twice burned survived with serious injuries and was later taken by a predator. All that was left was the heavily damaged radio transmitter.

The study launched in the summer of 2012 with Dr. Roe and students Kris Wild and Lucas Baxley catching and tagging turtles.

"You spend a lot of time searching for turtles," he said. "We checked on our turtles two-to-three times a week, and now that school has started, Kris is continuing to track them once a week."

Besides the response to fire, Dr. Roe is gathering other unique information about their movements that will reveal information about mating and seasonal behaviors and other facts.

Dr. Roe lives in Moore County, in part, because he wanted to live near a state park. After forming a partnership with the park rangers, the UNCP biologists began his study. He also began hosting educational turtle walks for the public.

"In my trips to the park, I noticed a population of box turtles," Dr. Roe said. "The park rangers at Weymouth and Lumber River State Park have welcomed us and allowed full access to their resources, including help from park staff in finding turtles."

Dr. Roe also takes his field biology classes to the Lumber River State Park. The turtles there are the "control" piece of his study because the park does not conduct controlled burns.

"It's been a gold mine," he said. "They are great partners, and I keep the park rangers informed of our findings."

With mounds of data, Dr. Roe expects to have an answer to the question of how turtles survive in a fiery world. In fact, some live to be 100 years old.

Dr. Roe, who studied reptiles while earning a master's degree from Purdue University and a Ph.D. from the University of Canberra in Australia, discovered Weymouth's turtle population on family hikes in the preserve.



Dr. Roe in his Biology Department office.




Dr. Roe leads a box turtle hike in Weymouth Woods.

Dr. Zoe Locklear returns as dean of UNCP's School of Education

Dr. Zoe Woodell Locklear, a 30-year veteran educator, has been named dean of the School of Education. Dr. Locklear had served as interim dean since May 2012.

Dr. Kenneth Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, said Dr. Locklear's experience in the public schools and in higher education would serve the university well.



"Zoe has tremendous stature in the education community," said Dr. Kitts. "She is a passionate and effective advocate for UNCP, her faculty colleagues, and our partners in K-12 schools. Our School of Education will continue to benefit from her insight and leadership."

Dr. Locklear said when she accepted the position of interim dean last May, she had no intention of making it permanent. As

the School of Education's first dean in 1999, she had been there and done that.

"I was surprised and flattered about this opportunity," Dr. Locklear said of the turn of events. "When the faculty and administration - who know the good, bad and ugly about you - ask you to serve, it's a great professional honor. It's very humbling too.

"This comes at an important time for public education and teacher training here in Pembroke, the region and nationally," she said.

If the university and public school community know Dr. Locklear well, she knows public education at every level. She is focused on service to UNCP's 11-county region.

"Outreach to this region is so important for this institution and for the school systems," she said. "We have always had great partners, and we've always tried to be the best partner possible. Building collaborative relationships is a lot of what this job requires."

Dr. Locklear's career began in a public school classroom. After completing work on a Ph.D. in special education at UNC-Chapel Hill, she joined UNCP's faculty in 1988.

In 1999, Dr. Locklear was named the first dean of the newly created School of Education. In 2002, she stepped down to become an assistant superintendent of the Public Schools of Robeson County and then associate superintendent for the state Department of Public Instruction for leadership development and special services.

Dr. Locklear returned to UNCP in 2004 to teach and direct the Master of School Administration program. In 2005, she was named dean a second time and led the successful reaccreditation with the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education.

High on the dean's list of priorities this fall and going forward are the changing state and national standards for accreditation. Currently, Dr. Locklear and the faculty are working on the initial accreditation of the School Counseling Program with the Council for Accreditation for Counseling and Related Programs.

"If I have been successful in this job, it's because we, as a teacher education program, have been successful," she said. "We've accomplished a lot in a decade and there is much more to do. Again, I have my work cut out for me, but I have had great support."

Dr. Mark Milewicz named dean of Honors College



Dr. Mark C. Milewicz is the new dean of the Esther G. Maynor Honors College.

An Alabama native, Dr. Milewicz comes to Pembroke from Gordon College in Barnesville, Ga., where he was a professor of political science and director of the honors program. The new dean will be responsible for curriculum, budgeting, programming, advising and recruitment for the Honors College.

Dr. Ken Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, said he is pleased to have Dr. Milewicz join the university in an important role.

"Mark is a very engaging and committed individual," Kitts said. "I am impressed with his vision for the honors college and look forward to working with him to create expanded opportunities for students in that program."

Dr. Milewicz was founding director of the honors program at Gordon College, a school with an enrollment of 5,200. Beginning in 2008, the program grew each year and had more than 60 members when he left.

"I've had quite a lot of experience with honors colleges, and I've enjoyed working with them, even as a graduate student," Dr. Milewicz said. "Building the program at Gordon College was a lot of work - a great challenge - but very enjoyable. It was very gratifying to leave that program on what I believe to be solid footing."

Now headquartered in Hickory Hall (formerly the Nursing Department), the Honors College had 35 new and 70 returning students last fall. With an eight-member faculty advisory council, the college offers honors courses, programming outside the classroom and a living-learning residential community. The challenges of leading an honors program are many.

"You have to be a utility infielder in this role," the new dean said. "One day you work on budgets and the next recruitment strategies and so forth."

Working with the faculty is very important, Dr. Milewicz said. "You have to be in tune with every aspect of the academic environment," he continued. "The support and enthusiasm of the faculty is crucial to an honors program, and I feel that support here.

"The college is very fortunate to receive a significant level of support from the chancellor and provost also," he said. "We feel very fortunate."

"At this time, we seem to be going in the right direction," Dr. Milewicz said. "Our entering freshmen have some of the strongest academic credentials we have seen and are a cross-section of student athletes, nursing students, and young scholars representing a variety of disciplines from across campus. I'm very impressed with the individual students and their accomplishments."

Dean Milewicz said that while the last recruiting class is a good one, he will continue to build on recent gains with creative recruiting strategies. An honors program should be visible and active across campus, he said.

"I hope to create frequent opportunities, both on campus and off, for students to be part of the Honors College," Dr. Milewicz said. "Variety of programs attracts diverse students."

Dr. Robert Romine named to Bandmaster's Hall of Fame

Professor Emeritus Robert Romine was inducted into the North Carolina Bandmasters Association Hall of Fame during a ceremony in UNC-Chapel Hill's Memorial Hall.

For 22 years, Dr. Romine led the university's bands and was closely connected with nearly every high school band program in the region.

The award recognizes excellence in teaching as a band director in music education. The award citation notes: "Your leadership in the activities of this association, while maintaining a well-balanced band program, is an inspiration to us all."

"I've probably conducted just about every school band in the region," Dr. Romine said. "It's a real honor for me to be on such a distinguished list. I am one of only two university faculty in the Bandmasters Hall of Fame."

The Bandmasters Association is affiliated with the North Carolina Music Educators Association. Dr. Romine was inducted during the association's annual honors band clinic.

Romine served as chair of UNCP's Music Department and was its band director from 1974 through 1996. He was nominated for the award by Mike Williams, a 1980 graduate and band director at Cape Fear High School.

Williams recently invited Dr. Romine to conduct the Cape Fear High School Concert Band during an end-of-year concert.

"Mike was an excellent student, and when he graduated, he could transpose a full score of music for piano," Dr. Romine remembered.

In retirement, Dr. Romine continues his musical career in Pinehurst. He co-conducts Moore County's New Horizons Band and conducts the Moore County Concert Band.

"I'm still going strong," he said. "I'm so busy, it's unbelievable."

Mike Williams '80 and Dr. Romine



UNCP'S LILLIAN BREWINGTON STILL KEEPING OUR HISTORY



There was one last thing that Lillian Deese Brewington wanted to do before leaving the university, where she has worked since 1975.

Brewington, who officially retired as a special collections librarian in 2006, has been coming to her office in the Mary Livermore Library almost every day since. Her unfinished business is the 50,000-piece Elmer Hunt Photo Collection, which she has helped turn into a rich source of local history.

Last fall, 15,000 photos from the Hunt collection went online. Genealogists and historians can now search the archive by name and other keywords.

Besides being the university's photographer, Elmer Hunt photographed people, parades, celebrations, events and landscapes. In total, the collection represents the life of a community over nearly 40 years – a virtual Lumbree Homecoming.

"Collections like this need to be kept in the right place," Brewington said. She might have added that they belong in the right hands.

The library's Special Collections is the right place, and Brewington and her colleagues are the right hands. The Hunt collection is a jewel in the crown of the library's Special Collections, where Brewington has labored long to archive university and community history.

For her work, the university's Board of Trustees approved a Faculty Senate recommendation to award Brewington faculty emeritus status, the highest honor for retired faculty. She is the only non-teaching faculty member ever to receive the designation at UNCP.

"I was surprised," Brewington said. "It is a great honor and an honor to be the first."

When the Hunt collection arrived, it posed a unique challenge for Brewington and the conservators at the university. To be fully utilized online, the photos needed to be digitized and searchable.

Names had to be tagged to photos to facilitate research. Who were all those people?

"I could put names to many of the photos, and Carlene (Cummings) and Leah (Hammonds) knew more," Brewington said. "That was a start."

On a recent tour of the photo display in the Main Reading Room, Brewington connected another name with a face. "That's Sanford Sampson," she said. "He taught me history at Pembroke High School. His brother was a teacher too."

To get as many names as possible, community input was needed. Photos have been on display in the lobby for more than a year for the public to identify. Special events were hosted for community groups, including the Lumbree Tribe, local churches, educators and the outdoor drama *Strike at the Wind!*

Brewington is especially qualified to reach out to the community. Her family history is embedded in the community and university. Her father, Haynes Deese, was in charge of campus security for many years.

"I worked on invitation lists and programs," she said. "The education and church events had overflow crowds. It went well."

The veteran librarian plans to continue volunteering and working on short paid contracts "as long as they let me." Work on the Elmer Hunt Photo Collection will also continue.

The library's Special Collections is an archive of many things, such as minutes of the university's board of trustees meetings, yearbooks and other university publications.

Donated papers are also a part of the collection. Former U.S. Representative Charlie Rose donated papers pertaining to his work on agriculture and federal recognition of the Lumbree Tribe.

The Fuller-Rhodes papers on the founding of Lumberton were donated by the late Henry McKinnon, who was a local historian and judge. Dr. Malinda Maynor Lowry, a Pembroke native who is a history professor at UNC-Chapel Hill, donated the collected papers of the Lumbree River Fund.

Much of the collection is available online at www.uncp.edu/library/, and Brewington, a resource in her own right, is still available in her office.



Dalton Hoffer is the university's top volunteer for 2012

Dalton Hoffer, a senior mass communication major, is the 2012 recipient of the prestigious Community Impact Student Award.

One student at each of the 40 participating colleges and universities receives the award from the North

Carolina Campus Compact. Hoffer is truly an active student and a model of how civic engagement strengthens communities and the students who participate.

Every day seems to bring a new opportunity for Hoffer to volunteer. Recently, he spent three hours at Sacred Pathways, a Pembroke crisis ministry, putting their Internet service back online. On a Saturday last fall, he painted faces for the local Boys and Girls Club's fall festival. He was the lead in the recent University Theatre production of "Little Shop of Horrors." His fraternity, Theta Xi, was recently named UNCP's Fraternity of the Year, and he was named President of the Year.

Hoffer encourages others to get involved by talking to new students in Freshman Seminar, which is the college transition course all freshmen must take.

"When I talk to new students, I tell them that being involved is the key to success in college," he said. "Pembroke has the same opportunities as other universities."

Hoffer is humbled by the award. "This award is a great honor for me, and it's nice to know I had the support of my peers," he said. "I voted for someone else because they were all deserving."

Madison Wilcox named 2012 Maynor Scholar



Madison Wilcox, a graduate of Lumberton High School, is the 2012 Esther G. Maynor Scholar.

The four-year renewable scholarship, the university's most prestigious, pays tuition, fees, books, room and board. The scholarship and the Honors College are named for one of UNCP's greatest friends, the late Esther G. Maynor.

Wilcox is an outstanding student, who graduated in the top 20 of her class. While her teachers say she will be successful in the classroom, what sets her apart is a passion for civic engagement, which she finds extraordinarily rewarding and sometimes life changing.

"I've always thought of myself as a quiet person," Wilcox said in an interview. "Being a Teacher Cadet at Lumberton High School really brought me out of my shell and improved my leadership skills."

"I taught classes at three elementary schools; it was one of the most rewarding experiences of my life," she said. "Standing up there in front of a class and seeing the lessons and activities come together was so exciting."

In high school, Wilcox was a member of the National Honor Society and several service clubs. Visits to UNCP convinced Wilcox and her family that this is the right school for her.

"When I visited, everybody was so friendly and helpful," she said. "My mom went to a big university, and she was really impressed that you're not just a number here."



UNCP has three on early track to Brody School of Medicine

Matthew Godwin and Candace Locklear, 2012 graduates of Purnell Swett High School in Pembroke, received four-year scholarships

as participants in the new Early Assurance Program (EAP), which guarantees them a spot in East Carolina University's Brody School of Medicine once they graduate from UNCP.

Earlier, sophomore Brandon Blackwell became the first student accepted into the program. The scholarship pays for tuition, fees and books.

The students were selected through a competitive process. Entrance into the Early Assurance Program requires high school GPAs of 3.7 and scores on the SAT of at least 1100. Once enrolled at UNCP, EAP fellows must maintain a 3.5 GPA, complete required pre-med courses and score at least an eight in each section of the MCAT, the standardized test for medical school applicants.

Blackwell is an Esther G. Maynor Scholar. Godwin and Locklear are also high-performing students. Their high school GPAs exceeded the program's requirements. They were both in the National Honor Society and participated in student government and several student organizations.

While their academic performance could have earned them entrance into other schools, they chose UNCP and this opportunity.

Student-artist's work appreciated far and wide

An egg yolk, a weed and spilled paint were the winning ingredients that art major Janet Davis used in the SCAN.IT Exhibition in Brighton, England.

Three of the seven digital art works Davis submitted were selected for exhibition in Brighton's Gallery 40 on August 2 - 19.

A Knoxville, Tenn., native and Army wife who began her art education at a community college, at UNCP, she is branching out into other art forms.

"I am a photographer by trade, and I've learned some new things about creating digital art at UNCP, although I was already pretty proficient in (Adobe) Photoshop," Davis said.

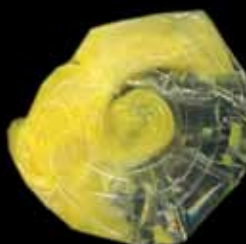
Davis' work is also entered in the prestigious Adobe Design Achievement Award competition. A collage she created from 15 photographs of an abandoned Fayetteville, N.C., textile mill is a semifinalist in the contest (at this writing).

"Getting into the semi-finals of the Adobe competition is very exciting because it is very competitive," Davis said. "My entry was number 5,137, and I don't know how many more there were."

Davis said the Art Department is a creative environment for learning.

"I like the small classes, and the professors are working artists who teach, which is invaluable," she said. "They really push you. I appreciate that I have developed as an artist here."

"I don't think people appreciate how much work goes into making art," she smiles.



UNCP hires new vice chancellor for finance and administration

Richard Cosentino, Ph.D., MBA, has been named vice chancellor for finance and administration. He was selected following a national search.

During his more than 20-year career, Dr. Cosentino has held a variety of senior management positions. A senior financial and administrative executive in higher education, his last post was as the associate vice president for finance and management at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., a three-campus university serving approximately 25,000 students.

"We are fortunate to have such an experienced candidate," said Chancellor Carter. "Dr. Cosentino has a breadth of experience that incorporates finance, management, budgeting, facilities, strategic planning and human resources – areas that his duties at UNCP will encompass. I am confident that he will continue us on a path of consistent improvement through a collaborative personal style that fits well with the values of the university."

At George Washington, Dr. Cosentino supervised the financial and administrative management of 21 units of the university. He previously held administrative positions at the University of Maryland and Johns Hopkins University.

During his career, Dr. Cosentino also served as the assistant dean for the School of Engineering and Applied Science at George Washington and is a lecturer in the Department of Engineering Management and Systems Engineering.

"I have worked for many years in a university setting providing financial and administrative leadership," Dr. Cosentino said. "I look forward to being a part of the UNC Pembroke team, and I am very excited to have the opportunity to work at a university with such a rich history and exceptional faculty and staff."

Dr. Cosentino holds a bachelor's degree in business administration and an MBA in strategic financial planning. His Ph.D., in the area of enterprise resource planning systems implementation, was earned at The George Washington University. Dr. Cosentino has presented at numerous national conferences over the past five years including the National Association of College and University Business Officers, Educause, and the National Council of University Research Administrators Financial Research Administration Conference.

Reporting to the chancellor and a key member of the chancellor's cabinet, the vice chancellor for finance and administration serves as the chief financial officer of the university and the UNCP Foundation, Inc. The vice chancellor for Finance and Administration is responsible for the university's \$120 million operating budget and \$17 million endowment.

A number of departments report to the vice chancellor for Finance and Administration, including: Business Services, Financial Planning and Budgeting, Controllershship, Human Resources, Facilities Management, Bookstore and Food Services. A total of 175 regular and part-time staff members report to the vice chancellor.



New master plan calls for a greener, friendlier campus



Faculty Row: Before



After

In the future, the university will be greener, more pedestrian-friendly place that is welcoming to students and visitors, according to the recently completed master plan.

The next 15 years will see a new library or "information commons," a new school of business, an athletic complex on the north end of campus and much more.

The plans are not mere conjecture. The university recently purchased 38 acres, across Odum Road for the proposed athletic complex.

The plan is available online at www.uncp.edu/fm/masterplan/.

Chancellor Carter, who initiated the project, said it is "what a master plan should be all about."

"This is a product that helps us today, so that the dollars we spend add to a long

range plan," Chancellor Carter said. "From this point forward, this will guide our future."

The drawings show a future of tree-lined walkways and borders. Besides several new buildings and aesthetic considerations, the master plan is also an analysis of campus infrastructure, from storm water runoff to electrical set up and other below-ground systems.

The campus of the future would preserve important historic areas while changing to support a growing university.

The information commons project plays a big role—literally—in the master plan. The commons will be the largest building on campus and will be constructed on the current site of the Wellons and Jacobs residence halls. The proposed Wellons Grove, just north of the commons, will be a

landscaped and inviting outdoor space for students and faculty.

Among other projects, landscaped pedestrian connectors and gateways, including a main entrance, dubbed "Lumbee Gate," would improve campus life and increase campus safety. Faculty Row and Braves Drive would be converted into a central pedestrian "spine," and a second academic quad will be created on the former soccer, baseball and softball fields.

Like the quads and pedestrian walkways, campus borders would also be tree-lined and landscaped.

When complete, the new campus would be comprised of "districts," including academic cores, residential areas, and student-life and service districts.

Dan Kenney named chief of staff in chancellor's office

It's the dream of every athlete to go out on top, and Dan Kenney has done just that at the university where he has accomplished so much for so many years. Chancellor Carter announced that Kenney would be his new chief of staff beginning on November 1.

Kenney had served as athletic director since 1998 and was already a member of the Chancellor's Cabinet. For 15 years, he guided athletic teams to success on the playing fields and in the classroom.

Before returning to the university as athletic director, Kenney served as assistant basketball coach from 1977-1980 and head basketball coach 1985-92.

Chancellor Carter said Kenney is the right choice to fill a key position on this staff.

"Mr. Kenney has earned the respect of both the internal and external communities," Chancellor Carter said. "His integrity, knowledge of the organization, leadership and management skills make him the ideal pick for chief of staff. Dan has the capacity to make the university better, which has become my primary criterion for hiring. I look forward to working with Dan in this new capacity."

Patrick Sterk, who was director of compliance, was named interim athletic director. A national search for a new athletic director is ongoing. During the transition, Kenney will not be far from the Jones Athletic Center.

Kenney's new role at UNCP came about after several conversations with Chancellor Carter and some soul searching.

"First of all, I am blessed to have spent 38 years in collegiate athletics," Kenney said.

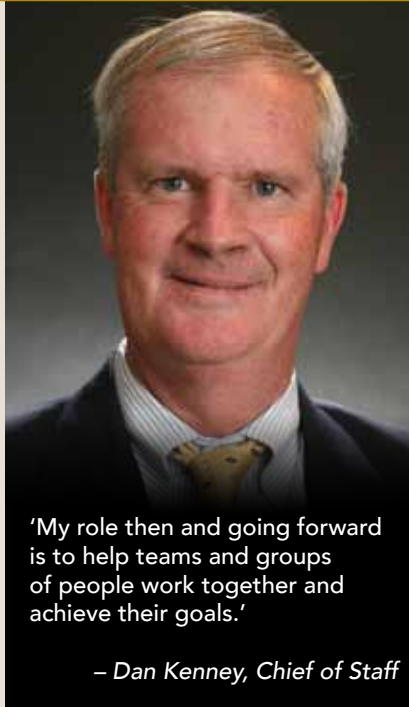
"The university is embarking on an exciting new chapter in its history, and I want to help the chancellor and his senior leadership team accomplish the goal of becoming an institution of choice," he continued. "I am excited about the focus on student success and outreach to our constituent communities."

Kenney believes the time is right for a career change. "I want to do something different in my career, and this opportunity allows me to remain at a place I love and owe a great deal of gratitude to. I have a new role, but I am still part of a great university," he said.

Kenney has been a winner as a coach and athletic director. In his only venture away from UNCP, he was head basketball coach at the NCAA Division I Winthrop University.

For the Braves, he posted a record of 124-78 as the men's basketball coach. His 1990-91 team still holds the school record for most wins in a season, going 27-5.

Today, Braves athletics are experiencing a renaissance in virtually



"My role then and going forward is to help teams and groups of people work together and achieve their goals."

– Dan Kenney, Chief of Staff

every sport. UNCP teams are contenders for Peach Belt Conference championships and earning invitations to NCAA tournaments. Since 2010, nine UNCP sports have advanced to the NCAA 12 times, and numerous individuals have competed for national titles, including 2012 national champion wrestler Mike Williams.

From a list of accomplishments, Kenney points to two highlights from his 15 years as athletic director.

"One of things I am proudest of is winning the President's Cup in two of the last three years for student-athletes having the highest accumulative GPA in the conference," he said. "Another highlight was starting three new sports – women's soccer and golf and football – and having all three go to the NCAA tournament within seven years."

Although Kenney said he has no regrets, he will remain the Braves biggest fan.

"I'm looking forward to watching games from a new perspective as the Braves biggest supporter," he said. "I will miss the daily interaction with the students, coaches and staff from the role of athletic director."

Kenney said the Office of the Chancellor is staffed with individuals who are very competent and are dedicated to the success of the office and the university.

"I look forward to working with the Chancellor's Office and the Cabinet," he said. "I am looking forward to helping the Chancellor's Office provide a great experience to anyone who interacts with our team."

Some of Kenney's career highlights include being named national Athletic Director of the Year for the NCAA's Division II in 2006. Locally, he was named the Spirit of Unity Award winner at the 2010 Business Visions Awards Banquet.

Kenney is accomplished at the development side of athletics as well. He helped lead the \$4.5 million First and Ten Campaign that was the most successful campaign in university history. During his tenure, endowed athletic scholarships increased from seven to 23.

The veteran athletic director also served on numerous NCAA and university committees. He is a member of Kiwanis of Robeson/Lumberton Club and the Robeson Roadrunners and helped that organization start two very successful road races and festivals, the Rumba on the Lumber and the Chevy to the Levee. He has also served on the board of Community in Schools and Lumberton Area Chamber of Commerce.

Besides his administrative and coaching duties, Kenney served as a lecturer in the Department of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. An East Carolina University graduate, he also earned a Master of Arts degree in Education from ECU. ■



Fall Sports Wrapup



FOOTBALL

Braves football rebounded from a loss at nationally-ranked powerhouse Winston-Salem State in its season opener to post five-straight wins and make an appearance in the national rankings for the first time in two years. However, the Braves dropped three of their last four contests to post a final record of 6-4 – its fourth winning season in the last five years. The Braves were led by junior wide receiver Te'vell Williams, who broke a handful of single season and career records with a 53-catch, 754-yard, 10-touchdown campaign. Along the way, Williams became UNCP's all-time leader in pass receptions, receiving yards and touchdown receptions, while breaking UNCP's single-season record for touchdown receptions and receiving yards. Three players – wide receiver Ben Decelle, offensive lineman Wes Carter and linebacker Dan Atkins – took home Capital One Academic All-District honors, while Decelle became the first Capital One Academic All-American in program history.



MEN'S SOCCER

Men's soccer won its first five outings en route to its first national ranking under head coach Phil Hindson in mid-September. The team qualified for its first NCAA Tournament berth since 2005. After staging a furious comeback, the Braves scored a "golden goal" two minutes into overtime to upset No. 18 Mars Hill in their NCAA

opener. In round two, they fell via a penalty kick shootout in the regional championship game to tournament-host Flagler. The Braves boasted a trio of All-Peach Belt Conference players in 2012, including forward Sam Miles, midfielder Sean Hoek and defender James Casserly, as well as a pair of Capital One Academic All-District standouts in Miles and Paul Freeman. They finished with a 12-5-2 record – the best win total under Hindson and the third-best finish for the program over the last 20 years.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

Women's soccer roared out to a 3-0-1 record, including a 0-0 tie at regionally-ranked Tusculum and survived a midseason injury bug to finish with a 10-7-3 record that

Amalia Arvidsson goes for the goal!



left them just short of securing another NCAA Tournament bid. In the Peach Belt Conference Tournament, they posted a 5-1 upset victory at Lander in the opening round, but fell in the semis to nemesis Columbus State. The Lady Braves sent a trio of players – defender Fanny Forsman and forwards Rae-Shawna Campbell and Amalia Arvidsson – to all-conference and NSCAA All-Region honors, while Arvidsson was a member of the Daktronics All-Region squad.

VOLLEYBALL

Volleyball registered wins in five of its first nine outings of the season, but finished the 2012 campaign with a 5-26 record under first-year head coach Angie Byrd. Junior Marissa Baker led the team with 229 kills and a team-best 268 digs. Ashlyn Rebok had a team-leading 713 assists, while fellow senior Shay Peterson ranked second on the team with 226 kills while getting a team-best 60 blocks.



Pardon Ndhlovu

MEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Men's cross country jumped out of the gates with a big event championship at the South Carolina-hosted Gamecock Invitational and posted two other top-five finishes en route to another successful campaign. All-American Pardon Ndhlovu made a return trip to the NCAA postseason where he registered a career-best 32nd place finish to earn his second All-American honor. Ndhlovu captured his second-straight Peach Belt Conference Championship and NCAA Southeast Region championships. He won his second-straight PBC Runner of the Year title.



Livia Mahaffie

WOMEN'S CROSS COUNTRY

Women's cross country also won the team championship at the Gamecock Invitational. Paced by race champion Livia Mahaffie, the Lady Braves posted a third-place finish at both the Peach Belt Conference and NCAA Southeast Region championships to qualify for their first-ever berth into the NCAA National Championships. Mahaffie was UNCP's lone All-PBC honoree, but the Lady Braves sent three student-athletes – Mahaffie, Kendra Dorn and Annette Sem – to the all-region team.

BASKETBALL SUCCESS: Day-by-day the Ben Miller way



'We never look back with this program. We always look forward.'
— Coach Miller

Father and son – Eldon Miller, a 40-year veteran coach who was head coach for the Ohio State Buckeyes for 10 years, works as assistant coach for his son.

By Todd Anderson

At first, it was not clear why Ben Miller left a successful coaching job at the highest level to take a job at a NCAA Division II school in Southeastern North Carolina.

The facts were hard to ignore. In the six years prior to his arrival in Pembroke, the Braves men's basketball team had won a total of 24 games. Including a 0-28 season in 2002-03, the Braves had not fared well in the Peach Belt Conference either, putting together an 11-95 (.104) record there.

In comparison, Miller had experienced success early in his coaching career. In nine years as an assistant coach at Kansas under both Roy Williams (now at UNC) and Bill Self, the Jayhawks made nine NCAA Tournament appearances, including three trips to the Final Four. In five seasons as an assistant and associate head coach at Missouri State, the Bears qualified for the postseason three times.

So, what some saw as a step down, Miller saw it as a giant step up. He saw UNC Pembroke – both the school and the men's basketball team – as an opportunity. He viewed it as a challenge that warranted at least a phone call to express his interest in the position. That phone call changed Braves basketball fortunes, and it changed Ben Miller, the coach, too.

"I called and (former athletic director) Dan Kenney answered the phone," Miller said. "We had about a 15-minute conversation, and he made an immediate impression on me and got me more and more interested in the job.

"I think you are always looking for potential – not just where a program is or what shape it is in – but what it can become," he continued. "The more I learned about UNCP, the area and the recruiting base, the more excited I got. I felt that they have the potential to compete for championships."

So, on April 23, 2008, just a month after the Braves put away a 7-21 campaign that was good for 11th place in the 12-team Peach Belt Conference, Miller was hired on as UNCP's 15th men's basketball head coach. In the press conference announcing his hiring, he made no bones about what his goals were for the basketball program: "UNC Pembroke is a special place with great people, and I look forward to the challenge of building a basketball program that this university and community can be proud of."

As expected, there were growing pains. Miller's first two teams were unable to win 10 games a season. The Braves finished 11th in the league in 2008-09 at 6-21 and tied for last in the PBC's Eastern Division in 2009-10 going 9-18.

But the teams were showing signs of improvement. To this day, his goal is to get better one game at a time.

"We never look back with this program,"

Miller says. "We always look forward."

"The potential for this program had always been there," he maintains. "We recruited kids early on who were excited to get the opportunity to turn this program around. They wanted to come in, roll up their sleeves and get to work at doing it right away. Although those early teams didn't have all the success that they wanted, they were able to put the foundation down that we could build on."

And build they did. Despite dropping a tight 64-62 contest at Belmont Abbey in the season opener, the 2010-11 Braves rebounded in a big way, winning seven of their next eight games, including a 15-point comeback victory over eventual NCAA Elite Eight finalist Anderson to go into the holiday break at 7-2.

The Braves achieved their first double-digit win total in more than a decade with



Braves make West Coast debut at Disney's Tip-off Classic

ANAHEIM, CALIF. – UNCP's basketball team hit the road in early November for five games in eight days and a little sightseeing. It was a first-ever appearance on the West Coast for a Braves athletic team.

In exhibition games, the Braves took on Division I Stanford and the University of San Francisco on consecutive nights before arriving in Anaheim for the Disney West Coast Tip-off Classic against top-ranked Division II competition.

Besides racking up a lot of mileage, the road trip was also unique because it was financed by private donors and guarantees from the Division I opponents. Coach Ben Miller thanked donors for the opportunity to test his team against some strong competition.

"There was no better competition for us this early in the season, and it can only make us stronger," the fourth-year coach said. "I really have to thank the many people whose contributions made this possible."

Miller said the coaching staff and team learned a lot from four losses and one win.

"We got taken to the shed in a lot of areas, but when you schedule tough teams early, you're going to find out quick how good you are," he said. "We have been able to identify some key areas that we need to work on and hopefully that will help us going forward."



continued from page 16

a 71-69 road victory at Columbus State in mid-January. They put an end to a four-game skid later that month by stringing together a three-game streak highlighted by a 110-107 triple-overtime win over Flagler in Pembroke.

The magic was just beginning. With a win at USC Aiken in the opening round of the conference tournament – a game that featured eight tie scores, six lead changes and a desperation 3-pointer that fell just short as time expired – the boys from Pembroke captured their 17th victory of the season. That was the most for a UNCP men's basketball team since joining the NCAA Division II ranks for the 1992-93 season.

UNCP's 18th win was symbolic of the hard work that Miller's teams had put in as the Braves rallied from a four-point deficit with 20 seconds left to topple Georgia Southwestern and advance to their first conference championship game. The performance likely assured UNCP its first-ever trip to the NCAA postseason as well.

"The players in our program just matured – physically and mentally," Miller said. "When you have young guys playing significant roles in this league, it's going to be a challenge. It's going to be men against boys where the better teams in the league typically have juniors and seniors that are their better players. As our guys matured and grew up, we started to get a system established. Once you get that system in place, your seniors have a chance to be tremendous leaders and that is what helped us take that next step."

"We made that run in the Peach Belt Tournament, and getting to see that look on their face when they saw their names on the screen (on the NCAA selection show), that was special," he said. "It is something that I will never forget."

The historic moments have continued for the Braves since that postseason trip. In 2011-12, the team recorded a program-best 11 wins in league play, while also establishing a new school record going 12-4 clip at home.

The game summaries looked like this:

- **vs. Stanford** – With 3:26 remaining, the Braves trailed by just six points before The Cardinal finished strong to win 85-71. Shamel Brackett, a pre-season All-Peach Belt pick, scored 20 points and George Blakeney had 14.
- **vs. San Francisco** – a team which once had legends Bill Russell and K.C. Jones in uniform, jumped all over the Braves and won going away, 94-57.
- **vs. Northern State** – a hot-shooting UNCP squad dominated from the tip-off to cruise to a 73-58 victory in the first game of the Disney Classic. Brackett had 17 points in the first official game of the season.
- **vs. Southwest Minnesota State** – a 14-3 lead withered into a 77-58 loss. Promising redshirt freshman Quamain Rose had 12 points.
- **vs. Winona State** – ranked no. 7 nationally, Winona hit seven three-pointers in the first half and cruised to a 70-56 win. The Braves trailed by only seven in the second half. Brackett had 12 points.

On Feb. 8, 2012, Miller's team became the first from Pembroke in a decade to hang a loss on league nemesis Augusta State. This season, the 2012-13 Braves became the first team to ever record three consecutive 100+-point scoring games, and the first team in 24 years to reach the 100-point plateau at least three times in one season.

When it is all said and done, Miller already ranks seventh on UNCP men's basketball's all-time wins list. Nevertheless, some of his best wins came off the court.

"You always get emotional and choked up when you see your players graduate," Miller said. "We aren't going to have many guys that go on to pro careers. Ultimately, they are here to get a degree and prepare for life after basketball, where they will support themselves, support their families and grow into responsible men. It is a special moment to see them walk across that stage and get their diploma."

Health Sciences

The impact of work being done in the classroom and in laboratories by students and faculty at UNC Pembroke, particularly in the areas of Health Sciences, is being felt throughout the region and has the potential for much greater reach. The breadth and scope of the work demonstrates a multitude of ways the University is supporting the Chancellor's vision of four themes: Regional Engagement, Institution of Choice, Student Success and New Normal.



- Partnerships in both Columbus County to deliver nursing education, and in Pembroke to providing cancer screenings for the Lumbee, exhibit our Regional Engagement;
- The ground-breaking research in the areas of Alzheimers and perinatal depressions establishes the University as an Institution of Choice;
- The one hundred percent pass-rate by our nursing students clearly exemplifies Student Success; and
- The new state-of-the-art Health Sciences Building which brought the Nursing and Social Work departments – previously scattered across campus, and even off campus – into one facility combining resources for a more efficient organization, demonstrates the New Normal.

In this special section, you will read about the outstanding accomplishments in this one area of academics at UNCP.

Imagine that being multiplied countless times in departments across campus and you'll understand why the possibilities are endless!



UNCP cuts the ribbon on its new Health Sciences Building



In a hot afternoon in August, the university officially opened its latest state-of-the-art facility that will enhance science education and prepare graduates for careers in health and human services. The \$29 million Health Sciences Building is home to the departments of Nursing and Social Work; the sleek structure offers both advanced technology and room to grow.

Located on the north end of campus, the building is 87,000 square feet and will allow the university's stellar nursing program to double in size to 200 students and add a master's degree program. The modern brick, steel and glass structure is also home to the Bachelor and Master of Social Work programs.

Besides being the most environmentally sustainable building on campus—LEED-certified silver (Leadership in Energy and Environment Design)—it is a beautiful space with large expanses of glass providing excellent lighting, airy interiors and beautiful views.

Aesthetics aside, it is the university's most technologically advanced learning environment, said Dr. Kenneth Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs.

"This building itself is a work of art, and there is \$3.5 million in technology inside with smart classrooms and seven clinical learning centers," Dr. Kitts said. "We have been celebrating the university's 125th anniversary this year. This," he added, "is the future."

Of the most advanced features of the building are the clinical training centers, which simulate nursing environments, including an operating room, obstetrics, intensive care, pediatrics, psychiatry and home health.

Remote-control mannequins serve as patients, and nursing faculty control the patients' symptoms and responses from observation rooms. These robotic and remarkably realistic mannequins can do just about everything, including talk, cough, sweat, cry, suffer heart attacks and deliver babies.

The technology attracted the attention of regional and state media. UNC-TV featured UNCP's nursing training on its North Carolina Now public television program.

The four-year, licensure program in nursing was established in 2005 in Lumberton on the campus of Southeastern Regional Medical Center because there was no room on the Pembroke campus. Chancellor Carter thanked former

SRMC CEO Luckey Welsh and current CEO Joanne Anderson for their roles in launching and nurturing the program.

"When we did not have room on campus for a nursing program, Southeastern Regional Medical Center came to our aid," Chancellor Carter said. "It's been a great partnership ever since."

There were others in the audience of approximately 100 who had played key roles in making the building a reality, Chancellor Carter noted. He thanked former state Rep. Ronnie Sutton of Pembroke and former state Sen. David Weinstein of Lumberton.

"Without the help of Sen. Weinstein, we would not be here today," Chancellor Carter said. "He is a great friend of higher education and of this university."

Sen. Weinstein called the building his greatest accomplishment as a legislator.

"It's gorgeous; I'm proud of it," Sen. Weinstein said. "As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I helped bring \$92 million to UNCP, but I consider this to be my greatest accomplishment."

FUTURE OF NURSING

The future of nursing is bright here. Nursing at UNCP is "one of the top programs in the state," Chancellor Carter said. "This is the second year in a row that 100 percent of our graduates passed (on their first attempt) the national examination for registered nurses. This is an extraordinary accomplishment for any nursing program, but especially for a new program."

Robin Cummings, M.D., chair of UNCP's Board of Trustees, agreed with Chancellor Carter and concluded the ribbon cutting ceremony with his personal perspective on health care in southeastern North Carolina: "As a physician," Dr. Cummings said, "I realize the importance of this building to the community and region. We need well-trained people in health care who are critical thinkers."

Once the ribbons were cut, Dr. Barbara Synowiez, chair of the Department of Nursing, gave tours of the new facility. She echoed Chancellor Carter's comments on the success of nursing.

"We are really proud of this building and our achievements because they speak to the high quality of instruction and the high quality of our graduates," Dr. Synowiez said. "Clearly, our nursing graduates are leaving here with an outstanding education." ■



NURSING WAS TOP STORY IN 2012

The new Health Sciences Building caught the attention of UNC-TV. With cameras rolling for a "North Carolina Now" news feature, UNCP nursing was in the spotlight, again.

The university's focus on nursing education is continuing to pay off as 2012 nursing graduates recorded a 100 percent passing rate on the national nursing licensure examination (NCLEX-RN) for the second consecutive year.

For the university's growing, four-year, pre-licensure BSN program, that is only the start of exciting news. In a building stuffed with \$3.5 million in technology, the undergraduate program is poised to double in size to 200 nurse hopefuls.

The RN to BSN program is reaching out to the far corners of UNCP's service region with new agreements with Southeastern and Brunswick community colleges to train nurses who wish to upgrade their skills.

Outreach to the community is also ongoing. The Department of Nursing is partnering with the Lumbee Tribe and others to encourage more people in Robeson and Scotland counties to get cancer screenings.

Scores have risen every year since 2007, when the first class of BSNs (Bachelor of Science in Nursing) took the exam, to 2011, when UNCP's program was the only public university in North Carolina with a 100 percent passing rate.

Clearly, the program can claim to be one of North Carolina's best, and they have staked that claim.

"We are really proud of this achievement because it speaks to the high quality of instruction and the high quality of our graduates," said Dr. Barbara Synowiez, chair of the Department of Nursing.

With a current enrollment of approximately 100 undergraduates, the department has approval from accrediting agencies to double in size. A plan for master's program is pending with UNC General Administration.

Since the Obama administration unveiled its plan to defeat Alzheimer's disease by 2025, Dr. Ben Bahr has been watching with great interest from the Biotechnology Research and Training Center at UNCP.

A world-class research scientist studying neurodegenerative diseases, Dr. Bahr is UNC Pembroke's William C. Friday Distinguished Professor of Molecular Biology and Biochemistry. His work focuses on Alzheimer's disease, an affliction that strikes more than five million people in the U.S.



Patent in hand, scientist seeks treatment for Alzheimer's disease

One major thrust of the federal initiative would support research on toxic proteins (Beta amyloids) that are believed to be linked to dementia and Alzheimer's disease. This year, Dr. Bahr received a patent (No. 8,163,953) for which he co-invented a new class of compounds – lysosomal modulators. He discovered that these composites promote the clearance of accumulating proteins in the brain—the proteins thought to interrupt memory encoding along neural pathways and across synapses.

Dr. Bahr hopes to discover an important new drug from this novel group of compounds his lab is developing. Arriving at UNCP in 2009, Dr. Bahr brings timely and world-class research to Pembroke, which he says is an ideal location for discovery and development of his project.

Recently, Dr. Bahr took time out from his work to pull back the curtain on what he and his fellow researchers—including undergraduates and post-doctoral fellows—are doing. It is truly important work, and they are on the leading edge of neuroscience. Here is the interview:

QUESTION: Tell us about your discovery. Several times you said you "stumbled" on it. What does that mean?

DR. BAHR: I was working at the University of California at Irvine at the time. I was mimicking the aging process in a dish to see how the brain loses synaptic integrity. We, and many labs, have shown how deterioration of lysosomes—the garbage disposals of your cells—leads to neuronal disruption. Alzheimer's, Huntington's, ALS, Parkinson's and other diseases are protein-accumulation disorders. Lysosomes play a key role in protein clearance, and decades of work by many groups show that lysosomal function is perturbed with age.

While looking at lysosomal inhibitors to induce the changes that occur with age,

one inhibitor I used at a lower-than-usual concentration (10-50 times lower) did not produce brain aging. In fact, it protected the brain and reversed damage. I did not believe it at first. Then, a student reproduced my experiment. We were using a PADK (Z-Phe-Ala-diazomethylketone) compound at low concentrations in brain slices. In a few days, the production of lysosomal enzymes was greatly enhanced and synaptic markers returned to near-normal levels. This compound positively modulated key enzymes that protect against protein accumulation pathology in the brain. It was like a slow, drawn-out 'Eureka!' moment. That was in 2003.

QUESTION: How did this discovery turn into a patent?

DR. BAHR: On my own, I went to the patent office with my idea. It was just an idea at this stage. PADK was in the public domain. I didn't get very far. UConn (University of Connecticut), where I was working then, was watching my work. They have an office to help professors file patents. They advised me to find a chemist to make patentable (unique) molecules. That was when I joined up with Dr. Dennis Wright (a medicinal chemist at UConn). He said, 'I can make this better – a more stable version.' We submitted a patent application in 2008. It took three years to get approved, which is typical. We developed first-in-class compounds, and UConn holds the patent. Dennis and I co-founded a company called Synaptic Dynamics, which is developing the compounds with hopes of finding an effective treatment for [Alzheimer's disease].

QUESTION: What would a successful drug like this mean? And can you beat the 2025 target date for curing Alzheimer's disease?

DR. BAHR: Lysosomal modulators may be the next 'Lipitor,' a drug that is given

to many people without a disease but are at risk for a disease. We hope that a lysosomal modulator can be safely given to older people that have early hints of AD, memory problems or have dementia in their family. Taken for years/decades, like Lipitor, it may continue to reduce the risk of age-related protein accumulation events. Life is about making and degrading proteins, and a balance between these two processes is vital for the health of cells. When there is an accumulation of proteins, it can be toxic. If we can speed up lysosomal digestion of Abeta proteins and other toxic material, and slow down synaptic pathology, we can restore memory transmissions. For whatever reason, as we age, our lysosomes are less efficient at clearing out bad stuff that accumulates. The protein accumulation interferes with memory pathways. Our research addresses many neurodegenerative diseases.

Best case scenario – we could begin human testing in two to four years, and hopefully have an approved drug long before the president's target date.

QUESTION: How much will it cost to take your drug to market?

DR. BAHR: It's an expensive process. Typically it takes \$3 to \$5 million to do the work that is necessary to approach the FDA with a drug you want to test in humans. I have grants pending now with (National Institute of Health) and other agencies. Some of the funding may come from the new federal Alzheimer's program. Once clinical trials are allowed, it takes a sizeable investment to cover the human testing.

QUESTION: At the risk of sounding naïve, could you explain exactly what you do in your research? It has something to do with rats and mice?

DR. BAHR: At the first stage, we use rat brain slices kept alive in a dish that minimalizes the number of animals needed for experiments. These tissues are treated

DR. BEN BAHR RECOGNIZED FOR MENTORING WORK



UNCP's internationally respected professor Dr. Ben Bahr received the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR) Biology Division's Mentor Award for his work in serving as a role model for students and other mentors of undergraduate research nationwide.

"I've worked with undergraduates in my lab at three universities, and I've found using undergraduates is a good way to push projects forward and study the layers of data produced in the research process," Dr. Bahr said.

Dr. Bahr has mentored more than 30 students since joining the faculty at UNCP in 2009. Of the 13 student-researchers from Dr. Bahr's lab who have graduated, eight have been accepted to or are attending graduate, medical or professional school; two have recently applied to graduate school; and two are working at biotech companies in North Carolina. Two of his students were awarded fellowships from the North Carolina Biotechnology Center. Another student was awarded a N.C. Space Grant.

Recently Dr. Bahr's lab published in the scientific journal PLoS ONE a paper that represented five years of research. The article was co-authored by two UNCP undergraduates and several post-doctoral students from other universities who worked in the Pembroke lab.

Dr. Bahr has presented his research in 15 countries and is the author of more than 100 articles in scientific journals, many of which include undergraduate co-authors from three universities where he has worked.

"It's a learning experience, and undergrads need lab experience to build their resumes for admission to graduate school," Dr. Bahr continued. "About half the undergraduates who work in my lab catch the research bug and take off."

The 2012 Outstanding Mentor Awards were presented at CUR's annual conference. The Mentor Award is highly competitive. CUR represents over 900 colleges and universities across the country.

in specific ways to trigger Alzheimer's disease type events. We can then test potential drug treatments, applying an exact amount of a chemical on the brain slices and testing for a protective result. In the brain slice model, we don't have to worry whether the drug passes the blood brain barrier or if it affects other organs of the body. The next stage is animal testing. We have used two types of genetically modified mice that either represent the early or advanced pathology of Alzheimer's. Recently, we published a paper that contained six years of research, showing that our test compound helps both early and advanced stages of the disease. Only about five percent of AD patients have the heredity form of Alzheimer's. No one knows who will get this disease when considering the 95 percent of patients with the non-hereditary form of the disease. The experimental mice we use are designed based on the hereditary model, although the disease looks the same as the more prevalent form. Of course, we won't know if the mice mimic the disease enough until testing can be done in actual Alzheimer's patients.

QUESTION: How do undergraduate students fit into your research?

DR. BAHR: "I've worked with undergraduate researchers at three universities where I have been a faculty member. I got my start in research as an undergraduate at Santa Barbara, so I've always wanted to provide opportunities for others. When I got here, I opened the door and two undergrads showed up the next day. About half of the undergraduates that come to me catch the research bug and take off. Undergraduates need lab experience, and it looks good on their

grad school applications. At UNCP, I also have been successful at recruiting post-graduate and post-doctoral researchers from other universities (Cornell, Duke, UConn among others). It is a learning experience on all levels with students getting valuable research experience and post-docs learning to direct a team of two or three researchers on a project. Undergraduates are very useful to push a project along, or to split off and continue with a side issue discovered in the results. Research never moves in a straight line, and undergraduate researchers add to the layers of data.

QUESTION: You live in Columbus County, and Pembroke is not a center of research. Is that a problem?

DR. BAHR: My wife, Alyson, and I have settled in at Lake Waccamaw, a wonderful community which we enjoy (we are even okay with the alligators that make their home there). Through the NCBC (North Carolina Biotechnology Center), I've met with many entrepreneurs and clinical scientists in Wilmington and other parts of North Carolina. I've also made a connection with the Marine Science group at UNCW, and we are starting an interesting pharmacological collaboration. My lab is working with a pathologist in Lumberton who works for Southeastern Regional Medical Center to help us with preliminary toxicity screening. We are also working with Professor Cornelia Tirla (a UNCP chemist) to make other patentable molecules. So, to start a new company with a drug to test in humans, it seems we're in the right place.

QUESTION: How did you get into science?

DR. BAHR: I was always a research bug as a kid, trying to figure out how a toaster



Important Visitor - UNC President Thomas Ross recently visited the Bahr lab.

worked or why it wasn't working. My mother said I had a lab at 12. I made hydrogen gas from aluminum foil and pool chemicals. I put it in balloons to make mini-Hindenburgs, and exploded them for a 7th grade science project. As an undergraduate at UC (University of California) Santa Barbara, I looked for research opportunities. I worked with electric rays that used electric shock to stun their prey – they could produce enough electricity to power a light bulb for five minutes. Neurons and the nervous system were always interesting to me. I also did cancer research in yeast cells as an undergrad, but it was the neuroscience field that got me excited – trying to understand how the brain stores memory. I got my PhD in the same lab I conducted undergrad research, then I found a postdoctoral position at UC Irvine's Center for the Neurobiology of Learning and Memory. There we studied memory encoding processes with slices of brain and electrical stimulation. The more we can learn about how memories are stored, the more we can learn about how they can be disrupted in neurological disorders like AD. My lab studies both ends – how the brain works and how it doesn't. ■

Professor raising awareness of human trafficking



Dr. Veronica Hardy wants to change the public conversation about one of human history's most troubling crimes: human trafficking.

A professor in the Department of Social Work, Dr. Hardy is working to raise awareness of child sex trafficking and to promote prevention strategies.

Human trafficking, says Dr. Hardy, is a "very hidden crime" in modern society that has terrible effects. As many as 300,000 children in the U.S. are at-risk of being victimized each year. They typically enter the child sex trafficking industry through methods of force, fraud or coercion between 12 to 14 years of age.

A key thrust of Dr. Hardy's efforts is to raise awareness and encourage prevention tactics among police, court, education and social service professionals. As a clinical social worker with a history of providing counseling to youth and their families, she would begin with critical communication between professionals and at-risk youths.

"During trainings and presentations, I have encouraged social service professionals to integrate sex trafficking screening questions into the initial intake and screening instruments used with youth," Dr. Hardy said. "If the questions are not asked, how will we know if the person has been affected by this issue?"

Dr. Hardy's awareness of human trafficking required a personal awakening.

"In teaching a course on African American populations, I wanted to include a section on the history and business of slavery," she said. "I found a video referred to as modern day slavery and that it is very active in current society. I was not aware that it was called human trafficking.

"Part of my professional training in social work is with children and adolescents, so this issue is an appropriate fit professionally," she continued.

That was more than two years ago, and since then, Dr. Hardy has made presentations, attended conferences and co-authored a paper accepted for publication: Domestic Minor Sex Trafficking: Practice Implications for Mental Health Professionals in *Affilia: Journal of Women and Social Work*.

She has taken her cause to students, colleagues, social workers and other groups, including county social service agencies, a women's group she co-facilitates in a county jail, and an infant mortality symposium attended by parents and service providers.

"Between 14,500 and 17,500 children are trafficked each year into the U.S. from international locations, however, this is

an approximation where the numbers are possibly much higher," she said. "This does not include the number of children and adolescents who are U.S. citizens and trafficked domestically."

For Dr. Hardy who is in her fourth year on UNCP's faculty, an important starting place is with the classroom training of future social work professionals.

"In our social work textbooks, there is very little to no information on human trafficking; we're very much in the early stages of awareness," she said. "North Carolina, with characteristics including interstates, agricultural demographics and transient populations, is listed in the top 10 nationally as a place amenable to human trafficking."

Dr. Hardy's work has already brought about some change. Her colleague, Dr. Jesse McQueen in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, is teaching a class titled Human Trafficking during the 2013 spring semester.

Dr. Hardy welcomes opportunities for further dialogue about this issue. She may be contacted at veronica.hardy@uncp.edu.



Columbus County registered nurses gaining access to four-year degrees

Southeastern Community College, Columbus Regional Healthcare

Systems and UNCP's Department of Nursing have solidified a partnership that will upgrade nursing education for this area.

In response to the nationwide push for 80 percent of nurses to hold a bachelor's degree by 2020, UNCP will provide specialized courses and instructors, and SCC will provide classrooms and general education courses. From this arrangement, registered nurses can earn a UNCP Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree without leaving Columbus County.

Titled the Rural Education Mobility Program, the coursework will be affordable and accessible to RNs, with convenient class times and locations. No online classes will be offered because not all residents in the region have access to high speed Internet.

Dr. Cherry Beasley, a member of the nursing faculty who will direct the program, said the partnership addresses the barriers to rural nursing education.

"Nurses must balance work and family with education," Dr. Beasley said. "And, it must be affordable. We believe we have designed a program that accomplishes all of these goals."

Nurses of today need expanded competence, explained Dr. Barbara Synowicz, director of UNCP's nursing program since 2005. They need experience and training in health policy, community health, evidence-based practice and inter-professional collaboration, among other skills.

"To meet the 80 percent goal," Dr. Synowicz said, "we need significant increases in both pre-licensure BSN and RN-BSN completion graduates. Opportunities provided by grants such as the Rural Educational Mobility Project will certainly assist us in doing our part to increase the number of baccalaureate-prepared nurses in southeastern North Carolina."

The Rural Education Mobility Program is supported buy a three-year grant from the Rural Nursing Education Consortium, which is a program of North Carolina's Area Health Education Centers. Funding for the first year is \$37,500.

Synowicz is confident that partnering with Southeastern Community College and Columbus Regional Healthcare System will provide a seamless pathway to the baccalaureate degree for nurses in the region.

Research team studies perinatal depression in Robeson County

A team of researchers from across campus recently wrote a chapter, titled *Perinatal Depression in Minority and Underserved Rural Women*, for a book edited by Maria Graciela Rojas Castillo (Intech; 2011; Croatia).

The research showed, among other things, that this form of depression is a widespread problem in Robeson County, a county with multiple minority groups and a high rate of poverty. Perinatal depression occurs among women before and after childbirth and may affect the long-term health of both mother and child.

Several things about their work stand out:

- The chapter researched perinatal depression among more than 1,000 “high-risk” women in Robeson County.
- Because the study included a large group of American Indian women, it produced unique and valuable local data.
- The collaboration was extraordinary and included local health agencies, non-profit organizations and the Robeson County Health Department.
- Their report, which showed rural, disadvantaged women in Robeson County suffered perinatal depression at significantly higher rates than women nationally, is a call to action to improve the health outcomes for rural women and their newborns.

The research team consisted of education professor Dr. Frankie Denise Powell; mathematician Dr. Guo Wei; Kay Freeman, director of UNCP’s federally-funded Healthy Start program; and biochemist Dr. Len Holmes, who provided



Dr. Frankie Powell



Dr. Len Holmes



Dr. Guo Wei



Kay Freeman

technical writing and editing.

Their work revealed that one-in-four women from low socio-economic status in Robeson County suffer from major or minor perinatal depression. This compares with the national rate of 7.7 percent.

At 18.3 percent, American Indian women suffer most from major depression in Robeson County followed by whites (18.2 percent) then African Americans (13.4 percent). Although the Hispanic study group was small, they showed by far the lowest incidence of major perinatal depression at just two percent, which the research team said warrants further study.

UNCP’s Healthy Start, an infant mortality program, gathered data.

“The data is unique and represents the largest study of American Indians in the eastern U.S.,” Freeman said.

It took the entire team to convert the data and produce a report, Freeman said. “Dr. Guo Wei was instrumental because he is a statistician and an evaluator of the Healthy Start grant since 2000.”

Dr. Wei said the data has national significance. “The data has been cited many times in national publications because it includes a large Native American sample,” he said. “Studying local issues is what we must do as scholars.”

Dr. Powell interpreted the data using social cognitive theory. “I added the conceptual framework,” she said. “We are just beginning to look at the relationship between women suffering from perinatal depression and Robeson County,” Dr. Powell continued. “It is my hope that from here we can get a handle on the overall health of Robeson County – that’s what is exciting to me.”

The study also revealed that women who got treatment for major depression showed “significant improvement” – reducing symptoms from 14.9 of the total study group to 3.7 percent.

“Major perinatal depression is considerably under-diagnosed, and many women with symptoms live untreated,” the paper concludes. “A simple screening instrument can increase the detection of major depression. Early identification with subsequent intervention and treatment were found to improve outcomes.”

Partnership will encourage cancer screenings for Lumbees



Lumbee Tribal Chair Paul Brooks

A grant that brings together the Lumbee Tribe, Robeson Healthcare Corp. and UNCP’s nursing program, among other organizations, aims to get more people screened for cancer.

The Healthy Choices, Healthy Living grant will build a grassroots coalition to focus on

prevention, detection and education. It is a three-year, \$574,800 grant from the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services’ Division of Public Health.

“There is a high incidence of cancer and cancer deaths in these two counties and

among members of the Lumbee tribe,” said UNCP administrator Jan Lowery, who wrote the grant for the Lumbee tribe

Nursing students and faculty will provide community education and train volunteers and will conduct a research project.

Lowery said 12 state grants were awarded and the competition for them was steep, but she had a winning formula and an inside track.

“I believe the partnerships with UNCP and its nursing program, Robeson Healthcare and the tribe will be the key to the success of this program,” Lowery said. “With grants today, they are looking for critical partnerships like this. To my knowledge, this grant is a first for all of us.”

Lowery had an edge in forging this

partnership: she wrote the grant while working for the tribe and is also a former employee of Robeson Healthcare. Today, she is a director in UNCP’s Office of Student Academic Support and Retention.

Lumbee Tribal Chairman Paul Brooks praised the collaboration and is optimistic about the potential health benefits that will result from the grant.

“It has tremendous opportunities to create healthier tribal communities and improve the lives of members through education, early screening and hopefully early detection and treatment of these horrible diseases.”

Robeson Healthcare brings six rural medical clinics to the table. The tribe brings manpower to the table through its elder network in Robeson and Scotland counties.

Advancement team pictured
from left: Scott Bigelow,
Brian Russo, Kim Hunt, Dena Bolles,
Kandice Kinlaw, Hunter Wortham,
Betty Johnson, Lawrence Locklear,
Rhonda Chavis, Wendy Lowery,
Kristen Anderson, Alison DeCinti,
Sandy Briscar, Renee Steele,
Morgan Hunt Warriax and
Raul Rubiera Jr.



Dear Alumni and Friends,

As I completed my first year leading the Office of Advancement team in October, a sigh of relief came over me. "It sure feels good to be home," I thought to myself.

Over the past 14 months, the Office of Advancement has experienced quite a bit of change. The University Communications and Marketing team has been added to our division, and several key positions have been filled. The Advancement team works very hard to ensure that the image of the university is well represented and that our constituents understand the importance of their support for this great institution. We appreciate the patience that many of you have shown to us during the course of this transition, and we are full of energy and great new ideas.

As we move forward and begin to climb over the barriers imposed upon us due to the economic climate, it is gratifying to know that we have alumni and friends who remain dedicated to supporting scholarships, helping our students make the most of their UNCP experience and providing the support needed to ensure that our most pressing needs are met. In fact, over \$250,000 of donor-funded scholarships were awarded to 278 UNCP students in 2012.

Last winter, we initiated a licensing program in order to maintain quality and usage control over the university's name, images and logos. All vendors who produce and sell products using those marks must be licensed and pay royalties to the university. The program has resulted in more UNCP products available in area retail stores and will increase our brand recognition.

This institution stands for much more than a degree or fulfilled expectations of family members. UNCP is the rock that has stood solid for many generations, regardless of what our personal mission or objectives may have been. It remains a constant presence in this community and in our hearts. With the support of our alumni and friends, it will continue to remain that rock far beyond our lifetime for our children and our grandchildren.

It's the mission of the Advancement team to ensure that you realize the immense impact of every contribution – the importance of mentoring a current student or recruiting a new one, and the unfettered pride you feel wearing Black and Gold – as often as you can.

Proud to be a UNCP Brave,

Wendy Lowery '99
Vice Chancellor, Advancement



FUNDRAISING INITIATIVE TO SUPPORT AN ENDOWED CHAIR IN SOUTHEAST AMERICAN INDIAN STUDIES

The establishment of the Southeast American Indian Studies Program (SEAIS) offers a tremendous range of opportunities for southeast American Indian peoples, communities, researchers and scholars. The very existence of a program dedicated to these communities will affirm their historical, political, social, cultural and economic significance to tribal members, the region, scholars and researchers, as well as government and non-government agencies.

The university already has the academic core for the SEAIS program in its Department of American Indian Studies, which was established in 1972. The department is unique within the UNC system as it is the only department with an exchange program with an Aboriginal Studies program in Canada. Additionally, UNCP is the only university in the UNC system to offer a Native American literature course that includes a week-long trip to the tribal homelands of authors studied during the course.

As an extension of its work, the SEAIS program will also work to establish a consortium of American Indian-related programs at other academic institutions, both within the UNC system and across the Southeast. The program will serve as a clearinghouse where community members, students, faculty, researchers and others can learn about American Indian-related projects and initiatives. The program will also include a digital repository for historical documents and new research, an honors program for scholarly research and an elders-in-residence program to bring community scholars to campus to continue their work.

UNC Pembroke's historic mission uniquely situates the campus to meet the academic needs of the Southeast's Indigenous communities. It is fitting that the announcement of this program was made in the year that UNCP is celebrating its 125th anniversary. The dedication of energy and resources necessary to bring this program to reality is grounded in the belief that the SEAIS program will be mutually beneficial to UNCP's academic community and the Indigenous communities of the Southeast.

ENDOWED CHAIR

The university knew from the beginning that the acquisition of an endowed chair would be instrumental in the development and continued growth of a regionwide program. An endowed chair is an elite faculty appointment that carries with it a stable source of funding to support a distinguished professor's work. It is the most prestigious honor a university can bestow upon a faculty member. An endowed chair is usually established by a pool of philanthropically provided monetary gifts that is invested by professional money managers. The principal or "corpus" remains in the fund, generating interest income that is used to attract and support the work of an outstanding teacher and scholar in perpetuity. This income can cover the salary and benefits of the faculty members, costs such as research assistance, administrative assistance, other personnel costs, travel, teaching materials, equipment, books, supplies, etc. There are several benefits associated with an endowed chair, as it enables UNCP to recruit and retain the best teachers and scholars in the nation, establishes the university as an academic leader, aids in the recruitment of the nations' top students and establishes a sense of strength and permanency within a given field of study.

The Office of Advancement has launched a fundraising campaign to make an endowed chair a reality for SEAIS. As of November, two donors have given gifts, totaling \$30,000 to help propel the university's efforts. We extend a special thank you to our initial donors, Dr. & Mrs. Joseph B. Oxendine, chancellor emeritus, Dr. Ben Hardin and the C.W. & Arpie Maynor family. The university encourages others to support this very important initiative as the SEAIS Endowed Chair will be a singular and unprecedented accomplishment for the Department of American Indian Studies, the College of Arts and Sciences and The University of North Carolina at Pembroke. Its existence will undoubtedly elevate the reputation and impact of the university in preserving the culture and heritage of this land's earliest citizens.



Dr. Ben Hardin



Arpie Maynor



*Dr. & Mrs. Joseph B. Oxendine,
Chancellor Emeritus*

UNCP donors, scholarship recipients meet in special event

The university community and its friends were reminded at the annual Scholarship Recognition Dinner on November 15 that scholarships have the power to change lives and honor them as well.

The annual event where donors and scholarship recipients meet was attended by more than 300. Scholarships at UNCP are drawn from an endowment that exceeds \$7 million, but the human value of a scholarship is far greater.

Cheryl Pettyjohn, who established the Wendy L. Klenotiz Memorial Scholarship to honor her late daughter, talked about why scholarships are needed for both recipients and donors.

"I established this scholarship for several reasons," she said. "As a parent, your greatest fear is the loss of a child, and your second greatest fear is that they will be forgotten. I established this scholarship to honor my daughter's unfinished dreams."

Wendy Klenotiz, who had both athletic and academic scholarships to attend UNCP, was a special education major. The endowed scholarship that honors her has been awarded 16 times to special education majors, and Pettyjohn values every communication she receives from the recipients.

Even before meeting their benefactors at the dinner, scholarship recipients wrote letters to their donors. The letters often provide an intimate view of how the scholarship changed their lives.

With immigrant grandparents and a single working mother, Teresina De La Cruz, who received the Dunlavy Scholarship, wrote about the meaning of a college education. She is the first of a large family to attend college.

"Since the day I was born, my mother has literally made it her life's goal to provide the absolute best for me, so I could have a chance for a better life," De La Cruz wrote. "By attending college, I have started a positive tradition in our family. My younger cousins have now begun to talk about finishing high school and going to college 'like Teresina.'"

De La Cruz's letter was two pages and single-spaced, but she said to her donors, "there are not enough words to express how truly grateful I am to you."

As Pettyjohn noted, "these stories are the reason we fund this scholarship. They carry on Wendy's dream."

Does establishing a scholarship change a donor's life? According to Helen Gustafson, a scholarship is both a way to honor her late husband, Dr.

Robert K. Gustafson, and a means of personal inspiration.

"My husband taught religion here," Gustafson said. "This scholarship is a tribute to him and the university he loved."

"I am hoping to have a relationship with the recipient that will inspire us both," she said.

Dr. Joseph Oxendine is a former chancellor of UNCP and helped establish many scholarships, one in his name and one in the name of his late brother.

"These scholarships give me the feeling that I am still involved and making a difference," Dr. Oxendine said. "I feel good about it; I may be gone but I am still helping students get a college education."

Susan Whitt, interim dean of library services, contributes her time to several Friends of the Library scholarships.

"They give me the enthusiasm for education," Whitt said. "It takes a lot of work to raise the money, but when I hear from the recipients, I get excited to go out and do more."

Dinner speaker Arlinda Locklear discussed the history of a university that just turned 125 years old and put the scholarship question in perspective. Locklear is a former university trustee and an attorney who has spent a career advocating for American Indian rights.

"The establishment of this university reflects the shared responsibility we have for each other's well being," said Locklear. "Each generation is responsible for the transmission of values to the next."

"This evening celebrates those values," she said. "The donors here tonight have earned the gratitude of us all."

"For students, a return on this investment is expected," Locklear said. "Donors expect your success as a student, and you must return that investment by investing in this community."

Board of Trustees Chairman Dr. Robin Cummings reminded the gathering that privately funded scholarships remain important for UNCP students, 80 percent of whom receive financial aid.

"The financial challenges facing our students are mounting," Dr. Cummings said. "What you do is very important to our students."

For information about the Scholarship Recognition Dinner or other scholarship information, please contact the Office of Advancement at (910) 521-6252 or email advancement@uncp.edu.



Exchanging ideas are Helen Gustafson and Alex Foster, recipient of the scholarship that honors Robert Gustafson, who was a faculty member at UNCP. They share an interest in philosophy and astro-physics.



Roy and Cheryl Pettyjohn with their scholarship recipient Tiffany Kennedy. The scholarship honors Mrs. Pettyjohn's late daughter.

Wortham to lead alumni, development

Hunter Wortham has joined UNC Pembroke as assistant vice chancellor in the Office of Advancement.



Wortham will provide vision, planning, and day-to-day management for staff in the areas of alumni relations, development, stewardship and prospect research. He comes to UNCP from Old Dominion University, where he was a major gifts officer for the College of Sciences and Health Sciences.

Wendy Lowery, vice chancellor for Advancement, welcomed Wortham to Pembroke.

"We are pleased to welcome Hunter to the UNC Pembroke community," Lowery said. "His experience and enthusiasm will prove valuable to our team as we continue our efforts to better meet the needs and expectations of our students, our alumni and friends and our community."

With a small town background, Wortham said Pembroke feels like home. "Everyone has been welcoming and helpful," he said. "I am impressed with the Advancement team; they are dedicated, talented and passionate about this university."

"I am also excited to be in Pembroke, and I believe I am going to enjoy advocating for this university and its mission," he continued. "Education is something I feel strongly about. There is a lot of work to be done, but when you do it for the right reasons, it's quite rewarding."

The Office of Advancement has set aggressive goals for 2012-13, including boosting alumni participation and total fundraising.

"Over the next few weeks, I will be meeting with the deans, center directors, and the athletic director to learn more about their needs and goals," Wortham said. "We will focus on the 1887 Scholarship fund that honors this university's proud 125-year history."

"I will also manage a portfolio of prospects and donors," he said. "I expect it to be a busy and successful year."

Wortham, who grew up in Alabama, Kentucky and the Hampton Roads area of Virginia, began his career as a teacher at Chesapeake Bay Academy, a specialized private school in Virginia Beach. He quickly moved into a key administrative role in development, admissions and marketing.

"We were very successful in growing enrollment and fundraising for capital improvements and need-based financial assistance," he said. "A \$5 million campaign allowed us to move from rented space into a new school building."

One of the things that attracted Wortham to Pembroke is the university's unique history and mission.

"Pembroke's mission of building student success through personalized education is one that I am familiar with and that I genuinely appreciate," he said.

With 14 years experience in advancing educational institutions, Wortham would transfer his experience, skills and penchant for success to Pembroke.

"I believe there is potential here to build something even bigger," Wortham said. "Building excellence into education is one role of development professionals – the role I enjoy most."

Wortham graduated from James Madison University and earned an MBA from the University of Phoenix.

Briscar joins University Communications & Marketing

Sandy McCullers Briscar has been named executive director of University Communications and Marketing.

A native of Smithfield, N.C. and graduate of NC State University, Briscar is a veteran of higher education administration having served at colleges throughout the Southeast. Prior to joining UNC Pembroke, Briscar was president of InMarCom, an integrated marketing and communication company that she formed in 2010, and vice president for College Relations and Marketing at Peace College in Raleigh from 2004-10.



At UNCP, Briscar will be responsible for marketing, public relations, publications and event planning. She reports to Wendy Lowery, vice chancellor for UNCP's Office of Advancement.

"The Advancement team is proud to welcome Sandy to the university family," Lowery said. "Her strong background will not only assist with the enhancement of the university's image but allow us to increase our presence on both a statewide and national scale."

Before she served at Peace College, Briscar served as director of public relations for Georgia Highlands College in Rome, Ga., Berry College in Rome, Ga.; Saint Mary's College in Raleigh; and Bluefield College in Bluefield, Va. She is excited to be at UNCP during the celebration of the university's 125th anniversary.

"UNC Pembroke is a richly diverse institution, full of passionate, dedicated professionals," Briscar said.

At Peace College, Briscar was publisher of the award-winning alumni magazine. She won the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) Award of Excellence in 2006 and Special Merit Awards in 1986, 1992, 1998 and 2005.

Briscar led Peace College's branding campaign – *Peace Strengthens* – which was recognized by University Business magazine as one of the top 50 branding ideas. She led the campus-wide marketing initiative and developed a style guide for the college. She also chaired Peace's blue-ribbon committee of trustees, donors and alumnae to plan and execute the yearlong celebration of Peace's Sesquicentennial Celebration in 2007.

"I look forward to spearheading a collaborative initiative to integrate the university's marketing efforts to assure that we're presenting a professional image with compelling messages to the publics we serve," Briscar said.

During her career, Briscar served on numerous community, church and professional boards including the statewide Georgia Education Advancement Council for which she served as president, the 750-member Public Relations Society of America's Georgia Chapter and the Raleigh Professional Women's Forum.

A highlight of her career was volunteering in the main press center for the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta. She also served on the board of advisors for the Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce and the board of directors for the Rome (Ga.) Symphony Orchestra and the Neuse Little Theatre of Smithfield.

Briscar's work has been published in national periodicals, and she made presentations at national conferences. She has led numerous workshops on integrated marketing communications.

Having earned APR accreditation from the Public Relations Society of America, Briscar has won several awards for her work in public relations in Georgia and North Carolina.

Alumni Association Officers & Board of Directors

Dear Fellow Alumni,

It is with great pride and anticipation that I begin my tenure as your new president of the Alumni Association's Board of Directors. It is an even greater honor to begin serving at such an historic time in the life of our university as we celebrate its 125th anniversary. The theme for the celebration is "Honoring Our Heritage, Soaring Toward Our Future!" As a third generation alumnus, nothing warms my heart more than the rich history and heritage of this esteemed institution.

Homecoming was a huge success with many alumni coming back to campus to participate in the festivities. Congratulations are in order for the 2012 award winners. Outstanding Alumnus Dr. David Brooks, Distinguished Servant Judge James E. Lockemy, Young Alumnus Kenneth Bowen, and Athletic Hall of Fame inductees Russell Clark and Chris Little were honored at the 44th Annual Awards Banquet. It was followed by the sold-out concert in GPAC. On Saturday morning, grills were smoking and full of food for the annual homecoming tailgate. Braves football defeated Newberry 31-24 to improve to 5-1 all-time in homecoming games. If you missed the excitement of this year's homecoming, you missed a treat, and we hope to see you next year. I'll have something on the grill for you.

Recently, the Strategic Planning and Resource Council, or SPARC, which is comprised of faculty, staff, alumni and community leaders, revised the institution's strategic plan. In an effort to align our goals with the university, the Alumni Association Board of Directors held its own strategic planning session in September 2012 at the Regional Center. As a result of our discussions, we set a primary goal to increase the alumni participation rate through giving. This is an important goal because the alumni participation rate goal is one of the objectives tied to UNC's new performance-based funding.

In the upcoming year, the alumni board plans to implement several initiatives to help our alma mater. We need your help and hope that you will make a contribution of any amount to UNCP... WE are counting on YOU! To make this convenient for you, we have enclosed an envelope for the Annual Fund. Easier yet, give online. For a list of scholarships or other giving ideas, you may contact the Office of Advancement at (910) 521-6252. I look forward to working with all of you in this endeavor and would welcome your suggestions on how the association can better meet the needs of the alumni and the university as a whole. Please contact me at athomas@metconn.com

In closing, for each of the 125 years of its existence, you, the alumni, have worked to make this university the great place that it is. Thank you for your continued commitment and support of the university, and I hope to see you on campus soon!

Be Brave,



Aaron K. Thomas, '99



Aaron Thomas '99
President

Sylvia Pate '99
Immediate Past President

Rudy Locklear '06, '11
1st Vice President

Kristy Woods-Billings '92
Secretary

Renee Steele '93
Executive Director

Jarette Sampson '01
Adam Hardin '06
Michael McMillian '08
Patrick Strickland '01
Mickey Gregory '88
Floyd Locklear '86
Sheila Swift '03
Yolanda Sinclair '98

UPCOMING ALUMNI RECEPTIONS*

Fayetteville
March 21
Embassy Suites
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Triangle
June 14
The King's Daughters Inn
Durham
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Charlotte
T.B.A.

**Invitations with
detailed information
will be mailed.*

CLASS NOTES

Alumni Relations
P.O. Box 1510
Pembroke, N.C.
28372-1510
alumni@uncp.edu

More Information
www.uncp.edu/alumni
(910) 521-6533

Class Notes



"I think our capstone course in particular really prepared us, mostly the preparation and scheduling part."

—Trey McPhaul

Trey McPhaul '11 and Taylor Jones '11 won an "Eisenberg Award" at the first annual No Film Film Festival in Bellows Falls, Vt., for their short movie, "Have a Wonderful Life." McPhaul and Jones won for Best Genre, by turning Frank Capra's holiday classic, "It's a Wonderful Life," on its head as a 12-minute film noir.

The No Film Film Festival is a video competition that gives pre-registered contestants one week to make a short version of an American classic. Eight movie synopses were presented to contestants via webcast from the Bellows Falls Opera House. Contestants had approximately five minutes to choose their classic and then were randomly assigned a genre.

On the first night, they watched their selection over again; they wrote the script and bought costumes the next day, a Saturday.

"Aside from us, we had four other actors (friends), none of which were available to film at the same time on the same day," said McPhaul. They worked around their work schedules for the rest of the week and edited all night Thursday into Friday morning, when they uploaded their submission with only minutes to spare.

"We had a blast," said Jones. "I'd love to enter another one next year. It was really great seeing our project win an award and get nominated in almost every other area."

Their finished product was also nominated in other categories, including Best Picture, Best Editing, Best Camerawork, and Best Visual Effects/Style.

McPhaul acknowledges some of their experiences making movies at UNCP. "I think our capstone course in particular really prepared us, mostly the preparation and scheduling part," he said.

McPhaul says he'd like to try a 48-hour video contest next. Earlier this year he helped some friends enter Intel's "Innovators" contest. They won \$50,000 in start-up funds for a business idea called "Cosmic Cart."

CLASS OF 2012

Nicholas Phillips was hired as the first sports information director at Louisiana State University Eunice. He resides in Lafayette, LA.

David Russell is the circulation director for the Fayetteville Observer. He is enrolled in a graduate program at Methodist University.

Pamela Bozeman is employed at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff as the coordinator of the Business Communication Center at the W.A. Franke College of Business. She will also teach during the spring semester.

Carlina Simmons is employed with United Management II as the community and supportive services coordinator.

Martin Nielsen, a Navy vet who worked in UNCP's Veteran's Education and Transition Office, returned for Veterans Day celebrations this fall. He is earning two master's degrees simultaneously at UNC Charlotte and Trident University in history and education respectively.

CLASS OF 2011

Garret N. Locklear is an inside sales professional for Red Ventures. He resides in Charlotte, N.C.

Rena L. Eades is employed with the Fresh Market as a cashier. She resides in Wilmington, N.C.

Connor O'Boyle is an accounting coordinator with Harris Teeter's corporate office in Matthews, N.C. He resides in Charlotte.

CLASS OF 2010

Lindsey Locklear is a kindergarten teacher for the Public Schools of Robeson County. She resides in Maxton, N.C.

LaMorris Smith is employed at Pembroke Elementary as a teacher. He has received his AIG certification. Presently, he is pursuing his master's degree in educational leadership in K-12 administration.

Brian McCormick '10, '12 is employed with Strayer University as a student account representative. He resides in Chicago, Ill.

Reginald Miller is employed with Richmond County School system as the head coach for boys' track and field.

Wade Allen covered the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte for the Gaston Gazette in Gastonia, N.C. He had brunch with journalist Judy Woodruff, interviewed former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright over breakfast, met Civil Rights leader Jesse Jackson and Caroline Kennedy, daughter of former President John F. Kennedy and Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. For two evenings, Wade covered the event from the convention floor and reported reactions from North Carolina delegates. Among other notables, he saw President Barack Obama, Vice President Joe Biden, Sen. John Kerry, former President Bill Clinton, Gov. Bev Perdue and actresses Eva Longoria, Scarlett Johansson and Olivia Wilde.

Jessica Ellen Webster married Steven Paul Webster on September 8 at the Leak-Wall House in Rockingham, N.C. Jessica is a 2004 graduate of Richmond Senior High School, a 2008 graduate of UNC Charlotte with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and History, and a 2010 graduate of UNC Pembroke where she received a Master of Arts in Education in School Counseling. She is currently employed as a school counselor for Moore County Schools.

Tiffany Parrish, formerly with UNCP's Office of Business Affairs, and **Christopher Moore**, a former Brave Tech, were married in a private ceremony in the gardens on Biltmore Estate, Asheville, N.C., on August 14. The couple resides in their new home in Atlanta, Ga.



CLASS OF 2009

Katheryn Sharpe is a manager at Walgreens. She currently resides in Pittsboro, N.C.

Jessica Branning is employed with Nirvana Plastic Surgery as a medical assistant. She resides in Surfside Beach, S.C.

Janice Haley is a teacher with Scotland County Schools. She resides in Aberdeen, N.C.

Tania Sarai Dixon married Adam Christopher Dixon on September 15 in Bessemer City, N.C.

CLASS OF 2008

Jessica Druzak '08, '11 is a school counselor with Johnston County Schools.

Alan Chase is a special education teacher with Wake County public schools. He earned his Master of Education in special education at North Carolina State University in May. Read about his visit to UNCP on this page.

Nina Badgett Nobles was married on June 22. She has been employed with Cape Fear Valley Medical Center as a registered nurse for more than five years. She works in the Short Stay Surgery Center.

Linda Alvarado is stationed at Fort Bragg, N.C., as a chemical officer in the Army. She plans to attend Chemical Captain's Career course in Fort Leonardwood, Mo. She is the proud mother of a Luciano, age three.

Heather Johnson resides in Opelika, Ala., where she is a special events coordinator for Auburn University.

Scotty Mark Thompson is employed with the Public Schools of Robeson County as an art teacher. He resides in Lumberton, N.C.

James Campbell is a firefighter/paramedic for Fairfax County. He resides in Woodbridge, Va.

Brittany Levy is special education teacher for Williamsburg-James City County Public Schools. She resides in Newport News, Va.

CLASS OF 2007

Abstract artist **Burritt (Bucky) Benson's** work was on display last fall at Eye Candy Too Gallery in Southern Pines, N.C. Benson studied oil painting at UNCP under Tarleton Blackwell and digital art under Dr. John Antoine Labadie. He attracted considerable media attention last summer with his entry in the CowParade North Carolina benefit contest where artist paint a full-size, fiberglass cow in exotic designs.

Matt Swift is the associate director of parks and recreation for the City of Lexington, N.C.

Fredrica Jennette resides in Bladenboro, N.C. She is a qualified professional with Premier Behavioral Sciences, Inc.

Grace Kelly Deese-Oxendine is employed with the Lumbee Tribe of N.C. as a site manager.

Vivianne Rotich is a financial analyst. She resides in Morrisville N.C.

Christopher Simpson was inducted into the South Davidson High School Sports Hall of Fame on Saturday, September 8, in Denton, N.C. He is a teacher and coach at South Robeson High School in Rowland, N.C. He and his wife, Jessica, reside in Fairmont, N.C., with their two-year-old daughter, Alicia.

Ashley Locklear Chavis was married to Kenny Chavis on September 15 at Cypress Bends Winery in Wagram, N.C. She is the daughter of Judy Locklear, who works in UNCP's Office of the Bursar.

Disability Scholarship is a first for UNCP



From left: Patricia Fields, Debbie Lowery, Nicolette Campos, Daria Bannerman, Rebecca Deal, Jessica Smith, Dr. Mary Helen Walker, Wanda Oxendine, Kelly Cheek and Alan Chase

The Braves Disabled Student Enrichment Endowed Scholarship was presented to the university during spring 2012. The scholarship was established by the Disabled Student Organization (DSO) to enhance the social and educational opportunities available to disabled students at the university.

It is the first endowed scholarship funded by students for students. It took several years to accumulate the \$10,000 endowment, said Alan Chase '08, who signed the initial agreement. "Six years ago, we embarked on this journey, and we are finally there."

The idea originated from the experiences of fellow students, Chase said. "There is funding available for disabled students," he said. "But there is never enough for books, technology and other necessities. The cost to attend college is even higher for disabled students."

Chase is a teacher with Wake County Schools and recently earned a master's degree in special education from North Carolina State University.

"This is the answer to the question of what can we do to leave a lasting impression once we're gone," Chase said, speaking for the dozens of fellow students who contributed to the permanent scholarship. "We wanted to help, and we did it."

"Five years ago they saw a need; this has empowered all of us," said Mary Helen Walker, director of Disability Support Services.

For information about this or other scholarships at UNCP, please contact the Office for Advancement at (910) 521-6252 or email advancement@uncp.edu.

UNCP alumni assume top local government posts



Ricky Harris '08, '12

The Town of Pembroke has picked another UNCP alumnus as town manager, and Robeson County made Ricky Harris's '08, '12 job as county manager permanent.

Harris had served as interim manager since late 2010 and got the job permanently shortly after earning a Master of Public Administration degree from the university in May 2012. Harris has spent most of his career in the private sector

Commissioner Noah Woods '62, chairman of the Board of Commissioners, gives Harris high marks. Harris, who is from the Prospect community, is the first American Indian to hold the county's top job.

"He has demonstrated his abilities to us (county commissioners) both as an assistant manager and as the interim manager," Woods said. "I'm very pleased. I have plenty of confidence in him."

In July, the Pembroke town council hired Oryan D. Lowry '01, '07 as the town's new manager. He replaces McDuffie Cummings '73, who held the manager's position for 34 years before retiring at the end of last year.

A Pembroke native, Lowry began his new job on August 1, 2012. He was employed by the Public Schools of Robeson County as a science teacher at South Robeson High School, and previously worked as a food inspector and compliance officer for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. He is also a veteran, serving in the Army during Operation Desert Storm.

Lowry earned an undergraduate degree in biology and a master's degree in public administration.

Pembroke Mayor Milton Hunt, a former UNCP trustee, said that Lowry was the unanimous choice of the council.

"I want to build a rapport with both the staff and the community," Lowry said. "It's important to earn the trust of the community."

Lowry is married to Rebekah Revels Lowry '02, director of the Robeson Community College Foundation.



Oryan D. Lowry '01, '07

KATHERINE BRYANT SERVED AS INTERIM CHIEF FOR FAYETTEVILLE POLICE

Katherine Bryant '04 has been widely praised by the media and public for her work as interim chief of police for the City of Fayetteville, N.C.

She was appointed on July 1, 2012, as the city's top cop while they searched for a new chief. She was one of four assistant police chiefs of a department with 390 sworn officers serving a city of more than 200,000.

Bryant earned a Master's of Public Administration degree from UNCP in the criminal justice track. She was inducted into Pi Alpha Alpha National Honor Society and was MPA Student of the Year in 2004.

An active interim chief, Bryant tackled some of the city's most difficult issues. She developed programs to quell gang activities that included use of social media. She also worked on the difficult issue of police searches of autos. Chief Bryant also helped establish a citizen review board.

In October, Bryant notified the city that she would not be a candidate for the permanent position. She is a 25-year veteran of the department.

After completing basic law enforcement training she worked for several years as a patrol officer and was promoted to sergeant in 1991. Bryant was promoted to lieutenant in 1995 and served as a watch commander in the patrol division. In 1997, she was assigned to the chief's staff unit as the unit commander for the Office of Professional Standards and Inspections.

Bryant was promoted to captain in 2005 and assigned to the service bureau to serve as the support services division commander responsible for training, central records, technical services, and accreditation. She was promoted to the position of assistant chief in 2008.



Chief Bryant is pictured here with Alumni Director Renee Steele '91 at a speaking engagement with the Fayetteville-Cumberland County Chamber of Commerce.

CLASS OF 2006

Jabarr Adams '06, '08 was hired as assistant men's basketball coach for the University of Montevallo. Montevallo is a Peach Belt Conference member, so Braves basketball fans will see Adams several times a year.

Erin L. Berry is a lecturer with Morgan State University. She was recently accepted into the language, literacy and culture doctoral program at the University of Maryland. She started her doctoral program in August.

Douglas Thompson has been employed with N.C. Farm Bureau since 2008. He was recently promoted as a senior field adjuster. He and his wife, a 2006 graduate, reside in Willow Springs, N.C.

Aaron Perkins is employed with Brunswick County as an athletic specialist. He resides in Leland, N.C.

Joshua Bell is a buy-planner for Hunter Industries. He resides in Vista, Calif.

CLASS OF 2005

Alisha Pittman graduated from Adelphi University in 2012 with a Master of Social Work degree. She is employed at The Hamptons Center for Nursing and Rehabilitation as a social worker. Alisha resides in Medford, N.Y.

Melinda Laughren is employed with the Public Schools of Robeson County as a first grade teacher.

Jessica Schirmer Karpel has left the Mary Livermore Library, where she was a library technician, to accompany her husband to his new military assignment. She went with him for a stint in South Korea and sent a postcard to Pembroke to commemorate the visit.

Nathan Walls has served as a public information specialist for the City of Fayetteville for seven years. In May 2012, a column he wrote on the All-American City Quilt ran on the Fayetteville Observer's Sunday editorial page.

CLASS OF 2003

Mary Beth Brayboy Locklear '03, '12 was a member of the first class of North Carolina interns at the Michael Hooker Research Center in Chapel Hill, N.C. She works for the Native American Interfaith Ministries. The goal of the program is to inspire and empower undergraduate students to choose and successfully pursue healthcare and public health careers. In December, she earned a Master of Public Administration degree from UNCP.

Delon Brown is employed with Pathways to Life as a qualified professional.

CLASS OF 2002

Karen Smith is an account manager with Commercial Insurance. She and her husband, **Brent Smith '01**, reside in Boiling Springs, S.C. They are the proud parents of three-year-old Hudson and Maddox, who were born on April 29.

Camille L. Goins '02, '08 graduated with distinction from Liberty University on May 11 with an advanced educational specialist degree in educational leadership. On May 16, she received the Educator Partner of the Year award from Future 4 Kids.



Portrait of Gary Locklear '70 hangs in Robeson Courthouse

More than 60 people gathered to celebrate the hanging of a portrait of retired Superior Court Judge Gary Locklear '70 in the corridor of courtroom 2A in the Robeson County Courthouse. Judge Locklear was the resident Superior Court judge for Robeson County from 2001-09. Before serving in Superior Court, he worked as a chief district court judge.

Locklear is hardly taking the term retirement to heart. He joined UNCP's Board of Trustees in 2011. He is chief justice of the Lumbee Tribal Supreme Court and attorney for the Town of Pembroke.

Locklear's portrait is the first of a retired judge to be hung in the courthouse. Locklear was presented with the portrait, which was taken by attorney and professional photographer Woodberry Bowen, during an awards luncheon as part of the Bar Association's Law Day Celebration.

UNCP gets a new campus landmark



On January 13, UNC Pembroke dedicated its newest campus landmark – a medicine wheel embedded in the terrazzo floor in the Health Sciences Building. More than 50 people contributed to the privately-funded project, which was designed by local artist Joe Liles. The medicine wheel represents the university's connection to its founding by American Indians. It is also an ancient symbol of health and well-being, which is fitting in the building that is the new home of UNCP's nursing and social work programs.

Brooke H. Grooms '02, '09, a certified family nurse practitioner, has joined the staff of Southeastern Digestive Health Center, an affiliate of Southeastern Regional Medical Center.



CLASS OF 2001

Corda McLendon is a case manager with Gentle Touch Home Care. She has been admitted into a Master of Social Work program after completing two prerequisite courses. She resides in Aberdeen, N.C.

Rebekah Revels Lowry was named the director of the foundation and development at Robeson Community College on May 14.

Jamie Smith '01, '04 of Roanoke, Va., has accepted the position of communications specialist for the Virginia Department of Transportation's Salem District Office. Smith will serve as a media and public affairs contact for a 12-county transportation district in western Virginia and help to carry out a program to communicate VDOT's activities and policies to a variety of audiences. She is actively involved at Rosalind Hills Baptist Church where her husband, Brad Smith, is senior pastor. She and her husband reside in Roanoke with their two children.

CLASS OF 1999

Sylvia Pate, former president of UNCP's Alumni Association and former director of UNCP's Regional Center, is a realtor licensed in North and South Carolina and works with Keller Williams.

CLASS OF 1998

Dr. Matthew S. Cummings has joined the medical staff of Southeastern Regional Medical Center, providing care through the Southeastern Heart Center that is managed by Duke Medicine. Dr. Cummings earned his medical degree from the Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University in Greenville in 2004. He completed his internal medicine residency at East Carolina University/Pitt County Memorial Hospital in Greenville in 2007, serving as chief resident in the Department of Medicine there in 2007-08. He completed a fellowship in cardiovascular diseases at the University of Kentucky in Lexington, Ky., in 2011 and in advanced interventional cardiology at The Ohio State University in 2012. He is board certified in internal medicine and cardiovascular diseases and is board eligible in interventional cardiology, all by the American Board of Internal Medicine. Dr. Cummings and his wife, Angela Guinn, reside in Lumberton, N.C.



CLASS OF 1997

Dr. Daphne Holland '97, '99 is a regional dean for Strayer University. She resides in North Charleston, S.C.

Lisa Zalivar is an auditor with KBKG, a national tax accounting company that specializes in tax credits. She resides in Los Angeles, Calif.

CLASS OF 1996

Keats Ellis is employed as the assistant manager of the UNCP Bookstore. He resides in Bladenboro, N.C.

ROBERT POOLE IS BUSY INVENTING AGAIN

You can count on the sun rising and U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Robert Poole '81 inventing something new with frequency.

The idea for Poole's latest invention came during a camping trip. The CanKeeper, is an insulated skin that fits over a 12-ounce drink to allow hikers and campers the luxury of a cold drink that will not spill or allow pesky insects in.

The other thing we've learned to count on with Poole is that he is a master promoter. His invention has been all over the media. He says it's perfect for tailgating, picnics, camping, hiking, golfing and anything outdoors.

Learn more about Poole's latest invention at: www.cankeeper.net/.

It's patented and costs just \$3.99, and some profits will go to the Wounded Warrior Project.

A Clayton, N.C., resident, Poole's other noteworthy invention was a board game titled "Rules of the Game" that was published by Hasbro and Poole Enterprises. It is an all-sports trivia game.

Earlier, Master Sgt. Poole created a t-shirt project in 2005 with proceeds going to wounded vets at Walter Reeds Army Hospital. The idea came after his own tour in the Middle East.



May named region's basketball Coach of Year

Pine Forest High School coach David May '96 enjoyed the best basketball season in the school's history, going 28-2 last season. The Trojans reached the semifinals of the 4-A Eastern Regional tournament.

May was named Coach of the Year in the Cape Fear region. He has been building success in the same gym where he once played high school basketball for the Trojans.



May thought last year's team would be a good one, but he didn't realize how good until it knocked off a strong Garner team in the Miller Invitational scrimmages at South View.

"We knew we had a chance to be good if the guys bought into it and stayed healthy," May said. "We had a 25-game winning streak, we won the Holiday Classic and we made it to the regionals. Those are special things."

Old friends reunited in Pembroke after 47 years

Gordan McClelland saw Dr. Linda Oxendine for the first time since spring of 1965.

McClelland was in among of group of northern students who came to Pembroke in the 60's recruited by then-president Walter Gale.

Dr. Oxendine was treasurer of the class and McClelland was vice president. They were classmates from 1963 - 65 when Oxendine transferred to Chapel Hill and Gordan to Wayne State University in Detroit.

McClelland was recently passing

through from a trip to Florida and stopped by the American Indian Studies Department to look for Dr. Oxendine. He was directed to the Southeast Indian Studies Conference.

"I have never been so surprised in all my life," Dr. Oxendine said. She told McClelland that she thought of him often over the years.

McClelland lives in Guilderland NY, a suburb of Albany. He retired from Cornell University where he taught labor relations. His email is gm28@cornell.edu.



Pictured from left: Joshua Malcolm '92, university attorney, Dr. Robin Cummings, chair of the Board of Trustees, and Dr. Wiley Barrett



Wiley Barrett sworn in as new UNCP trustee

Dr. Wiley Barrett '69 was sworn in on June 7 as UNC Pembroke's newest trustee during the Board of Trustees summer retreat at the Chancellor's Residence.

A Pinehurst resident, Dr. Barrett was appointed by the UNC Board of Governors to serve a four-year term. He is a 1969 graduate and a former member of the Moore County School Board.

Dr. Barrett was principal of Cameron Middle School when he retired in 2001. A graduate of Pinehurst High School, he played basketball at UNCP and coached at Pinecrest High School and Southern Pines Middle School.

Active in the community, Dr. Barrett was parking chair for the U.S. Open Golf Tournaments, and a member of the boards of Moore County Parks and Recreation; National Alliance on Mental Health; Moore for Tomorrow; and Support, Education, Advocacy and Resources for Children.

After graduating from UNCP, Dr. Barrett earned a master's degree from Fayetteville State University and a doctorate in education from Campbell University.

Ronnie Chavis inducted NCHSAA Hall of Fame

Longtime Robeson County athletic director Ronnie Chavis '72 was inducted into the North Carolina High School Athletic Association Hall of Fame this fall.

He is a Prospect native and former Pembroke State University pitcher.

Chavis was honored during a special halftime ceremony of North Carolina's football game against East Carolina at Kenan Stadium on Sept. 22. His official induction comes next spring during the NCHSAA's Hall of Fame banquet in Chapel Hill.

"It's a very humbling award," Chavis told *The Robesonian's* Brad Crawford '10. "When they told me, I said I didn't deserve it and they made a mistake. When you think of all the people that are in there, you're talking about the best of the best in North Carolina."

Chavis coached several sports after college including stops at Magnolia School and West Robeson High School and became the first athletic director of the merged Public Schools of Robeson County in 1989. One of the first items on his agenda was consolidating the area's high schools from 10 to six. He is credited with helping produce the Robeson County Shootout and Slugfest, basketball and baseball tournaments that still thrive today.

Chavis is responsible for the creation of middle school athletic programs in Robeson County. In 2009, Chavis was named National Athletic Director of the Year.

He retired last spring after 40 years with the public schools.



CLASS OF 1994

James Bass, former director of UNCP's Office of Alumni Relations, became the first director of the Learning Center at Robeson Community College in August 2010. The center includes the college's tutorial services, writing center and academic success programs. Bass also teaches for RCC's Department of English and serves as chair of the Student Affairs Committee and the Quality Enhancement Plan's Communication Committee, as well being a member of the college's General Education Outcomes Committee. The Learning Center opened in February 2011, and the tutoring program is certified by the College Reading and Learning Association. Bass also serves as a member of the N.C. Tutoring and Learning Association. He is a doctoral candidate at Fayetteville State University. He is married to **Paula Levay Bass '03**. They have two daughters, Annika, three, and Layna, five. They reside in Lumberton.

CLASS OF 1993

Grover Kevin Locklear '93, '95 is employed with WestEd as a senior research associate. He resides in Gilbert, Ariz.

Royal Travis Bryant has been named associate vice chancellor for campus safety at UNCP. He is the former chief of police for the Town of Pembroke.

Elaine Deese Brewington '93, '96 is a QP/case manager with Positive Progress Services. She has been married to Tim Brewington for 11 years. The couple has four children: seven-year-old triplets, Timothy, Benjamin and Emma Grace, and a six-year-old, Samuel. They reside in Pembroke.

Sonya Naulta is a self-employed counselor and hypnotherapist. She resides in Hampton, Ga.

CLASS OF 1990

Susan Brewer Morgan is a principal fiscal analyst for the North Carolina General Assembly.

CLASS OF 1988

Songi Renee Drakes is a communications specialist with Science Applications International Corp. She resides in Bowie, Md.

Rev. Ed Drew recently received an honorary doctorate in religious studies from the Universal Life Church. He is employed as an instructor of religious studies at Pitt Community College.

Raenelle Tyson '88, '92 retired from Lee County Schools in 2009. She is working part-time as a substitute teacher in Hoke County. She resides in Raeford, N.C.

CLASS OF 1987

Kenneth Clark is a cultural enrichment specialist with the Public Schools of Robeson County. He resides in Pembroke.

CLASS OF 1985

John Daniel Bryant retired in 1996 from the Army and earned an Ed.D. from Sarasota University. After retiring from the military, he was employed as a physics teacher with Richmond County Board of Education in Augusta, Ga., until

he retired in May 2012. Presently, he works part-time at Augusta Technical College as an instructional support specialist.

Tina Chavis is a peer tutorial facilitator for Lee County School. She resides in Sanford, N.C.

CLASS OF 1982

Angela C. Howard is a senior technology manager for Bank of America. She resides in Charlotte, N.C.

David Lewis was inducted into the fourth class of the Robeson County Sports Hall of Fame on November 18. Cheering him on were former teammates from the 1979 national championship cross country team, **Wayne Broadhead '79**, and **Jeff Moody '79** and retired coach and fellow All-American **Larry Rodgers '73**. **Abdul Ghaffar '90** is chair of the local hall of fame.



CLASS OF 1977

Lucy Maynor Lowry is employed with Bladen Community College as an accounting instructor.

CLASS OF 1975

Rogena Deese '75, '93, who retired in 2010 from a career at the N.C. Department of Juvenile Justice, is the community outreach coordinator for UNC's Academic Center for Excellence in Youth Violence Prevention. The program has a \$6.5 million federal grant to reduce youth violence in Robeson County. Deese has an office in UNCP's Sampson Hall.

Jerry Walters is a plant manager for South Atlantic Services, Inc. He resides in Galveston, Texas.

CLASS OF 1974

Dr. David Brooks is the recipient of the 2012 Distinguished Veterinarian Award from the North Carolina Veterinary Medical Association. He has been a practicing vet in Pembroke since 1978. He served on the state Veterinary Medical Licensing Board for 10 years from 1992-2002. In March, he was named a Distinguished Alumnus by the Tuskegee Veterinary Medical Alumni Association. On October 26, Dr. Brooks was the recipient of UNCP's Distinguished Alumni Award.

Jerry Lanier, a Chadbourne, N.C., native, joined the National Defense University as a faculty member. He completed three years as ambassador to Uganda. Lanier is a career diplomat with the State Department beginning 1983. He specialized in African affairs, although his career stops also included Thailand, Philippines, Afghanistan, Bangladesh and South Korea. Lanier resides in northern Virginia with his wife. They have four grown children.

CLASS OF 1958

Martha Humphrey Beach formerly of Fairmont, died on Dec. 4, 2012. She was born Aug. 9, 1917, in Robeson County. After graduating from Pembroke State College in 1958, she worked for several years and returned to UNC-Chapel Hill to earn a master's degree in social work. Beach worked for North Carolina in Lumberton and at Womack Army Hospital, Fort Bragg, N.C. In the final years of her working career, she went into private practice, retiring at 80. She moved back to Fairmont and shortly thereafter established the Beach Endowed Chair in Art at UNCP in 1998.



JACK LOWERY ENDOWS THE DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD

The B.F. (Jack) Lowery '58 Distinguished Faculty Award for 2011-12 was presented to Dr. Glen Walter, a professor in the School of Education.



It will be awarded annually to a faculty member for contributions in the areas of teaching, scholarship and service.

The selection of the Distinguished Faculty Award recipient was determined by the School of Education's Selection Committee. Dr. Walter received a stipend and a plaque commemorating this honor.

Lowery established the award in 2011 in support of the outstanding work of the School of Education faculty. In his 2004 commencement speech, Lowery credited a faculty member with changing his outlook on college and strongly advised him to take his studies seriously. This caring faculty member, Dr. Myrtle Pope, didn't mince words when telling him he was not living up to his potential. "I was shocked because women didn't talk like that back then. This lady turned my life around and saved my education," Lowery said. "I had life changing experiences at this institution."

Lowery practices law with his firm Lowery & Lowery in Lebanon, Tenn. He was an original investor in Cracker Barrel Old Country Stores, Inc., one of America's most successful restaurant chains. Lowery was Cracker Barrel's general counsel for 26 years and continues to serve on the executive committee of its board of directors.

Through the School of Education Distinguished Faculty Award, he has found a way to give back to the University that changed his life.

Maggie Canady '35 turned 100 in 2012



Family and friends gathered last spring to honor Magdaline Chavis Canady on her 100th birthday. A 1935 graduate of Cherokee Indian Normal School of Robeson County, her memory is sharp, and she still knows how to enjoy a party.

Known to all as "Miss Mag," she sat at a dining room table that was covered with flowers and opened cards from many friends. One card was signed by Barack and Michelle Obama.

Tasha Oxendine recorded video of the event, and Lawrence Locklear '05, '12 took photos while Renee Steele '93 and Patricia Fields '01 helped celebrate. UNCP's oldest living alumnus, Miss Mag turned 100 the same year that the university turned 125, so she has witnessed most of the school's history.

"I rode to Pembroke a heap of mornings in a horse and buggy. I liked it there," she told Native Vision's publisher James Locklear for a recent two-part feature story. "I had to wash many a dish."

Canady, who spent her early years in the Saddletree community before moving to Pembroke, received a two-year normal school diploma and was a career educator. She was among the first teachers to get a two-year degree since the college's first recipients date back to 1928. According to Locklear, she is the last surviving teacher of the one-room schoolhouse era.

After opening birthday cards, a group of more than 50 family and friends released 100 balloons from her yard.

Happy 100th Miss Mag!

Rev. Simeon Cummings

Legendary Lumbee religious leader died in 2012



On May 13, 2012, a legend in the North American Indian community of faith passed away quietly in his home.

The Rev. Simeon Cummings '48 dedicated his life to improving his community through his Christian ministry and willingness to help all people. His good work has touched the lives of countless individuals, and in doing so, he quietly established himself as one of the most remarkable ministers in the U.S.

From 1953 to 1973, Rev. Cummings was the first American Indian to become a full-time pastor of a United Methodist Church appointed by a bishop.

Under his leadership, Prospect United Methodist Church grew from 200 to 626. The physical plant grew from a single building to include a modern education building with a fellowship hall.

In the end, the church became the largest American Indian Methodist Church in the U.S. Rev. Cummings changed the world one member at a time, one piece at a time.

Here are a few of the landmarks of his life:

- World War II veteran of the European theater
- 1948 graduate of Pembroke State College
- Educator
- A founder of the Wesley Pines Retirement Home
- A founder and first chairman of Lumbee Regional Development Association Inc.

- Organizer of the Robeson County Church and Community Center

- First American Indian chairman of Department of Social Services board in Robeson County

- First American Indian to serve on staff of the North Carolina Annual Conference. He was appointed as assistant to the bishop as coordinator of Outreach Ministries, Conference Council of Ministries, Raleigh, N.C.

- First American Indian elected as a delegate to the General Conference of The United Methodist Church

Through it all, he kept his faith and kept sight of his mission to help make life better for his family and his people spiritually, economically, educationally, socially, culturally, politically and emotionally.

Rev. Cummings was married to Maude Locklear, and they were parents of nine children: Larry Cummings, the Rev. S. Dufrene Cummings, McDuffie Cummings, Michael Cummings, Nell R. Cummings, JoAnn Helton, Gayle Phillips, Dr. Robin G. Cummings and Kelly R. Cummings. They have 16 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. ■

Your participation makes a difference!

Dear Alumni,
Your annual gift does have a serious impact on the future of UNC Pembroke. Corporations, foundations and other donors use alumni giving as a measure of satisfaction with your university. Also, alumni participation affects our standing in the U.S. News & World Report's annual college rankings.



UNCP's 2011-12 alumni participation rate was **2.30%**. Our 2013 goal is 4% and we need YOUR help. If you make a gift of any amount, YOU will help UNCP reach its goal.

Sincerely,
Renee Steele, *Alumni Director*

2011-12 alumni participation rates of institutions close to UNCP

Institution	Alumni Participation Rate
East Carolina University	9.10%
UNC Wilmington	7.50%
UNC Pembroke	2.30%
Fayetteville State University	2.18%

Give today... WE are counting on YOU!



Calendar of Events Winter-Spring 2013

January 25

River People Music & Culture Festival
10 a.m. & 6 p.m.
Celebrate Carolinas American Indian
art, culture & music
Free

January 31

Miss UNCP Scholarship Pageant
7 p.m.
GPAC

February 2

**Men's & Women's Basketball
vs. Armstrong Atlantic**
1:30 & 3:30 p.m.

February 7

**Men's & Women's Basketball
vs. Francis Marion**
5:30 & 7:30 p.m.

February 9

**Winter Open House
for prospective students**
7:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.
U.C. Annex

February 14

**Men's & Women's Basketball
vs. Young Harris**
5:30 & 7:30 p.m.

February 16

**Men's & Women's Basketball
vs. North Georgia**
1:30 & 3:30 p.m.

Region IV Science Fair
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
University Center Annex

February 20

Scholarship Day
8 a.m. – 2 p.m.
University Center

February 23

**Men's & Women's Basketball
vs. Flagler**
1:30 & 3:30 p.m.

February 25

Boston Brass
7:30 p.m.
Moore Hall
Free

March 2

**Men's & Women's Basketball
vs. USC Aiken**
1:30 & 3:30 p.m.

March 9

GPAC Annual Fundraiser
5 p.m. – 1 a.m.
GPAC

March 16

**Jim Quick & the Coastline Band,
Original Tams & Embers**
8 p.m.
GPAC
Tickets - \$20, \$12 children & students

March 21

Fayetteville area alumni reception
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Embassy Suites

March 22

**12th Annual Friends of the Library
Library Benefit**
5:30 p.m.
Livermore Library

March 25

"The Midtown Men"
8 p.m.
GPAC
Tickets - \$25, \$20, \$12 children &
students

April 2

**The Russian National Ballet:
"Swan Lake"**
8 p.m.
GPAC
\$25, \$20, \$12 children & students

April 3

**Pembroke Undergraduate Research &
Creativity (PURC) Symposium**
8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
U. C. Annex

April 10, 11, 12

**UNC Board of Governors
meet at UNCP**

April 12 – 13

Relay for Life
University Center Mall

April 25

**The Acting Company:
"Of Mice and Men"**
8 p.m.
GPAC
\$25, \$20, \$12 children & students

May 3

Graduate Commencement
7 p.m.
GPAC

May 4

Undergraduate Commencement
9 a.m.
Quad

June 14

Triangle area alumni reception
5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
The King's Daughters Inn, Durham



Office of Alumni Relations
UNC Pembroke
P.O. Box 1510
Pembroke, N.C. 28372

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Dr. English E. Jones and James K. Braboy

Honoring Our Heritage, Soaring Toward Our Future!

One of the truly remarkable stories of the university's 125-year history is that of James K. Braboy and Dr. English E. Jones. Before Dr. Jones became the longest-serving leader in university history (1962-79), he was plucked from a cotton field by Braboy and educated at Braboy's, Leland Grove School in South Carolina. Their story was the subject of a program on November 8, 2012, at the Mary Livermore Library attended by family and friends of the pair. As president, then chancellor, English Jones will forever be known as one of the great leaders of the modern university. Braboy, who was a 1928 graduate of then-Cherokee Indian Normal School of Robeson County, was the teacher, janitor, bus driver and mentor for hundreds of boys and girls at the legendary Indian-only school. In 1970, he was named Teacher of the Year in South Carolina and nearly won the national title. Braboy, Dr. Jones and the university are forever linked in history!