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at Pembroke

UNCP Today

Summer 2013

Special Feature Section:

Student and Community Engagement

The University of North Carolina at Pembroke

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THE UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA
PEMBROKE

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For the first time, the UNC Board of Governors convened in Pembroke. The meeting attracted North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory, who delivered a major education policy speech. It was a moment to shine!

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Scholarship is flourishing. English professors Catherine Parisian and Melissa Schaub recently published books. Parisian wrote the publishing history of a 19th century novel, and Schaub investigated a genre of mid-20th century female detectives.

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From Zimbabwe, Pardon Ndhlovu speaks three languages, but translating his running talents to Pembroke proved challenging. Records fell along the way as Pardon joined a distinguished group of outstanding distance runners at UNCP.

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ON THE COVER: *Photographer Raul Rubiera Jr. caught this image of Chancellor Carter giving Gov. McCrory a tour of campus during the Board of Governors visit to the university. It was the new governor's first visit to UNCP.*

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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

This issue of UNCP Today is packed tight with good news and notable achievements that have taken place at UNC Pembroke over the last couple of months. While so many of us were focusing on the UNC Board of Governors visit, outside of our range of view other exciting and extraordinary developments were taking place. Our university's accomplishments over the past season have touched our academic program, faculty scholarship, excellence in the classroom, student achievements, alumni activities, and exciting changes to our athletics program and senior administration.

Perhaps the most notable recent achievements were our 2013 Commencement ceremonies a few weeks ago and the entirely successful Board of Governors meeting April 11 through April 12. As we concluded the year-long celebration of our 125th anniversary, this year's commencement took on special significance. We graduated nearly 800 students from our bachelor's and master's programs and honored Professor Tim Ritter for his Board of Governors Excellence in Teaching award. Patricia Fields and Lawrence Locklear were honored for their extraordinary service as co-chairs of the 125th Anniversary Celebration Committee. We also awarded an honorary Doctorate of Law degree to our commencement speaker, Arlinda Locklear. It was a great day. A few weeks prior to graduation and for the first time in our long history, UNCP hosted the entire Board of Governors and their staff, as well as Governor Pat McCrory and his entourage, members of the media, and other guests. Our campus looked beautiful, and every employee and student showed our visitors the best of what UNCP is. I have received several notes thanking us and acknowledging our excellence during that two-day experience.

In addition to the BOG meeting, our faculty, staff, and students enjoyed several achievements. UNCP's graduate counseling program and our School of Business each received accreditation from leading organizations in their fields; several faculty members celebrated their research being published in books; we received approval to offer a graduate degree in nursing, and we were recognized by another national publication as military-friendly. Furthermore, after long, careful searches, we have found a new director of the athletics program, a new vice chancellor for Student Affairs, and a new dean for the School of Graduate Studies. Filling these senior positions has been a long process, but the payoff is the outstanding caliber and excellent fit these professionals bring to our university community. These accomplishments—along with our ongoing engagement with the region, our work to advance our university, and our effort to cultivate alumni—are all described in the pages of this issue of UNCP Today.

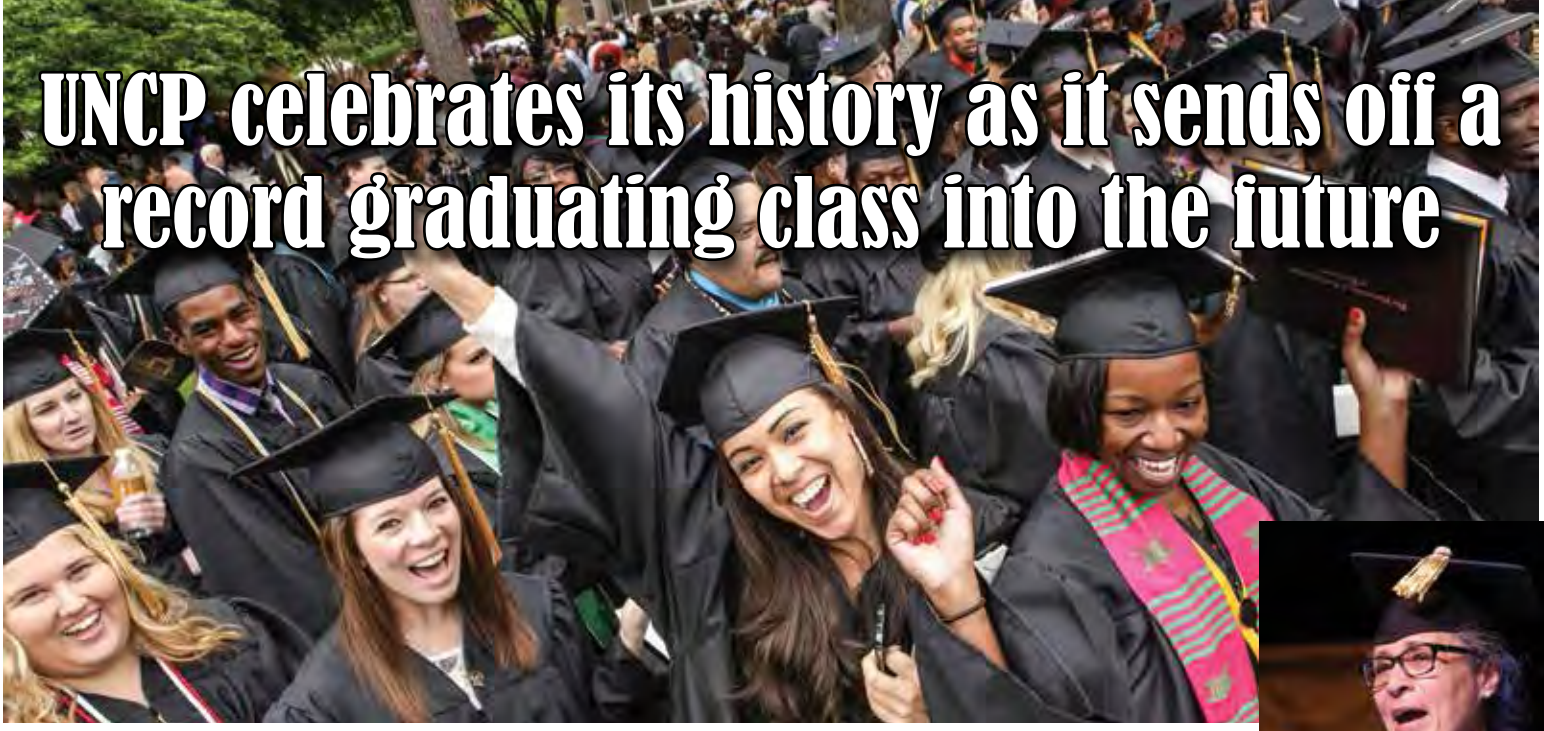
I invite you to sit back and enjoy this magazine and all that it shares with you about how UNC Pembroke is continuing its history of excellence in education and commitment to serving the region.

Sincerely,

Kyle R. Carter

Chancellor Kyle R. Carter

UNCP celebrates its history as it sends off a record graduating class into the future



In two commencement ceremonies, the university graduated a record number of students and closed the book on its 125th anniversary celebration.

Baccalaureate degrees were conferred on 605 graduates, and master's degrees were conferred on 184 graduate students. Both are university records.

The event marked the conclusion of the 14-month celebration of the university's first 125 years. In attendance were several groups of people who played a role at special moments during the history of the institution.

Eight members of the class of 1979, who received the university's first graduate degrees, were recognized. Family members of the class of 1940, which was the first class to receive four-year diplomas, were recognized. The family of Christian White, the first white graduate in 1954, attended. And, Sylvia Baugham Banks, the first African American graduate in 1969, also attended.

One additional degree was conferred. An honorary doctorate was awarded to Arlinda Locklear, a Washington D.C.-based attorney and nationally recognized advocate for American Indian rights. She served as speaker for both ceremonies.

A Pembroke native, Locklear argued two landmark cases before the U.S. Supreme Court, becoming the first American Indian woman to appear before the nation's highest court. For many years, she represented the Lumbee Tribe's efforts to win federal recognition.

The university's highest honor signifies the recipient's many contributions to the university and to their fellow men and women.

"Arlinda F. Locklear, your lifelong commitment to restoring and maintaining the legal and human rights of American Indians is noble work that has benefited many," Chancellor Carter said. "Also, you have been a superb ambassador for UNC Pembroke. The University of North Carolina at Pembroke is proud to confer upon you the degree of Doctor of Laws."

Dr. Tim Ritter, a professor of physics and veteran of the Iraq War, was presented the UNC Board of Governors Award for Teaching Excellence by Frank Grainger, vice chair of the UNC governing body. He served as grand marshal for both commencements.

The 2013 Chancellor's Award of Excellence was presented to Lawrence Locklear and Patricia Fields '97, co-chairs of the 125th Anniversary Celebration Committee. Fields, director of GPAC and Locklear, web publisher for University Communications and Marketing, coordinated more than 75 events over 14 months.

In an emotional opening to her speech, Arlinda Locklear said, "It's good to be home."

"Now I will always be a part of the historic class of 2013, the class that graduates 125 years after the first students came to this school," said Locklear, who was a two-term UNCP trustee. "I have always been somewhat apologetic about my relationship to this school, not being a graduate. Now, I'll be apologetic no more."

Locklear's message to the graduates combined the university's history with a message that encouraged the graduates to "a life lived with purpose."

In the founders of the university, she found men of purpose and "lives that are worthy of emulation." They were visionaries, she said, who could never have imagined how well their dream turned out.

Locklear had words of praise for Chancellor Carter's new academic initiative in American Indian studies. During the celebration of the university's 125th year, Chancellor Carter launched the future School of Southeastern American Indian Studies, which will take advantage of the university's roots and will establish programs to expand the reach of its scholarship.

"This will become the premier center for the study of indigenous communities of the southeast United States," Locklear said. "UNCP is a natural home for such a school, and this program here will reinforce the uniqueness of this institution."

Locklear returned to the graduates and their future. "Where does the graduating class of 2013 fit into the rich history of this campus?" she asked.

"The possibilities are literally endless," Locklear said. "A large measure of your success in meeting these challenges will depend on whether you live a life of purpose," she said. "What I ask of you now is that you take a leap of imagination into the future; imagine what you would like to see in the world and make it so.

"This is exactly what the founders of this institution did," Locklear said. "Now 125 years later, we celebrate them and their accomplishments. Dare to be as bold as they were."

University hosts UNC Board of Governors for 125th celebration

The University of North Carolina system's governing body convened on the campus of UNC Pembroke on April 11 – 12. It was the first time the UNC Board of Governors (BOG) had met at UNCP, and the first time in nearly two years they had held their meeting outside of Chapel Hill. The meeting also included a visit by North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory.

Chancellor Kyle R. Carter was notified in January that the board would honor UNCP's 125th anniversary by coming to campus for its two-day meeting. Chancellor Carter appointed a planning committee headed by General Counsel Joshua Malcolm '92 and Chief of Staff Daniel Kenney to work with Bart Corgnati, secretary of UNC in coordinating the visit.

UNC President Tom Ross, Chairman of the Board Peter Hass, Governor Pat McCrory, Chancellor Kyle R. Carter

The meeting was an opportunity for the university to showcase its academic programs, state-of-the-art campus and engaged student body to the leaders who make decisions about the state's 17 public universities – many of whom had never been on the Pembroke campus.

In addition to the 32 Board of Governors members, chancellors from the other 16 institutions in the system were in attendance, as well as nearly 20 staff members from the UNC General Administration. The meeting was open to the public and drew a considerable number of guests and media.

Gov. McCrory addressed the board on Thursday morning. In an informal discussion about the state budget, he talked about the need for integration among the four education entities in the state (pre-K, K-12, community colleges and universities).

Speaking to the UNCP leadership, he said: "You should be proud of the heritage and your history, and what you're doing for this region, which has been hit hard by the economic situation. This great university is part of the solution."

Following his time with the board, the governor, UNC President Tom Ross and Chairman of the Board Peter Hass toured the campus then had lunch with other guests.

Chancellor Carter was given time to address the board on Friday morning. In a brief introduction, he said: "The last two days have given our campus an opportunity to tell our story. It's a story you may not know too well.

"UNC Pembroke is on a mission to be an institution of choice," he continued. "We want students to come here for many reasons, but the most important reason is for the quality of our academic programs." Chancellor Carter then showed a nine-minute video highlighting the university's heritage, its outstanding qualities today, and its vision for the future. Following the video, the crowd of nearly 200 erupted in a standing ovation.

Praise for UNCP's hospitality was effusive, from Chairman Haas, wearing UNCP's specially designed 125th lapel pin, to President Tom Ross who thanked Chancellor Carter saying, "We could not have asked for a warmer reception, a greater welcome or warmer hospitality."

It was also an historic coming out for the Board of Governors' newest member, UNCP's Student Government President Robert Nunnery. Nunnery, who will have a seat on the BOG after winning election as president of the Association of Student Governments, was introduced in open session. He is the first UNCP student to become ASG's top leader.

Robert Nunnery elected president of the Association of Student Governments

UNC Pembroke Student Government President (SGA) Robert Nunnery was elected president of the Association of Student Governments on March 23. The ASG represents the students of all 17 UNC system universities.

Nunnery, who serves on UNCP's Board of Trustees in his role as SGA president, will have a seat on the UNC Board of Governors in this new role. He will take office this summer.

Nunnery's campaign platform was all about support for higher education in North Carolina.

Chancellor Carter called the historic two-day event a "terrific success." In a statement to campus on April 12 following the BOG's departure, he thanked the entire campus.

"During their stay our visitors were introduced to the professional accomplishments of our faculty, and they saw firsthand the dedication and capability of our staff. We heard them marvel at the appearance of our campus and the effort put forth to make everyone comfortable. Most importantly, our visitors were impressed with our students and their stories of a personalized education. That is, after all, what we do, and we do it well."

For UNCP observers, it was a rare and revealing look at the work of the Board of Governors. Issues that UNCP is focused on - service to the military, and community college articulation agreements - were on the agenda of the larger board as well.

The planning committee members were Sandy Briscar, executive director of University Communications and Marketing; Travis Bryant, associate vice chancellor for Campus Safety; Dr. Glen Burnette '80, special assistant, constituent relations; Sarah Carter, first lady; Patricia Fields, director, Givens Performing Arts Center; Kandice Kinlaw, events coordinator; Marla Locklear, administrative support associate, Chancellor's Office; Cynthia Oxendine '83, senior director, University Center & Programs; Kevin Pait, director, networking operations; Cynthia Saylor, assistant chief information officer; Mark Vesely, facilities supervisor; and Janet Williams, catering director, Sodexo.

"Our platform is about state relations advocacy," he said. "We're concerned the governor's budget will negatively impact the integrity of academics in the system.

"North Carolina has historically invested in higher education, and we fear some erosion in this budget," Nunnery continued. "This state depends on a college educated workforce to drive the economy."

Although the governor has not discussed shuttering one or more UNC campuses, the issue recently surfaced in the General Assembly.

"Both my vice president and I are from smaller campuses, so we're in a position to address that issue," Nunnery said. "We will focus on advocacy.

"It is important for the state to have a balanced budget," he said. "We will work for a sustainable budget for UNC and all of North Carolina."

From Fayetteville, Nunnery is a junior social studies education major. He plans to graduate the semester after his ASG term expires so that he can complete his student teaching.

Gov. Pat McCrory comes to Pembroke

In a speech at UNC Pembroke, North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory challenged higher education leaders to work smarter for the economic recovery of the state. The campus was the site for his first major speech on education since he took office in January.

Gov. McCrory called it a "sit-down conversation" with the UNC Board of Governors, who had convened in Pembroke on April 11-12 to help celebrate the university's 125th anniversary. It was a statewide media event with television cameras rolling and a packed press row in the University Center Annex.

Unfounded rumors of one or more UNC campus closings have rocked Pembroke and other campuses, but Gov. McCrory brought good news.

"I read today from the Senate perspective, Phil Berger (Senate majority leader), said campus closings are not in the Senate budget," he said.

With nearly $140 million in cuts to UNC's 17 campuses in his proposed budget, the Republican governor put it clearly: "We've got to make changes."

Shared resources, administrative consolidation, online learning and the elimination of unproductive academic programs have been discussed by the McCrory administration as ways to increase efficiency in higher education.

"A major job of yours is to see how we can decrease administrative costs and make sure the money is going directly to the students and to the education that we need," McCrory told the board.

For higher education, he said "the status quo is unacceptable." Gov. McCrory wants the four components of state education – pre-k, k-12, community colleges and the UNC system – to work together on budgets and to clarify the "education brand."

"We must integrate the university system's objectives into our commerce team to be at the table when we are recruiting industry," he said. "There is a disconnect between higher education and North Carolina having the fourth highest unemployment in the nation.

North Carolina's governor would make the state more competitive among southeastern states in economic development and higher education is directly tied to commerce.

Gov. McCrory modified some negative remarks he made earlier about liberal arts education, reminding the audience of his own education.

"I am a graduate of Catawba College and majored in political science," he said. "I believe in taking the critical thinking courses, then applying it to occupations."

The governor said he is "excited about the future of the universities and North Carolina," but the challenges are great.

"My goal is to continue to have the brand of our university system be the first-rate brand in the nation and in the world," he said. "It's going to be crucial to our economic development, but that also means we've got to change some things. And that's not change for the sake of change. It's change just like the private sector does every single day."

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1 As the kick-off neared, banners proclaiming the 125th anniversary celebration were unfurled on the columns of Old Main and across campus.

2 Olympic Gold Medal gymnast Gabby Douglas made a special appearance on February 25, 2013, at a packed Givens Performing Arts Center.

3 Reflections – one of several special events. This one was a trip through time with from left: biology professor James Ebert, Larry Barnes '71, the first African American to enroll, Nat Tolar '71, Emma Locklear ' 62, Pandora Strickland and Mary Alice Teets '58.

4 Honorary co-chairs Mickey Gregory '88, left, Alphonzo McRae '74 and Linda Oxendine, long-time chair of the Department of American Indian Studies.

5 As co-chairs of the 125th Anniversary Planning Committee, Lawrence Locklear and Patricia Fields planned more than 50 events. They were awarded the 2013 Chancellor's Award of Excellence.

By Lawrence Locklear

I am a big fan of ritual and ceremony. And that is because these are the ways that a culture, a people, express their values. Gathering and dressing up and marching are how we say what is happening today is important to us. We honor these things in our culture.
— Kevin Gover

With those words, the director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian and the keynote speaker for the spring 2012's undergraduate commencement ceremony summed up the significance of UNC Pembroke's 125th anniversary celebration.

The celebration was 14-months of events that were planned to honor UNCP and its importance to the community, region, North Carolina and the American Indian community – which founded the school in 1887.

I think sometimes we take for granted the things that are important to us and fail to understand the context in which things come to be, particularly the evolution of the narrowly-focused Croatan Normal School into the comprehensive, regional UNC Pembroke, a constituent institution of the University of North Carolina system.

elebrated!

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The 125th celebration allowed us to step back and reflect on the rich history of the institution and to celebrate its many accomplishments. Our students learned and our alumni returned! A 125th celebration only comes around once, and I think we put our best foot forward to ensure this celebration was a resounding success; one that will be talked about for the next 25 years and serve as a model for the university's 150th anniversary celebration in 2037!

The celebration allowed us to honor the rich history and heritage of our great institution, while simultaneously showcasing the accomplishments of our students, faculty, staff and alumni. Throughout the celebration, the university was able to engage our constituencies in a way that allowed them to reflect on wonderful memories and to nurture their affinity with the campus. As a result, UNCP embraced its heritage as we soar toward an even brighter future. The possibilities are unlimited! ■

6 Flutist Jonathan Ward and the Lumbee Ambassadors lead the processional at Spring 2012 Commencement.

7 On March 14, 2012, Chancellor and Sarah Carter and the honorary co-chairs roared into the Main Gym to launch a 14-month celebration.

8 At the Spring 2013 Commencement, some of UNCP's "firsts" were celebrated. Sylvia Baugham Banks (third from the right) was the first African American graduate. She is pictured with her sister, Marilyn Roberts. Family members of the Class of 1940, the first to earn four-year degrees, are pictured from left: Ruth Oxendine, wife of Conrad Oxendine '40; Dorsey Lowry Jr., son of Dorsey Sr. '40; Benjamin, Carol and Woody Hunt, descendants of Eteska Locklear Hunt '40; Joseph Sampson Jr., son of Joseph Sr. '40; and on the far right, Connie Bullard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Oxendine. Not pictured is Charles Alton Maynor, son of the first four-year graduate Charles W. Maynor.

9 BraveHawk begins the attempt at the Guinness World Record for the longest handshake relay on March 20, 2013. It wasn't a world record, but it was a UNCP record.

10 Kevin Gover, director of the Smithsonian's Museum of the American Indian, was the Spring 2012 Commencement speaker. With him are Lumbee Tribal Chair Paul Brooks, center, and Chancellor Carter.

Lawrence Locklear is the university's web publisher. With Patricia Fields, executive director of the Givens Performing Arts Center, he co-chaired the 125th Anniversary Celebration Committee and is authoring a book updating the university's history.

UNCP's School of Business earns AACSB accreditation

The AACSB International (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business) has notified UNCP that the School of Business has received accreditation of its undergraduate and graduate business programs.

AACSB is the recognized standard for business school accreditation and has been earned by only five percent of the world's business programs. Achieving accreditation is a process of rigorous internal review, evaluation and modifications, and is concluded after an external review by a peer review team assigned by AACSB.

"The benefits of AACSB accreditation for our students are enormous," said Dr. Ramin Maysami, dean of the School of Business. "The primary benefit is that AACSB accreditation ensures the rigor of our programs and the high quality of teaching, learning and scholarship."

AACSB accreditation standards require a high-quality teaching environment, a commitment to continuous improvement, a curricula responsive to the most current needs of businesses and a commitment to scholarship and research by the school faculty.

Initial accreditation requires five-to-six years of preparation. Maintenance of accreditation reviews occurs every five years to ensure continued compliance with evolving AACSB standards.

UNCP administrators hailed the accreditation as a singular achievement for the university, the School of Business and its students.

"AACSB accreditation demonstrates to the public the high quality of our business degree," said Chancellor Kyle R. Carter. "Graduating from an AACSB-accredited institution makes our graduates more competitive in the job market because employers will know UNCP graduates have the required skills and knowledge to be successful in business.

Dr. Ken Kitts, provost and vice chancellor of Academic Affairs, called AACSB accreditation the gold standard for business schools. "We are delighted to join an elite group of universities that can boast of this certification," Dr. Kitts said. "This speaks volumes about the quality of our programs of study in the School of Business."

Dean Maysami said it was a lengthy and detailed process that required an assessment of every component of the School of Business.

"It was a challenging process, and every member of the faculty was involved," Dr. Maysami said.

"The contribution of the school's Board of Business Advisors and those of the Student Advisory Board must be acknowledged," Dr. Maysami continued. "Without their input and participation, this achievement would not be possible.

"It will assist our students in the job market and in applying to graduate schools," Dr. Maysami said. "This accreditation will also help the School of Business recruit faculty and give us direction as well as accountability."

Dr. Angela McDonald, Mental Health Counseling

Dr. Jeffrey Warren, School Counseling

Dr. Zoe Locklear, Dean, School of Education

Mihaela Henderson, counseling grad student

Graduate counseling programs earn CACREP accreditation

The graduate Clinical Mental Health and Professional School Counseling programs have earned accreditation from the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP).

CACREP is the nationally recognized training standard for counselor education programs. Three-years in the making, CACREP notified UNCP in January that its programs have been accredited for two years, renewable for an additional six years.

Graduation from CACREP accredited programs is required by a growing number of third-party payers such as TRICARE, which is a healthcare administrator serving the military. Accreditation also allows UNCP-trained counselors to work for or contract with the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs with its nine million veterans, active duty service men and women and their families.

"It opens a lot of doors," said Mihaela Henderson, who delayed her graduation from the Clinical Mental Health Program to finish with a degree from an accredited program. "I would like to work for DOD, but CACREP accreditation will also help me get into graduate school and earn state licensure and national counseling certifications."

Dr. Zoe Locklear '77, dean of the School of Education, said accreditation would aid student success and uplift the region that UNCP serves.

"This is excellent news for the School of Education and the University as we strive to serve our students and the surrounding region," Dr. Locklear said. "This national accreditation is a resounding affirmation of the quality of our counseling programs. We're very pleased about this accomplishment."

A department of UNCP's School of Education, the Clinical Mental Health Counseling and Professional School Counseling Programs went through a comprehensive self-study and a review by CACREP, which included a site visit.

Student interest in the profession of counseling is growing. From an enrollment of 111 in 2008, there are 160 students enrolled in the spring semester 2013.

"There is a need for this program, and we are attracting a lot of students who are interested in the counseling profession," Dr. Angela McDonald, director of the Clinical Mental Health Counseling Program said. "This program is important for our region, in part, because of the presence of Fort Bragg, and the opportunity to meet the mental health needs of soldiers and their families."

The Master of Arts in Education Clinical Mental Health Counseling prepares professional counselors to practice in a variety of settings. The program requires 27 credit hours of core counseling courses, 24 credit hours of specialty area mental health counseling courses and nine credit hours of field placement courses. Students graduate from the program with 700 hours of supervised counseling experience.

Dr. Tim Ritter is winner of UNC Award for Teaching Excellence

Physics professor Dr. Tim Ritter was presented with the UNC Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching during commencement ceremonies in May. The campus will acknowledge this honor by having Dr. Ritter serve as grand marshal at UNCP ceremonial events during the 2013-14 academic year and deliver the address at Winter Commencement 2013.

Established by the Board of Governors in 1994 to underscore the importance of teaching across the university, the awards are given annually to a tenured faculty member from each UNC campus.

In the 17 years that Dr. Ritter has been at UNCP, he has established an outstanding reputation for teaching and service to the university and its students, said Dr. Kenneth Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs.

"Tim Ritter is a very dedicated, engaging and successful professor," Dr. Kitts said. "He has a terrific manner with students and is known for his accessibility and caring attitude. As a long-serving officer in the U.S. Navy Reserves, he leads by example and has distinguished himself through his commitment to professionalism and service in all things," he continued. We are pleased to celebrate him as our 2013 recipient of the Award for Teaching Excellence."

The hallmark of Dr. Ritter's career has been his consistency and dedication. He started as a judge for the Region IV Science and Engineering Fair 17 years ago, and he is the co-director today.

More than 10 years ago, Dr. Ritter led the first team of students, dubbed the Weightless Lumbees, into NASA's Reduced Gravity Student Flight Opportunities Program. This year, his seventh team will fly with their experiment on NASA's microgravity research aircraft in Houston, Texas.

"Seventeen years at UNCP has flown by," Dr. Ritter said. "It has been an interesting and exciting time here."

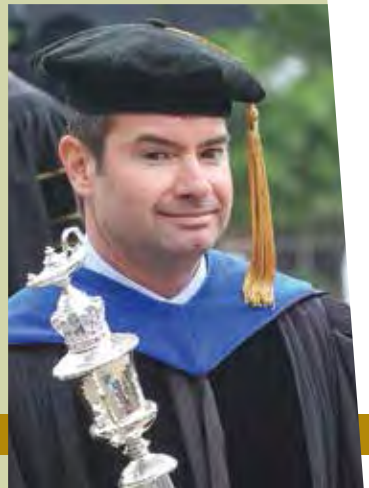
One thrill that Dr. Ritter never grows tired of is the art of teaching abstract scientific concepts to science and non-science majors alike.

"I really enjoy teaching physical science," he said. "I try to inspire my students and to make advanced concepts relevant to students' every day lives. My greatest thrill is when they tell me about applying something they learned in class to a real life problem."

Dr. Ritter's students, like 2007 graduate Megan Grimsley Smith, say that his door is always open. "His greatest assets are the positivity and encouragement he exudes," Smith said. "He genuinely cares about students' successes."

Dr. Ritter is also dedicated to his country and has served in the Navy Reserves for 20 years. In 2003 after 9/11 and again during the Iraq War, Lt. Commander Ritter was called to active duty. He served with NCIS and then spent a year in southern Iraq. He has since been promoted to commander.

"I'm proud of my service," Dr. Ritter said. "I think it is an important mission. I don't do it for the money."



Nursing chair Dr. Barbara Synowiez, center, gives instruction in the new clinical labs of the Health Sciences Building.

University to offer Master of Science in Nursing degree

The UNC Board of Governors approved the university's proposal to offer a Master of Science in Nursing degree. The university's Department of Nursing expects to enroll its first class of 18-20 students in the fall 2013.

The program is vital to building the region's capacity in nursing education and leadership. It will offer three concentrations: nurse educator, clinical nurse leader and rural case manager.

According to Dr. Barbara Synowiez, chair of UNCP's Department of Nursing, "There is a national focus on improving patient health outcomes through a continuum of care that requires nursing professionals be educated at the graduate level and can assume roles in teaching, leadership, practice and research."

Dr. Synowiez explained that the clinical nurse leader and the rural case manager concentrations will focus on quality of care and best nursing practices for rural populations. Those courses of study will also focus on collaboration among health care providers and measurement of health care outcomes across all health care settings. The rural case manager concentration at UNCP will be the only concentration of its type offered by a nursing school in North Carolina.

"It's difficult to overstate what this means for the citizens of southeastern North Carolina," said Dr. Ken Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs. "The opening of our MSN program will increase the number of educators available to help train nurses at community colleges throughout the region. It will also allow us to graduate nurses who have the specialized training necessary to manage programs and coordinate major outreach efforts that will have a direct impact on our local communities."

"Not surprisingly," Dr. Synowiez said, "we had a remarkable level of support for our application for a MSN program from area hospitals, schools, health departments and others. This is a first for rural, southeastern North Carolina, and our program will focus on rural nursing care and education."

UNCP's new Health Sciences Building will be home to the MSN program. The facility, which features cutting edge classroom environments has room for growth, Dr. Synowiez said.

Nurses with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree may apply directly to the university's MSN program. Registered nurses, with an associate degree in nursing or diploma may also apply, although some prerequisite courses will be required in advance of admission.

Dr. John Jones named vice chancellor for Student Affairs

John R. Jones III, Ph.D., has been appointed vice chancellor for Student Affairs upon a recommendation by Chancellor Kyle R. Carter and a vote by the Board of Trustees. He joined the university on June 3.

"I am extremely pleased that Dr. John Jones will be joining the leadership team at UNC Pembroke," said Chancellor Carter. "He brings many attributes that will immediately benefit us. He is strategic and goal oriented. His experience at three major universities will help us broaden our perspective in all facets of student affairs."

A North Carolina native, Dr. Jones holds a Bachelor of Science degree in applied mathematics from Appalachian State University, and a Master of Arts and a Ph.D. in higher education administration from the University of Iowa, Iowa City. Dr. Jones also spent 15 years in the Army National Guard, rising to the rank of major.

Dr. Jones began his career at Purdue University 15 years ago and has worked in progressively more responsible roles in higher education leading to his most recent position as associate vice president for student affairs at Northern Illinois University (NIU).

"UNCP's mission, vision and core values are consistent with my philosophy as a student affairs professional," Dr. Jones said. "When I look into the eyes of today's students, I see myself as a youth growing up in Carrboro, N.C. They have the same aspirations, hope and ambitions that I had as a student.

"My life was transformed by education – and not just the education, but also by the people who helped me navigate the academics, the campus and community. I see that same commitment to the students at UNCP," he said.

At NIU, Jones was responsible for a budget of $10 million and a staff of 40. At UNCP, he is a member of the Chancellor's Cabinet and is managing 12 departments including Counseling and Psychological Services, Career Center, Student Involvement and Leadership, Student Health Services, Housing and Residence Life and Police and Public Safety.

"I'm excited about working with a visionary leader such as Chancellor Carter and an A-team - his cabinet members who have all had phenomenal successes in their careers and are passionate and talented directors," Dr. Jones said. "Combined with a strategic plan that focuses on student success and becoming 'an institution of choice' my decision to come to UNCP was an easy one."

Dr. Bullard-Dillard to lead School of Graduate Studies

Rebecca Bullard-Dillard, Ph.D., has been named dean of the School of Graduate Studies and Research, according to an announcement by Dr. Kenneth Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Bullard-Dillard will be lead UNCP's 18 graduate programs and the Office of Sponsored Research and Programs. She comes to UNCP from Claflin University in Orangeburg, S.C., where she was serving as associate vice president for Academic Affairs.

Dr. Kitts said UNCP is getting an outstanding administrator, faculty member and scientist.

"I am delighted that Dr. Dillard has accepted the invitation to become a part of our team," Dr. Kitts said. "Her experience will help us achieve our goal of becoming an institution of choice through the elevation of our graduate programs and enhancement of our research profile. She will partner well with her faculty colleagues at UNCP in pursuit of these objectives."

Dr. Bullard-Dillard said the UNC system is nationally recognized for its excellence, and she is excited to join UNC Pembroke.

"UNC Pembroke is a vibrant and growing regional university and a jewel in the crown of the University of North Carolina," she said. "I am very excited about coming to Pembroke to lead UNCP's graduate program and research efforts."

Dr. Bullard-Dillard joined the faculty at Claflin in 1996 as an assistant professor of biology. Her scientific research is focused on protein biochemistry with study of cancer, autoimmune systems, genomics, biofuels and health disparities. She has a patent pending.

Dr. Bullard-Dillard has worked to promote research as a faculty member and in several administrative capacities. She has authored, co-authored or served as principal investigator for 48 grants that netted Claflin more than $39 million.

"I have vigorously pursued grants through which to build research infrastructure in order to engage students in meaningful research with faculty," she said. "External funding is instrumental in building a university into an institution of choice.

"I am especially proud to help students succeed, personally and professionally," she continued. "More than 100 of my mentees have matriculated in graduate or professional school."

In Memoriam

Rohald Meneses, Ph.D.

The university community was deeply saddened by the death of Rohald Meneses, assistant professor in the Department of Sociology and Criminal Justice, on February 1. Dr. Meneses was an active scholar and well-liked instructor. His specialties included criminology and deviance, race and ethnic relations, research/statistics and comparative law. His scholarly work often focused on issues regarding young people and social justice, and he involved his students in research projects. He was also active in departmental activities and university governance.

Tales from Canterbury to the Roundtable

Dr. Roger Ladd specializes in writing about English commerce and culture in the literature of the 14th-15th century and much of what he writes is published in scholarly journals. Recently, he has used his knowledge of English history to contribute to an illustrated children's book.

The English professor's most recent article, "Selling Alys: Reading (with) the Wife of Bath," was published in late 2012 in Studies in the Age of Chaucer (Vol. 34; 2012), a prestigious academic journal. In the paper, Dr. Ladd discusses one of the female pilgrims in Geoffrey Chaucer's "The Canterbury Tales."

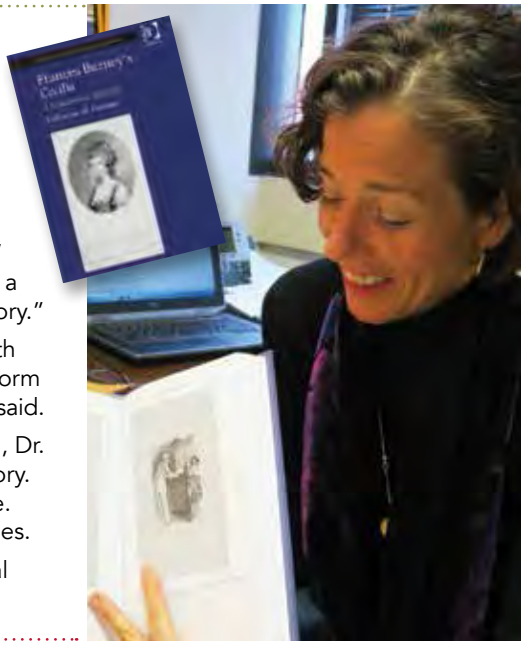
In addition, a paper on the "The Canterbury Tales" was published in a hardback edition of Studies in the Age of Chaucer, which is one of two top-tier Chaucer journals. The paper looks at one of Chaucer's female pilgrims on the journey to the shrine of St. Thomas Becket at Canterbury Cathedral that forms the storyline of The Canterbury Tales.

The English professor's talents go beyond "The Canterbury Tales" to tales for children. He recently contributed three chapters on the legend of King Arthur to Calliope, a magazine for children titled "The Making of a Legend: England's King Arthur."

His chapter titled "Who's Who at the Table" profiles the Knights of the Round Table. A chapter titled "Eager for Adventure" is on Sir Gawain, and a chapter titled "Face Off" is about the renowned conflict between King Arthur and Mordred.

He admitted to using a secret weapon for this project. "I asked my son to read it to make sure it was age appropriate," Dr. Ladd said. "He liked it."

Professor's second 'book history' is published



As a book historian, Dr. Catherine Parisian charts the course of the 51 printings of "Cecilia, Or Memoirs of an Heiress" by British novelist Frances Burney (1752-1840) in her second book titled *Frances Burney's Cecilia*. Her research led her to libraries at UCLA, Harvard, Yale and McGill universities, the British Library in London and Bibliotheque Nationale in Paris.

"Every book tells a story," she said. "From it, we learn about the editing and publishing process of the time. I learned a lot about the printing and publishing industry in the 19th century."

A book's publishing history reveals information about technology, commerce, the authors and the market for literature of the period. It's a discipline in which Dr. Parisian is expert. Her first book, published in 2010, revealed the inside story of "The First White House Library."

"I chose 'Cecilia' because I like the book," Dr. Parisian said. "It's not a simple book; it is a marriage plot but not a happily-ever-after story."

"Cecilia" was first published in book-length form in 1782. It was also divided into serial form for mass consumption, the English professor said.

Even before it has been officially reviewed, Dr. Parisian's new volume is making its own history. It has been purchased by libraries worldwide. UNCP's Mary Livermore Library has two copies.

In the near future, she plans two additional book histories.

'THE *Female* GENTLEMAN'

The love of British detective novels led scholar Melissa Schaub to write a book on the audacious women sleuths of the 1920s and 30s.

Published in February by Palgrave Macmillan, "Middlebrow Feminism in Classic British Detective Fiction: The Female Gentleman" examines best-selling novels by Agatha Christie, Dorothy Sayers and others.

For Dr. Schaub, the book was a long-running adventure that took her off the beaten path but not out of her comfort zone. "My specialty area is Victorian fiction," said Dr. Schaub. "This is not in my period, but I love these novels."

Besides British literature, she teaches women's literature at UNCP, and the women detectives of this genre intrigue her.

"After I had read so many of these books, I noticed the same kind of character appearing in them over and over again," she said. "I call it the female gentleman."

World War I found women in unfamiliar places by necessity. In the era between the world wars, women, who were newly empowered with the right to vote, remained in public roles. Dr. Schaub's book puts the changing role of women in historical context.

"During the war, they worked in men's jobs; it was a role switch that continued after the war," she said. "They even dressed in more 'masculine' clothing.

Dr. Schaub is very pleased to see her book in print.

"It took me a long time to write," she said. "I started in 2006, while pregnant with my second child, so the book is the same age he is. I dedicated it to my children, who had to share me with it for most of their lives."

An associate professor, Dr. Schaub is currently serving as associate vice chancellor of Student Advising and Retention.

Kelsey Cummings wins Miss UNCP 2013 title

Kelsey Cummings, a graduate student in music education, was named Miss UNCP 2013 on Jan. 31 during the annual pageant in the Givens Performing Arts Center.

A Pembroke native, Cummings is the first graduate student to win the title in 61 years of the Miss UNCP Scholarship Pageant.

A 2010 UNCP graduate, the new Miss UNCP said, "I have a lot of history with UNCP. This is a dream come true because I've wanted to be Miss UNCP since I was six years old. In 1994, I danced in the opening number of the Miss Pembroke State University Pageant."

A boisterous audience of nearly 1,000 people cheered seven candidates as they vied for the crown. Cummings, who is a candidate for a Master of Education degree in music, entertained the audience with a piano rendition of "Maple Leaf Rag."

The new Miss UNCP is multi-talented. She sings and is choral director at Piney Grove Elementary School. Cummings also knows American Sign Language.

Cummings won a $2,000 scholarship and free room and board for the next academic year.

The new Miss UNCP is flanked by first runner-up Shanette Monk, left, and second runner-up Brandi Chavis.

Jill McCorkle Comes Home

The university celebrated 45 years of Pembroke Magazine on March 19 with a fundraising dinner featuring Lumberton author Jill McCorkle.

The 45th annual edition of UNCP's literary journal was unveiled by editor Jennifer Pitchford. Former editor of 30 years, Shelby Stephenson, entertained with music and poetry from his upcoming book.

McCorkle read from her fifth novel, Life After Life, during an afternoon session attended by an overflow crowd of students, faculty and community members.

McCorkle has won numerous awards for her 10 books that include five novels and five collections of short stories. In 1984, her first two books, The Cheerleader and July 7th, were published on the same day, and the New York Times Review of Books hailed her as an heir to new Southern literature.

McCorkle discussed her craft and addressed being a Southern writer in the framework of growing up in a small community.

"Young writers are looking everywhere but in their own backyards," she said. "The trademark of my fiction is the small town microcosm. Growing up in a small town, you get a sense of what society is all about."

To questions about writing, McCorkle said she finds inspiration in conversations and in the middle of the night too.

"Notes, notes, notes. They are part of your writing life too," she advised. "If I have an idea, I write it down. Then, I start writing until it takes me back to that feeling."

Now teaching at NC State University, McCorkle has taught creative writing at Harvard, Tufts, UNC-Chapel Hill and Brandeis. She talked about student writing and the art of telling stories.

"I'm open-minded in my writing classes, as long as it works," she said. "One of my students came up to me after class and said 'I'm afraid this is going to shock you.' I said, 'I certainly hope so.'"

At dinner, McCorkle was in the familiar company of former Pembroke Magazine editors, Stephenson and Jennifer Key, and new editor Jessica Pitchford. McCorkle's new novel was published to outstanding reviews just days after her appearance in Pembroke.

Pine Needle wins 5th consecutive national award

For the fifth consecutive year, The Pine Needle student newspaper has won first place in the American Scholastic Press Association national contest.

In addition, the newspaper earned a "special merit" designation for "publications with special and outstanding design and content" – an honor that is considered a notch higher than first place. The competition attracts approximately 2,500 college and university newspapers.

The Pine Needle also earned the "non-school related outstanding story" award for Samantha Langley's news report titled "Soldier's Funeral Site of Protest." Langley covered a protest at a military funeral in Raeford, N.C., by the Westboro Baptist Church.

"Five years of awards has a nice ring to it," said Dr. Judy Curtis, the newspaper's faculty advisor. "I'm so proud of the students who put their hearts into working on the paper."

This year the newspaper published 316 pages. The student newspaper publishes its print edition 14 times a year during the fall and spring semesters and has a year-round website that also contains podcasts and videos.

UNCP's BraveHawk mascot is a real *'Pepper'*

The university's red-tailed hawk mascot was re- reinvented and renamed this year. And its popularity is soaring.

BraveHawk is a consummate cheerleader and entertainer at major sports events, and he is so popular that he regularly attends all kinds of other campus events. Kids and adults alike want their photo taken with the big black-and gold bird.

It was love at first sight for the fans as the mascot returned to UNCP after a two-year hiatus. So who is the "hawk within?"

It is Pepper Jenson, a young man who was born to play BraveHawk. He defies easy description as a recent interview reveals.

First, BraveHawk is a big bird, but Pepper is not tall but he is very fit.

Then, there is the name, which seems so appropriate for someone whose job is to fire up a crowd.

Pepper began life as Eric. "At age nine or ten, I started at a new school and decided to change my identity," Pepper said. "I am a big collector of Legos, so I named myself after a figure named Pepperoni, a skateboarder who I thought was pretty cool at the time."

Pepper currently claims Cary, N.C. as home. Before that, there was Indiana, Virginia, Vermont and Kentucky, where he was born. He graduated from high school in Indiana, where he revived the school's Patriot mascot.

A mass communication major in the journalism track, he is double majoring theatre and minoring in English. He loves to write, dance and act.

"I've been in theatre since I was little," Pepper said. "I've been in every play on campus. This year, I played Kyle the UPS man in Cape Fear Regional Theatre's production of "Legally Blonde."

He also loves improvisation, which helps explain his success in the BraveHawk role.

"You don't get to talk, so you have to be creative in your movements," he said. "I'm energetic and can do handstands and walk on my hands. People expect something different all the time."

Pepper, the actor, delivers on this mission. Pepper, the student, arrives for the interview wearing aviator sunglasses. He is very neatly dressed in a dress shirt and tie, which he says he wears every day except when he has dance classes.

The Wolverine sideburns are homage to the Marvel comic character. The trailer for the next movie just came out, he explained.

When he came to UNCP as a freshman two years ago, he immediately went to athletic director Dan Kenney to inquire about the job. He had to wait two years as the costume was replaced, but Pepper wasted little time becoming involved as a member of the dance team and as an entertainer during halftime at basketball games.

Pepper earned a special scholarship to play BraveHawk during the second semester. He has other perks as well.

"I am considered an athlete, so I get athletic benefits such as visits to the trainers," Pepper said. "It makes sense, because I'm at all the football and basketball games."

BraveHawk also attends events at the Chancellor's Residence. He worked new student orientation and Family Day too.

Some of the highlights of the year included a dash around the track during the Two Rivers Classic football game against rival Fayetteville State.

"We scored first, so I grabbed the flag and ran all the way around the track," Pepper said. "They scored and their mascot started running. I grabbed the flag, caught up to him and passed him."

The other highlight was an invitation to march in the governor's inaugural parade with mascots from across North Carolina.

Pepper, who is taking 20 hours this semester, will graduate in four years from UNCP. He is thinking of applying to the famous Ringling Brothers Clown College. He dreams of performing for Cirque Du Soleil or as a professional sports mascot.

Full of energy, fun and enthusiasm, fans will get another great year with BraveHawk in 2013-14.

UNCP picks Dick Christy as new director of athletics

In a press conference on April 2, Richard "Dick" Christy was announced as UNC Pembroke's ninth director of athletics.

Christy, who has worked 13 years in athletic administration, comes to UNCP from NC State University, where he was associate athletics director for external relations for the last eight years.

The new athletic director was hired after a national search and is the first AD that the university has hired from outside the walls of the Jones Athletic Center. In a press conference, Chancellor Kyle R. Carter hailed Christy as an ideal choice.

"Dick has all of the attributes we've searched for, and he is committed to assuring that our student-athletes have a quality experience here at UNC Pembroke that serves them well years after graduation," Chancellor Carter said.

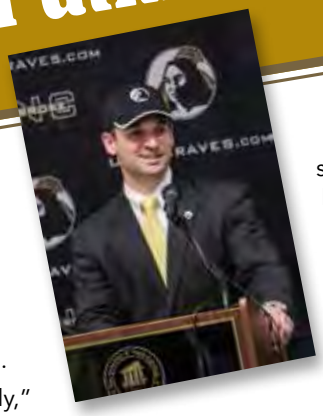
"Dick supports UNC Pembroke's aspirations for even greater success in all sports, but understands that competitive success must begin on a level playing field," Chancellor Carter said. "I am really pleased that we found such a quality person."

After donning a UNCP cap, Christy spoke to a packed house in the Native Angels Braves Club Room.

"I am thrilled to be joining the UNC Pembroke family," Christy said. "It did not take much time visiting with Chancellor Carter to see he has a tremendous vision for the future, and I am truly humbled to be a part of his team. My wife, Windy, and I are energized about joining this community of outstanding coaches and staff to partner on growing Braves athletics."

His name may sound familiar to North Carolina sports enthusiasts. He is the grandson of NC State legend Dick Christy, who was the ACC football's player of the year in 1957.

While at NC State, the younger Christy was integral to external revenue generation and with marketing, promotions and community involvement. During his tenure, external operations has accommodated unprecedented demand for most of the Wolfpack's varsity sports. Gross receipts from NC State's athletics total more than $16 million annually since 2004 and contributes to the operating budgets of 23 sports.



Christy also served as an administrator for several teams at NC State, including baseball, men's soccer, women's and men's golf and cheerleading. He has also been involved in a number of fundraising efforts, most recently a $1.5 million campaign to complete the clubhouse at the Lonnie Poole Golf Course.

"Dick has been an important member of our senior administrative team at NC State for years, said Debbie Yow, athletic director at NC State. "UNC Pembroke will be delighted with his excellent work ethic, creativity and passion for the job. Good things are in store under his leadership."

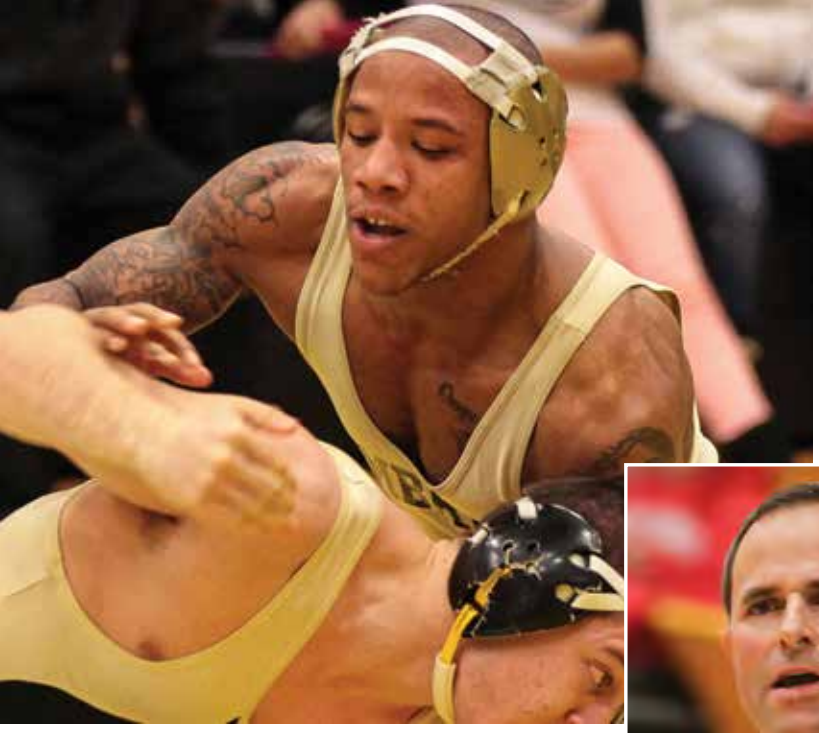
Christy's game management experience includes serving as tournament manager for the 2008 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship in the first and second rounds, and tournament director for the 2009 NCAA Women's Basketball Championship regional final.

An NCAA Division II student-athlete, Christy was a four-year letterman on the men's golf team at Wingate University. He served as team captain as a senior and earned the J. Ralph Hargett Athletic Leadership Award. Christy graduated with a degree in sports management and earned a master's degree in parks, recreation and tourism management from NC State while working in the Athletics Department.

He is also a graduate of the Sports Management Institute's Executive Program, a joint venture between the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill and the University of Southern California.

A Chichester, Pa., native, Christy is married to the former Windy Dotson of Rutherfordton, N.C. A Duke University graduate, Windy is an orthopedic spine physician assistant with Raleigh Orthopaedic Clinic and a former certified athletic trainer.

At the press conference from left: Windy and Dick Christy and Chancellor and Sarah Carter



Mike Williams, four-time All-American

Wrestling

The wrestling team added to their tradition of success by finishing in a tie for 20th place at the NCAA Division II Wrestling Championships in Birmingham, Ala. The Braves sent four individuals to the postseason showdown, including Super Region I Tournament champions Daniel Ownbey (141 pounds) and Justin Pencook (157), freshman Blaze Shade (165) and defending national champion Mike Williams (174). Williams became just the second four-time all-American in school history with a third place finish at the NCAA meet. Ownbey brought home his second-straight all-American honor after finishing in eighth place. The Braves finished the dual meet portion of their 2012-13 schedule with an 8-7 record. It was their first winning season under second-year head coach Othello "O.T." Johnson. The team recorded 44 individual place-winners, including 14 individual tournament championships.

Ben Miller, conference Coach of the Year

Men's Basketball

The men's basketball team earned its second trip to the NCAA Tournament in three years after turning in a 22-10 mark. They were 14-5 in the demanding Peach Belt Conference. The campaign marked the third-straight year that the Braves finished with a winning record. It was the most wins for the program since the 1990-91 squad tallied a 27-5 mark. The Braves finished the season with school records for both home victories (13) and Peach Belt Conference victories (14). Their second place finish in the PBC East (tied for second place overall with Montevallo), is the club's best PBC finish in history. George Blakeney (1st team) and Shahmel Brackett (2nd team) each earned a spot on the all-PBC squads. They also garnered a spot on the National Association of Basketball Coaches All-Region teams. Excellence was not reserved for the hardwood, as sophomore forward Ben Jacobs earned the PBC Elite 15 Award, which is given annually to the student-athlete in each championship sport that maintains the highest grade point average. Jacobs currently boasts a 3.98 GPA as a physical education major.

George Blakeney, All-Conference

Shahmel Brackett, All-Conference

Women's Basketball

The women's basketball team finished its latest campaign with a 12-16 record, including a 6-13 mark in the Peach Belt Conference. Despite posting a sixth-place standing in the PBC East Division, the Lady Braves turned in a double-digit win total for the seventh-straight season, including seven victories in the English E. Jones Center. Jasmine Kemp earned all-PBC laurels for the second time, averaging a team-best 11.5 points and 7.3 rebounds per game. Kemp was the lone UNCP representative on the PBC All-Academic team, which honors student-athletes for excellence both on and off the court.

Jasmine Kemp, All-Conference

Pardon Ndhlovu's road from African to All-American

By Curtis Brooks

"When you're running, your mind just takes you to this zone where you can enjoy getting over the pain and pushing your body to new limits," explained cross country standout Pardon Ndhlovu. "I think running teaches me new things about myself, and I can apply that to life."

The Zimbabwe native loves the psychology that is involved with running at a competitive level and has used this passion to his advantage as he has become one of the most decorated athletes in school history.

After four years of running for the Braves' cross country team and the track team, Ndhlovu has been a four-time Peach Belt all-conference selection, two-time All-American, two-time PBC Runner of the Year and has also received a multitude of academic awards.

He holds 15 of the 17 best times recorded in the 8k run including the top seven times in school history. His school record of 24:15.0 was set on Oct. 13, 2012, as the only Division II runner at the NCAA Division I Pre-Nationals Invitational in Louisville, Ky.

Ndhlovu's unparalleled career as a student-athlete has opened him up to opportunities that he never imagined, but he remains humble.

After being introduced to competitive running at age 14 by a family friend, who coached a police team, Ndhlovu took to the sport and found immediate success.

Following a strong prep career in his native country, Ndhlovu used online recruiting services to showcase his talents to coaches in America in hopes of earning an athletic scholarship.

Speaking a trio of languages, including English, he became a prized prospect for many universities, not only for his athletic prowess but his academic potential. He also speaks Shona and Ndebele, Zambian languages.

Ndhlovu eventually decided to join the Braves' first recruiting class under then-new cross-country head coach Gary Aycock.

"Once on campus and after running a few workouts, I knew that Pardon would change the face of UNCP Cross Country and Track and Field. Pardon's personality and passionate approach to life will see him reach any goal he sets," Aycock said.

The transition to the U.S. was not as smooth as he had hoped, becoming very homesick upon his arrival on campus prior to the 2009-10 academic year.

UNCP professor Dr. Jeff Bolles and wrestling coach Othello Johnson, also originally from Africa, assisted Ndhlovu as he transitioned to life here.

"I still remember the incredible awe with which Pardon first greeted the United States and the opportunities the country presented for his personal and professional development. That awe has been quickly reciprocated by anyone who has met Pardon, with his easy smile and genuine character," Bolles recalled.

"Pardon has been a member of my extended family, loved by my children as an uncle; a wonderful friend; and an inspiration on many levels," Bolles continued. "I think Pardon is going to be one of the most influential people of his generation."

The distance runner describes both men as mentors because of their willingness to take him into their homes and surrogate member of their respective families.

Ndhlovu credits these early meetings as high points in his experience at UNCP that allowed him to excel academically, athletically and socially. As he grew comfortable with his new home, Pardon began to show signs of greatness.

"There are different expectations from your coach, your teammates and yourself because you are coming from a different culture of runners," Ndhlovu said. "Runners from Africa are presumed to be the best runners."

In his first season wearing black and gold, Ndhlovu became a national sensation winning a series awards including being named an All-American for the first time after placing 30th out of 182 athletes at the 2009 NCAA II Cross Country National Championships.

Ndhlovu was also named Peach Belt Conference Freshman of the Year and to the all-conference team for the first time; was named to all-conference team in each of his four years.

Prioritizing has set him apart from other competitors as he keeps up with rigorous academic, health and training schedules.

As a freshman he logged an average of 70 miles a week. His sophomore year he pushed his weekly regiment to 80 miles a week and to 100 weekly miles as a junior.

Now as a senior he is proud to admit that he runs well over 100 miles a week and credits a strict diet.

His goals and drive were put to the test in 2012. In April of that year he won the 10,000-meter run at the prestigious Penn Relays in Philadelphia. In June, he was just 14 minutes from qualifying in the marathon for the 2012 summer Olympics for team Zimbabwe.

Ndhlovu is now in preparation to represent Zimbabwe at the 2016 Summer Games in Rio de Janeiro.

An International Business major, Ndhlovu calls the university's School of Business his second home. He has made the most of his opportunity in the classroom having accumulated a 3.43 GPA over the last four years.

Seeing academia as a way to better himself, Ndhlovu maintains that he will pursue a Master of Business Administration now that undergraduate days are over.

The All-American runner has a vision to use his education as a tool to assist the citizens in his native country down the line but he still has aspirations to run professionally.

"Running is not something I'm just going to put to the side because running is something I do well," he said.

No matter what endeavor Ndhlovu decides to tackle, one thing is for certain that his ambition will push him to another level.

"The desire to get better drives me, the desire to be better than I was yesterday gets me going everyday."

Consistency, excellence marked Meghan Moore's collegiate career

By Curtis Brooks

After wrapping up a three-year career with the Lady Braves' golf team, Meghan Moore has become the most accomplished student-athlete in the program's history.

Moore has been dominant as a member of the Black and Gold's golf team, but her journey to UNCP was not pre-ordained.

Moore, who models her game after professional Paula Creamer and her father Wayne Moore, didn't start playing seriously until her freshman year at Northern Durham High School.

"I've been golfing ever since I could stand up, but I didn't really take it serious until my freshman year of high school. My dad got me started playing, and he motivates me to continue getting better," she explained.

Moore was forced to compete as a member of the school's male squad. She accepted the challenge and progressed rapidly as a prep athlete.

"It was better for me to play with the boys, mentally because it was a lot different than what I was accustomed to," Moore admitted. "The time I played with the boys helped me become a better player and allowed me to challenge myself on a daily basis. The experience helped me elevate my game."

Moore was widely considered the best female golfer in North Carolina for the better part of her final two high school seasons. She was pursued by a number of in-state schools including UNCP. After much consideration, Moore decided to accept an athletic scholarship to Division I East Carolina University prior to the start of the 2009-10 school year.

Moore played a single season for the Lady Pirates but decided that Greenville wasn't the place for her. She reopened her recruitment.

In the recruiting process, UNCP women's golf coach David Synan had an distinct advantage over other head coaches who were interested in Moore. Synan already had a good relationship with her father.

Coach Synan and the elder Moore had competed against one another on the golf circuit. The Durham native eventually decided that UNCP would be her new collegiate home because of the small classroom size and her father's familiarity with the program.

"My dad told me about the school and the coach, so I decided to come visit," she recalled. "After I visited I fell in love with the campus and knew that is where I wanted to be."

Moore was ready to make an impact for the Lady Braves in just her first season. She recorded seven top-five finishes in 11 events during her first season in Pembroke, including a pair of individual victories in the Kiawah Island Women's Intercollegiate and the Columbus State Intercollegiate.

Moore was named to the Peach Belt's first team and the all-tournament team in her sophomore year. Going into her junior season, Moore understood that she would have to elevate her game, but she didn't want to change her winning mindset. Her consistency and work ethic led her to an even better season.

"Each season, I set my goals high, but I don't try to go into each event with a different mindset. I try to keep the same mindset when I go into each competition whether it is a regular season tournament or the national tournament," Moore said. "I don't really think about it too much because I don't want to put too much pressure on myself."

As a junior, Moore accumulated 10 top-five finishes and finished the season with a Peach Belt Conference-best 76-stroke average en route to being named the conference Player of the Year.

After qualifying for the NCAA Division II championships in Louisville, Ky., Moore earned national recognition as she finished second in the national tournament. She finished two stokes behind eventual champion Abbey Gittings of Nova Southeastern University.

For efforts on the national stage she was named an All-American. Entering her final season as one of the better golfers across the nation, Moore didn't disappoint. As a senior she won a career-high five tournaments, including the PBC championship title as she went on to claim her second consecutive PBC Player of the Year honors.

Graduating with a degree in sports management, Moore is just as proud of her degree as she is of her playing career. She finished her academic career with better than a 3.0 GPA in the classroom.

"It was really hard sometimes because you have to be able to balance the schoolwork and golf, but I'm glad that I managed to get through it," she said. "I just always try to dedicate the proper amount of time to get all of the work done."

Moore plans to begin playing professionally either in Florida, Arizona or in her home state. Wherever she ends up, it is evident she will bring her consistency with her as she continues her rise to the top of the golf hierarchy.

* * *

A mass communication major who graduated in May, Curtis Brooks was sports editor of The Pine Needle for 2012-13.

The new face of engagement

A university's relationship with its surrounding community takes many forms – both traditional and creative. On the following pages, UNCP Today takes a look several examples of the multi-faceted process called "engagement."

At the beach

Chancellor Carter has challenged the entire university community to reach out to the region. He and Dr. Ken Kitts, provost and vice chancellor of Academic Affairs, have developed creative ways to support projects through mini-grants and scholarships.

Two evolving projects demonstrate that community service, increasingly, springs out of service-learning classrooms, forging ties across campus and forming partnerships with community schools and non-profits.

This organic growth, aided by seed grants, is exemplified by Voices of the Lumbee, an oral history of Lumbee elders, and the Literacy Commons, an after-school literacy program.

The faculty is constantly engaging students through experiential learning outside the classroom walls. To that end, 20 service-learning classes are scheduled for the fall semester 2013.

There is an academic side to outreach and a military side too. UNCP has stepped up its support of the military community on Fort Bragg and on campus with new staff and support programs.

The Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (BIS) is a flexible set of five majors designed for community college graduates and active duty military with six locations, ranging from the beach to the Sandhills.

This is just a sample of the outreach activities at the Regional Center and in entrepreneurship, sustainable agriculture, infant mortality reduction, diabetes education, science and math fairs, summer camps and more.

One of the university's busiest non-employee ambassadors is its "first lady" Sarah Carter. Active in several community organizations, she finds time to attend countless student and faculty activities on campus in addition to hosting dozens of events for hundreds of guests at the Chancellor's Residence each year.

Lastly, something should be said about old-fashioned volunteerism. For the fifth time, UNCP's student-volunteers have been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for contributing more than 11,000 hours of community service.

As long as there is a need in the community, good people show up. There are a lot of good people at UNCP.

On the roads

On Fort Bragg

Reaching out for health

Sarah Carter

By Sandy M. Briscar

When you meet Sarah Carter, you can almost guess that she's an artist by her appearance. Casual chic attire covers her petite form and curly locks frame a face that lights up when she smiles.

Since arriving on campus with her husband, Chancellor Kyle Carter, in 2010, she has created beautiful works of art on china – a talent she developed in the past 10 years. However, she seems to have found her true calling as First Lady of UNCP, becoming so engaged in the campus and community that finding blocks of time to devote to her art has become more and more challenging.

Dr. and Mrs. Carter met at orientation for their freshman year at Mercer University in Georgia and were married the summer before their senior year. Mrs. Carter holds a bachelor's degree from Mercer in English literature with a minor in history and a master's degree in early childhood education from The University of Georgia.

The Carters spent 22 years in Colorado where they raised their two children, Heather and Travis, and then moved to Missouri. In Missouri, she taught first grade and spent three years working for the school district on loan to the University of Central Missouri. At UCM, she facilitated a grant program for the College of Education's curriculum and instruction division–a role similar to one she had held at the University of Northern Colorado.

In 2004, Dr. Carter was named provost of Western Carolina University. That's when Mrs. Carter started private painting lessons. "One of my life goals was to paint china," she said. "I love antique pieces of hand-painted china, and I wanted to create something that would last and be functional."

But at UNCP, official duties come first, and Mrs. Carter has become an integral part of the administration's outreach and engagement. This year she has served on the 125th Anniversary Committee, the HEALTH Committee, the Board of Governor's Planning Committee, the Hospice of Scotland County Board and Southeastern Health Foundation Planning Committee, among others.

Her passions are health and wellness and sustainability. To those ends, she worked with food service provider Sodexo to create healthier menus; helped to create the Hawk Walk, a 1.5-mile trail around campus; and increased awareness of recycling by encouraging the placement of bins outside buildings.

If you're up early enough, Dr. and Mrs. Carter can be found walking the campus each morning. "We're committed to the health and wellness of the campus, and we want to set an example," she said. Other times, you can find her on a golf cart darting off to a meeting.

Sarah Carter welcomes with a smile

"I love driving around in the golf cart and having students call out to me; or eating lunch in the dining hall and having students come by our table so excited about what they are involved in on campus."

The Carters attend as many events as possible to support the students. "I'm so pleased at how involved the students are and how much they embrace the opportunities here. That youth and enthusiasm has a profound effect on me."

And then there are the hostess duties. This year, the Carters have hosted 43 events for students, faculty, staff, alumni, trustees and donors at the Chancellor's Residence. They open their home to caterers, event planners and facilities staff, coordinating menus, invitations, flowers and setups—all before the guests arrive.

"Entertaining is an important piece of the position. I was brought up to be a hostess and I enjoy that," she says. They also attend countless campus events to support the work of students and faculty and are particularly fond of the arts and athletics.

"Mrs. Carter is such a gracious hostess and engaged First Lady," said Wendy Lowery, vice chancellor for Advancement. "You know she truly cares about the UNCP community, and the campus responds to her with genuine respect and admiration."

This year, she helped form the Chancellor's Ambassadors, a group of students who help greet and host events and engage with guests, giving Mrs. Carter an opportunity to get to know students on a more personal level.

"It's my job to support Kyle (Chancellor Carter) in everything he does," Sarah says. And she does that job wonderfully. But there's a gleam in her eye when she talks about the future when she can spend time with her grandchildren and get back to her studio and kiln.

Maybe she hasn't created as many lasting works of art as she would have liked in the past two years, but Sarah Carter can be proud that she created enduring memories for innumerable guests and students of UNCP.

Mrs. Carter welcomes hundreds of guests each year at the Chancellor's Residence. Here, she and Chancellor Carter host UNC President Thomas Ross and the Board of Governors during their meeting at UNCP.

Literacy Commons: *Taking it to the children*

Students at Oxendine Elementary share their work with a group of friends.

CIS Academy 8th grader Eric Locklear, right, shows his work that was published in the collection "Writing Out Loud."

Oxendine Elementary School 3rd graders Tandon Haywood, left and Rebekah Locklear share giggles over their art and poems published in "The Voice."

The idea for the Literacy Commons was hatched last year by students in Dr. Teagan Decker's composition class to facilitate stronger community literacy. The low literacy and graduation rates in Robeson County were the impetus for the program.

Working with representatives from the Public Schools of Robeson County and Robeson Community College, a number of classes and professors have since come together to establish programs to address literacy throughout the county.

Dr. Scott Hicks' literature class on the Harlem Renaissance joined in and started an after-school program at Oxendine Elementary School.

Then, Dr. David Marquard's advanced composition class started their program for middle school students at the CIS Academy.

With roots firmly planted, the Literacy Commons appears ready to spread even further.

Gordon Byrd got interested as an undergraduate and continued volunteering as a graduate student in English education. Byrd worked part-time as a graduate assistant in UNCP's Office of Sponsored Research and Programs. He is using his skills to write grants for the project.

"For me it started with a conversation in the backyard with David (Marquard)," Byrd said. While service-learning classes provide much of the labor for the Literacy Commons, Byrd is a volunteer who just showed up to help.

"We were brainstorming the idea but didn't have a name, and we really didn't know what we were doing," Dr. Marquard said. "We met with Robeson Community College's adult literacy staff, and things took off from there.

"The Public Schools of Robeson County were also helpful and hosted a meeting for volunteers," he continued. "We thought eight or 10 people might show up. Almost 30 people came."

The group sought funding from the Office of Academic Affairs. Dr. Kenneth Kitts, provost and vice chancellor for the office, showed up with an Engaged Learning Grant for $10,000. Dr. Kitts, located office space and suggested additional funding sources.

Dr. Decker plans a service-learning Honors Composition course next fall. The Esther G. Maynor Honors College and Jack Slavin, a rising sophomore baseball player, are organizing the program.

"We want to get other honors students and student-athletes on board," Slavin said. "Research shows that kids respond to athletes. We will focus on team building and communication skills that build self-esteem."

Besides the community college and public schools, the Healing Lodge, a faith-based non-profit, involved its diabetes education program with the Literacy Commons.

"They were so excited to have this partnership," Dr. Decker said. "They pointed us to Oxendine Elementary School. They thought we could make a difference there."

Dr. Scott Hicks, assistant professor of English, is leading the group at the elementary school. He is inspired by the energy Literacy Commons is generating.

"Externally, it's wonderful to hear the principal and teachers say 'keep on coming,'" he said. "The school students love seeing college students.

"Programs like this equip our students to build projects like this in their communities," he said. "They take ownership of their ideas." ■

Voices of the Lumbee:
Documentary aims for national viewing

Amelia Philbrook had never met Bobbie "Chicken" Williamson, but he seemed like an old friend.

A senior who served as an undergraduate scholar assistant with Dr. Michele Fazio, Philbrook had transcribed a lengthy interview of Williamson for the Voices of the Lumbee, a documentary currently in production. She presented her research on the project at the Pembroke Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium (PURC) Symposium in April.

"This project has allowed me to gain insight into the local community," said Philbrook, who was doing her student teaching last spring in Robeson County.

Williamson was one of approximately 55 Lumbee elders interviewed so far for the ongoing service-learning project Dr. Fazio has led in her contemporary literature and composition classes, which has helped to shape the film's narrative. Dr. Jason Hutchens of the Mass Communication Department joined Dr. Fazio to video the project.

Dr. Fazio, who launched the project in 2011, is interested in oral history of working people. A focus of the study is how the decline of manufacturing in Robeson County, beginning in the 1990s, changed lives and the community. Students in Dr. Fazio's classes visited several of the 15 Heritage Sites, where the Lumbee elders regularly meet. In 2012, Dr. Fazio was awarded the UNCP's Diane O. Jones Award for Excellence in Service-Learning.

A videographer, Dr. Hutchens, who was looking to create a local documentary, came on board in 2012. Voices of the Lumbee got a $10,000 Locational Advantage Grant from the Office of Academic Affairs and Provost Dr. Ken Kitts, which enabled Drs. Fazio and Hutchens to lead a film crew to interview Lumbee elders in Washington, D.C., and Baltimore.

Hutchens also engaged the talents of students from the Department of Mass Communication like Alexis Locklear.

Lumbee elder Robert 'Chicken' Williamson talked about leaving home to find work and coming home again.

Dr. Fazio in Baltimore at Bowens Bakery with owner, James Bowen

Lumbee elder Annie Lowry discussed work in a hosiery mill.

In Baltimore: Dr. Fazio reviews a taping session.

Hutchens in Washington, D.C., with attorney Arlinda Locklear

"They are preserving the history of my people," said Locklear, who serves as a researcher and assistant online producer. "It has opened my eyes to the economic issues of our community."

Locklear helped introduce the project to the Lumbee community, where she was already involved in several service projects. For students and the elders alike, Voices of the Lumbee has changed the paradigm that separate town and gown.

"The students and Elders have developed relationships," Dr. Fazio said. "They've found commonalities. It has broken through some barriers."

Sandra Torres, a student in Dr. Fazio's class, agrees. "I had heard of the Lumbee, but I knew almost nothing about them, really," she said. "We were doing an interview, and our subject stopped, looked at me and said, 'you know you are Indian too.'"

Dr. Fazio and Hutchens have applied for a $100,000 grant from Vision Maker Media and plan to make a documentary for PBS.

Dr. Dandan Liu also saw an opportunity for her students in a public relations, service-learning class. She does a PR projects for non-profit organizations every semester, and her students decided to take on the Voices of the Lumbee.

Four of Dr. Liu's students hosted and promoted the first Lumbee River Independent Film Festival on April 11. The earned several hundred dollars in the process.

"The students did an excellent job putting their creativity on display," Dr. Liu said. "Every year we choose local non-profit organizations to work with and create a public relations campaign for them. The film festival was the students' idea."

"This project has been positive all the way around, for students, for the community and the university," Hutchens said at the film festival. "This is about making positive change."

To learn more about the project, go to: voicesofthelumbee.wordpress.com.

BIS graduate Madeline Harrington and Dr. Robinson. Commencement is the first time many BIS majors see UNCP's main campus.

BIS degree expands UNCP's region

Dr. James Robinson is the university's most traveled ambassador. He has blazed new trails and expanded the university's reach all the way to the beach.

The director of the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies (BIS) Program, Dr. Robinson rides the roads from Wilmington to Rockingham to Fort Bragg to promote a program designed for community college graduates.

The program originated in 2006 and is offered online, on the main campus and at six satellite sites: Sandhills, Richmond, Cape Fear, Robeson and Brunswick community colleges and on Fort Bragg.

He describes the profile of a BIS major as ages 20-60, single or married, employed and outstanding students. "I am constantly amazed by the number of our students who graduate with honors," Dr. Robinson said. "It's about maturity and motivation."

The program offers five majors – business (professional studies), information technology, criminal justice, hospitality management, public and non-profit management. Classes are primarily online because the students prefer the flexibility, Dr. Robinson said.

"I think we've expanded to as many campuses as possible at this stage," he believes. "We're focused on maintaining the academic excellence of the programs.

"This is a competitive degree that our graduates can put on their resume," he said. "The degree has the same rigor as all UNCP degrees."

Interdisciplinary studies at UNCP is flexible in how courses may be taken but the requirements are structured. It is designed for community college graduates who earned specific applied associate degrees and went to work with those skills.

"These were not the college-track community college students." Dr. Robinson said. "When they get to work, however, they realize a four-year degree is more valuable for their careers."

A second group of potential BIS majors are in the military. Both UNCP and the UNC System have signed agreements with Special Forces and Fayetteville Technical Community College.

"There is a lot of potential here with two wars ending and a large group of veterans going back to schools with the new GI Bill," Dr. Robinson said. "With the job market still soft, college is a good place to be for vets. It's a unique opportunity."

Dr. Robinson, who teaches in the Sociology and Criminal Justice Department, and associate director Dr. Victor Bahhouth, a faculty member in the School of Business, are very busy and advise all the majors.

Last spring, they held open houses at all locations. It's life on the road for BIS.

Outreach to the military gains momentum

Education is critical for the modern military community. With its location near Fort Bragg, UNCP will play a key role in reaching out to active duty soldiers, veterans and their families.

Mike Clawson (left), the new coordinator of veteran services, talks with a vet at the Veterans Recognition event on May 2.

Chancellor Carter signed an articulation agreement with the Special Forces in 2012. This spring, UNC President Tom Ross updated the UNC-Special Forces agreement by signing a master agreement. With offices and staff located on base and a growing number of programs online, UNCP has the locational advantage needed to serve the military.

UNCP has designed a series of online programs that are flexible and portable for the mobile military. They include criminal justice, exercise and sports science, and the Bachelor of Interdisciplinary (BIS) programs in business, information technology, public and non-profit administration among others.

UNCP stepped up its game again in early 2013 when it hired retired Col. Mike Clawson as its first coordinator for the Veterans Assistance Office. The office reports to UNCP's Office of Engaged Outreach.

Clawson is a 28-year veteran, who deployed twice with the 101st Airborne to Iraq. As a helicopter pilot, he can relate to men and women with boots on the ground.

The veterans who are leaving a military defined by deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan are facing many challenges, Clawson said. "A veteran faces the difficulty of returning to civilian life in society that generally appreciates their service—but doesn't always understand it," he said.

With a son at UNCP, Clawson appears to be the perfect bridge between military life and college life. The university also helped its cause recently by earning a second "military friendly" designation from Military Advanced Education, which publishes an annual list of colleges and universities.

"UNCP deserves a pat on the back for recognizing the need for assistance to veterans who are transitioning into higher education," Clawson said. "These 'military friendly' designations are important."

In the spring 2013 semester, UNCP had an estimated 750 students who were military-related, said Dr. Cammie Hunt, associate vice chancellor for Engaged Outreach.

"As UNCP continues to build and enhance our reputation as a military-friendly institution, we felt it was vital to create a one-stop shop for our active duty, dependents and military veterans," Dr. Cammie Hunt said. "Col. Clawson's military experience and enthusiasm will prove valuable to our team."

Americana honor cords and challenge coins are given to graduating veterans

UNCP JOURNALISTS EMBEDDED WITH THE 82ND AIRBORNE FOR TRAINING MISSION

By George Harrison

The U.S. Embassy in the small, Middle Eastern nation of Atropia has been taken hostage by insurgents bent on overthrowing the government. American lives are in grave peril. The president has ordered the nation's Global Response Force—the 2nd Brigade Combat Team of the 82nd Airborne Division at Ft. Bragg--to respond.

Journalists from national media outlets converge at Ft. Bragg, requesting to be embedded with the troops. Soldiers in the Public Affairs Office (PAO) must ensure that the public's right to know does not compromise the mission, which could cost lives.

It takes skill to get it right. Developing those skills takes training, something that the Army regularly does. At least three times a year, the 82nd Airborne stages mock deployments for scenarios like the one above.

That's when students from UNCP's Department of Mass Communication enter the scene. In 2011 and again this spring, the division's PAO asked the department's aspiring journalists and broadcasters to serve as mock embedded reporters, helping to train the brigade commanders and soldiers in media relations practices. In February, students Jonathan Bym, Samantha Langley and Nikki Scott spent three days with the brigade as they prepared to deploy, 10,000 airborne troops and equipment to engage in combat and rescue hostages.

"I enjoyed taking part in the exercise because it allowed me to get out of my comfort zone," Langley said. "It was something that was away from campus and allowed a completely different experience than anything that we could do on campus. These people were not treating us like students so it was really a professional experience."

The exercise marked the fifth time in six years that students and faculty of the Mass Communication Department have assisted the Ft. Bragg and 82nd Airborne PAOs.

"We appreciate the opportunity to engage our students in experiential learning activities," said Professor George Harrison, the department's liaison with the PAOs. "Our relationship with the Army provides a level of learning that cannot be duplicated in the classroom."

"The 82nd wants us as embedded journalists. Ft. Bragg wants us as regular journalists during mock press conferences when they practice crisis response," Harrison said.

For example, Fort Bragg annually undergoes "Operation Orbit Comet," mock terrorist events and disaster drills.

"There's a saying that when the president dials 911, the phone rings at Fort Bragg," Tom McCollum, Fort Bragg's PAO, said. "We always face the threat of terrorist attack, and we must be prepared."

It was McCollum's idea to ask UNCP for assistance. The Pentagon encourages involvement with local universities.

So far, UNCP faculty and students have participated in three Orbit Comet exercises. Each exercise involved between 10 and 15 student volunteers.

For the most recent exercise, McCollum wanted students to help test the PAO staff in three areas.

"First, was our ability to operate effectively during a crisis," McCollum said. "Second, was our ability to work effectively with other local, state and federal agencies. Third, was how well we prepared our 'subject matter experts' and members of the chain of command on their ability to deliver key messages to the media."

In the latest Orbit Comet, a stolen aircraft sprayed poisonous gas over populated areas, resulting in 15 simulated deaths and 90 injuries.

The "Orbit Comet News Agency" sent the students daily news releases based on mock FBI and Homeland Security reports. The releases warned of the "increased potential of terrorist activity along the Eastern Seaboard of the U.S."

When the terrorists struck, students received media alerts and quickly inundated McCollum's staff with questions. A press conference alert was issued about two hours later.

After attending the conference, students submitted both print and broadcast stories to the PAO and to their professors for evaluation.

"Our first Orbit Comet exercise showed that we needed more time to prepare our students," Harrison said. "We didn't want them to be intimidated by officers in battle fatigues speaking military jargon."

Following the second exercise, some members of the faculty included the event as part of their course curriculum. A mid-term exam from one class required students to complete seven activities related to Orbit Comet.

And to help all students prepare, McCollum visited the campus. The faculty used past scenarios to stage a practice session.

These additional efforts paid off as the students asked more probing follow-up questions at the third Orbit Comet exercise.

Both UNCP and Fort Bragg agree that the collaborative relationship is clearly beneficial.

"I would do it any chance I could because this was one experience that I will never forget as a citizen or a journalist," Bym said.

Pine Needle photographers captured a large file of action shots of the military in action and at rest.

Samantha Langley, center, being briefed

University updates its image for the future

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our University Communications and Marketing team as well as our friends, alumni, donors and board members who are continuing to work so diligently on the university's branding initiative. During the initiative and for the past year, we delved into the history of our institution thus far while continually assessing and reassessing what the future may hold for us. We are particularly appreciative of the members of our community who participated in the process; it is truly moving to experience the sincere passion that so many have for our university.

As a result, over the next several months, you will witness a transformation on our website and in other promotional materials. Several online videos will aptly share our vision with potential students and donors, and a new UNCP logo will replace the 125th anniversary logo we used for the past 14 months. This enhanced image not only will preserve the history of UNCP and enrich the experience for our current students and alums, but also will increase the visibility of UNCP and ensure that we are competitive and marketable to the students we hope to attract for years to come. We will continue to use the iconic academic seal that encompasses Old Main and our athletic logo that features the Brave and the Red-tailed Hawk—a symbol that has established itself as the icon for UNCP for over twenty years now.

I also would like to publicly express my heartfelt appreciation to a member of our faculty who recently made a $25,000 anonymous contribution to UNCP. The donor has no interest in personal gain or recognition, but has only the hope that this gift will allow UNCP to continue to provide outstanding academic opportunities for its students. A gift of this magnitude makes a tremendous difference at UNCP, and that it came from an employee speaks loudly to the kind of institution we have right here in Pembroke, North Carolina. The support of faculty and staff in our fundraising efforts can make a significant impact on the level of corporate support we receive. Many companies invest only in institutions that have the support of faculty and staff. Thank you to all who gave to the Faculty and Staff Campaign, which raised a record $90,000 this spring. The effects of your support are immeasurable.

As the academic year comes to a close, the pace of the Advancement team holds steady. We hope to see you at an upcoming alumni event or in the crowds cheering on our student-athletes. In whatever way you choose to support UNCP, we value you all with equal enthusiasm.

Best regards,

Wendy Lowery '99, '07

Vice Chancellor, Advancement

Southeast American Indian Studies Endowment adds donors

Corporate Donor Shaw Office Supplies
From left: Rex Brewer, David Bruce, Andrea Pait, Rene Waddell, Derick Harrison, Brenda McLean, Ray Shaw and Gina Edwards

Dr. Dalton Brooks

Dr. Johnny and Demetrius Hunt

Gary Strickland Jr. and his mother, Annette

Four gifts totaling $35,000 are the latest gifts in support of the Southeastern American Indian Studies Endowment.

Chancellor Kyle R. Carter announced the formation of the Southeastern American Indian Studies (SAIS) program in conjunction with the kick-off of the university's celebration of its 125th anniversary. Taking advantage of Pembroke's unique location, SAIS will greatly expand scholarship and teaching of American Indians of the southeastern U.S.

The family of the late Peter Brooks made a contribution in memory of their brother, Dr. Dalton Brooks '60, a long-time UNCP administrator and faculty member. The Brooks family came together collectively to support this important initiative for the university and the American Indian populations that SAIS will serve.

"I have really been moved by the university's efforts over the course of our 125th anniversary year," said David Brooks '74. "This particular fundraising effort was touching and gave me a sense of continued pride for UNCP. Making a gift towards this fund allows the Brooks family to show our commitment to this great institution."

Mr. and Mrs. Gary Strickland Jr. felt compelled to support the university in memory of Gary's mother, Annette Strickland. Gary, who is a UNCP graduate and an assistant vice president for business development at First Bank, explained that his mother strongly believed in the value of a college education and the intent of this contribution is to continue her legacy.

"My family couldn't be more proud than to honor the life of my mother in this way," Gary Strickland '93 said. "The university is a part of all of us."

Dr. Johnny '85 and Demetrius Hunt value the resources that this effort will provide to enhance the social, political and economical assets of the region and southeast American Indians.

"As a family, we believe in the mission of UNCP, and we understand the impact it makes upon not only those seeking to further their education but all the constituents who benefit from its location here in Robeson County," said Dr. Hunt, who earned two degrees from UNCP and is the superintendent of the Public Schools of Robeson County.

Shaw Office Supply based in Lumberton, N.C., joined to support this initiative as the first corporate donor. Owner Ray Shaw is no stranger to UNC Pembroke and has contributed greatly to the university through contributions, sponsorships, and participation in campus events.

"I consider UNCP as a part of my extended family and I'm delighted that I am able to make a corporate gift that will hopefully entice other businesses in the area to join us in this effort," Shaw said.

The endowment will allow the university to attract an outstanding scholar to lead the future School of Southeast American Indian Studies. It will also provide operational support to establish a consortium of American Indian-related programs at other academic institutions, both within the UNC system and across the southeast.

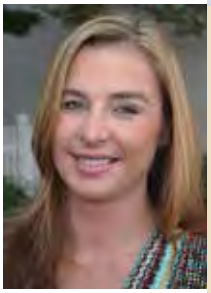
The SAIS program will serve as a clearinghouse where community members, students, faculty, researchers and others can learn about American Indian-related projects and programming. Among the planned initiatives are a digital repository for historical documents and new research, an honors program for student research and an elders-in-residence program.

Wendy Lowery, vice chancellor of Advancement, said the Southeastern Indian Studies Program would be a signature and distinguished program that will have a far-reaching impact on the university, its students and the entire southeastern U.S.

"The investments made towards our efforts thus far will make a critical impact on our ability to make UNC Pembroke an institution of choice," Lowery said. "We rely on members of the UNCP family to help ensure our academic programs continue to progress and that we become even more competitive with higher education institutions across the state and country."

Allison Harrington of Speech Solutions endows a scholarship

Allison Harrington '95, CEO of Speech Solutions, Inc., has established the Allison Harrington Endowed Scholarship to provide support for a resident of Robeson or Brunswick counties who meets strong academic criteria.



"It brings me great joy to endow a scholarship for future students," says Allison, "as I hope they will also discover anything is possible at UNCP."

Growing up in south Robeson County, Allison says she learned the importance of getting a good education. "UNC Pembroke seemed to be a perfect fit," she said. "While there, I discovered the desire to run my own business and was given the foundation I needed to become successful."

Harrington started her company which offers speech and language assessment, diagnosis and therapy with six employees in 2003. Starting out of her home, she has moved the business to Lumberton.

Harrington also sees the value in the faculty and staff at UNCP. She knows firsthand the quality educational experience they provide for students. Accordingly, when we asked for support for the faculty and staff Family Day at the UNCP vs. Catawba football game, she was more than happy to be the lead sponsor.

"I hope this scholarship will allow young people from this community to attend UNCP and build a foundation for success like I did," she said.

Harrington earned her undergraduate degree in elementary education from UNCP and a master's degree in communication disorders from North Carolina Central University.

Now living in Lumberton, Harrington has expanded her business to Laurinburg and Whiteville. Of her 33 employees, 13 are UNCP graduates.

King's Daughters from left: Elizabeth High, Louise Maynor, Clarita Emory, vice president; Jean Weaver, president; Charlotte Taylor, secretary; and Charlyn Wohlnick, treasurer

UNCP announces $50,000 gift from Durham group

The Sheltering Home Circle of the International Order of The King's Daughters and Sons has established a $50,000 endowed scholarship, according to an announcement by Wendy Lowery of the Office for Advancement.

The scholarship will benefit an American Indian student who is an elementary education major. The King's Daughters and Sons is a worldwide interdenominational Christian service organization with "circles," throughout the country. The Sheltering Home Circle is the Durham, N.C., group established in 1903.

In particular, North American Indians have been a concern of The King's Daughters and Sons for many years, said Dr. Louise Cummings Maynor, a 1965 UNCP graduate and member of the Durham circle. Several chapters of The King's Daughters and Sons of North Carolina have supported Lumbee students for more than 30 years, Dr. Maynor said.

"This gift is the largest to be given to a North Carolina institution of higher learning expressly to support American Indian prospective teachers," she said.

"Through this gift, our circle hopes to demonstrate our commitment to Christian service to others, particularly the Lumbee," she said. "It is our hope that students will be empowered to serve others with this same commitment.

"We believe that teaching is one of life's most noble forms of service, and we seek to promote and support those who answer this calling," said Dr. Maynor, who is a retired English professor. "As a Lumbee and a member of The King's Daughters, I am most humbled that my own chapter, the Sheltering Home Circle, has selected UNC Pembroke as the recipient of this generous gift."

> *'I am most humbled that my own chapter, the Sheltering Home Circle, has selected UNC Pembroke as the recipient of this generous gift.'*
>
> — Dr. Louise Maynor, 1965 UNCP graduate

Chancellor Carter said an endowed gift is a perpetual fund that will support students at the university for generations into the future.

"This a very generous gift that supports this university's original mission to train American Indian teachers," he said.

Lowery also thanked Dr. Maynor for her support of the university. "Dr. Maynor was instrumental in encouraging support of our students and UNCP's School of Education," Lowery said. "Because Louise grew up a short distance from the university and is a graduate, this is an example of giving in the most intimate way. More, it's a testament to the power of a 'circle' of friends who are working for a great cause."

The Sheltering Home Circle's finance committee chair Charlyn Wohlnick said "supporting UNC Pembroke provides us with the opportunity to help fulfill the mission of our organization. Providing endowed scholarship support for American Indian students who are striving to become educators is exactly the sort of commitment we consider critical."

Duke Energy, Farm Bureau renew support of key programs

Science Fair 2013

Farm Bureau Scholar Matt Bowen and his research

Some of the largest and most prestigious corporations in North Carolina are also some of the best friends of education. Never has outside support been so important to the university, and two sponsors have stepped up to renew their support of some of the most worthy programs on campus and in the region.

For many of its 32 years, Progress Energy supported the Region IV Science and Engineering Fair. Its merger with Duke Energy has re-energized the partnership.

When the Farm Bureau's Robeson County board stepped up to support the university in 2008, a world of opportunities in "bio-ag" sciences opened for faculty and students – here and across the region. The Farm Bureau also established one of the premier scholarships at UNCP for promising young scientists.

Wendy Lowery, vice chancellor of Advancement at UNCP, is delighted to see corporate support of UNCP's programs.

"To see our corporate partners reaffirm their support of important UNCP programs is very gratifying," Lowery said. "These programs support student scholarships and research, and they help UNCP reach out to the region. Duke Energy and Farm Bureau are supporting truly outstanding programs, and we thank them."

Duke increased its support for 2013-14 to $25,000. When great programs that promote science for the region's students from elementary school through college meet corporate donors who understand the strategic importance of their support, good things happen.

To understand the importance of the science fair to the development of young scientists, ask Dr. Jose D'Arruda, founder of the 32-year-old Region IV Science Fair.

"Winning science fair project is why I am here today," said the physics professor. His high school project is on display in Oxendine Science Building.

Every year, the science fair galvanizes public school students and science teachers. With Duke Energy's support, more youngsters will have the opportunity to take their first steps in science.

Duke's gift will also support the annual Pembroke Undergraduate Research and Creativity (PURC) Symposium that puts all kinds of research, from hard science to music composition, on display for the entire community of scholars and students to see. "The program has grown every year," said Dr. Lee Phillips, a geologist and PURC director. "We could not accomplish nearly as much without outside support; I am extremely grateful," he said.

The story of the Farm Bureau's support of UNCP is a local story. The Robeson County Board of Directors and their President Lycurous Lowry '57 decided to support UNCP in 2008. They contributed to the Biotechnology Center, located in UNCP's Regional Center at COMtech.

The results, under the leadership of Dr. Len Holmes, have been extraordinary. "Bio-ag" science is conducted there at the highest levels, sometimes by guest scientists from India and France.

Dr. Holmes has engaged students from high schools, community colleges as near as Robeson and as far away as Brunswick. Besides teaching advanced biochemistry, the center is doing research with honeybee disease and nematodes that act as organics insecticides. "Good science comes at a price," Dr. Holmes said. "The Farm Bureau is a great partner, and we appreciate their support."

The Robeson County Farm Bureau has renewed its support with a pledge of $50,000 over the next five years. The gift will also support the annual BioAg Symposium, where farmers and businesses network while they listen to the newest ideas in agriculture.

The Farm Bureau also provides one of UNCP's premier scholarships. This year, Matt Bowen was the recipient. He did research at the Biotechnology Center with Dr. Holmes and 2010 Farm Bureau Scholar, Floyd Inman.

Bowen, who is from Robeson County, made a research presentation at the 2013 BioAg Symposium. It attracted a group of UNCP interested scientists who asked probing questions. At the symposium, Bowen also had the opportunity to meet and speak at length with Mark Stevens, a 2008 UNCP graduate and research associate with Novozymes, an international biotechnology company. With the Farm Bureau's help, Bowen career in science is taking off is helping

Farm Bureau is planting the seeds, and Duke is energizing science at UNCP.

Could this feeling be football fever already?

Dear Fellow Alumni,

Pardon me for getting ahead of myself in this letter, but I love football season, and I love UNCP football! I can smell the barbecue cooking already. So, get out your calendar and mark the football dates (please see the Calendar of Events on page 37), including Homecoming on November 2 against Tusculum.

Another important date is the Two Rivers Classic on September 14 at Fayetteville State. The Braves open the season against NCAA Division II national runner-up Winston-Salem State on September 5. Another game (and alumni reception) worth noting is the October 12 contest at UNC Charlotte, which is in its first year of football. I remember our first year well! I've heard they have a nice new stadium, so if you live in the Charlotte area (or not), this will be memorable.

I'll have some barbecue on the grill at Homecoming, so come see me for food and fellowship! This is a special day, and UNCP football is the perfect way to stay in touch with your alma mater.

Staying in touch and getting involved is our theme for 2013-14. My fellow Alumni Board members and I want to encourage alumni to remain connected and get involved with UNCP by serving on the alumni board or volunteering to help coordinate upcoming alumni socials. We plan to have several alumni events in conjunction with three away football games this fall: Fayetteville State, UNC Charlotte, and Shaw University, which will be in held in Wilmington on September 21. Check out the alumni website to get more details. It's important that you attend, but it's equally important that you reach out to your classmates and bring them. It will be much more fun that way.

Other ways to stay in touch include the Alumni Holiday Drop-in at the Chancellor's Residence. The Alumni Relations page (www.uncp.edu/alumni) can provide you with all these dates. Of course, there is a link to "giving to UNCP." If you earned a scholarship during your time at UNCP, consider paying it forward.

Lastly, please consider making a nomination for Outstanding Alumnus, Distinguished Service Award or Young Alumnus/Alumnae of the Year. Award recipients will be announced at the Alumni Awards banquet held during homecoming week. A nomination packet can be retrieved from the alumni website.

Thanks for sharing and as always, Go Braves,

Aaron Thomas '99
Alumni Association President

Alumni Association Officers & Board of Directors

Aaron Thomas '99
President

Sylvia Pate '99
Immediate Past President

Rudy Locklear '06, '11
1st Vice President

Yolanda Sinclair,'98
2nd Vice President

Kristy Woods-Billings '92
Secretary

Renee Steele '93
Executive Director

Jarette Sampson '01
Adam Hardin '06
Michael McMillian '08
Patrick Strickland '01, '07
Mickey Gregory '88
Floyd Locklear '86
Sheila Swift '03
Owen Thomas '11,'13

UPCOMING ALUMNI RECEPTIONS*

Fayetteville State University
September 14

Wilmington, N.C.
September 21

Charlotte, N.C.
October 12

**watch for more information as it becomes available*

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

Dr. Syl Flowers with a door prize and Bryon Powell

Guests enjoy cocktails and hors d'oeuvres in Fayetteville's new Embassy Suites.

Reconnecting are Nina Walker, Kathy Carthens and Selina Munns

Scenes from the Fayetteville alumni reception

More than 50 alumni and friends attended the Fayetteville reception at the Embassy Suites on March 21. Welcoming guests from UNCP were Chancellor Kyle R. Carter and his wife, Sarah, Wendy Lowery, vice chancellor of Advancement, Dr. Bryan Winters, director of University-School Programs, Alison DeCinti, director of Development, Renee Steele, alumni director, and alumni board members Rudy Locklear and Owen Thomas.

Special thanks go to Healthkeeperz, the event sponsor. Healthkeeperz, a regional home health and medical equipment and supplies company, was represented at the event by Howard '63 and Tim Brooks. Door prizes were donated by the Givens Performing Art Center, UNCP Bookstore and the Athletic Department.

More information about alumni gatherings is coming soon! The Office of Alumni Relations plans to coordinate receptions at three away football games. For more information and/or to volunteer for upcoming events, please contact Renee Steele, director of Alumni Relations at (910) 521-6333 or renee.steele@uncp.edu.

- Saturday, Sept. 14 at Fayetteville State University, Fayetteville, N.C.
- Saturday, Sept. 21 vs. Shaw University, Wilmington, N.C.
- Saturday, Oct. 12 at UNC Charlotte, Charlotte, N.C.

Nominations for alumni awards

The Office of Alumni Relations is accepting nominations for the following 2013 alumni awards:

- Outstanding Alumnus/Alumna
- Distinguished Service
- Young Alumna/Alumnus

Awards will be presented at the alumni awards banquet on Friday, Nov. 1, 2013. A nomination packet may be retrieved from www.uncp.edu/alumni/awards/#Nominate.

For more information or questions, please contact Renee Steele, director of Alumni Relations at (910) 521-6333 or renee.steele@uncp.edu.

Nominations close on Friday, August 30, 2013 at 5 p.m.

Why Serve?

Alumni Association board members speak out

Sylvia Pate '99
Immediate Past President

"I have thoroughly enjoyed giving back to UNCP through my service on the alumni board. It has afforded me the opportunity to meet students and alumni at football games, class reunions and other functions, and to encourage alumni to give financially too. "

Yolanda Sinclair '98
2nd Vice President

"I chose to volunteer on the UNCP Alumni Board simply because I want to give back and serve, while gaining a better understanding of the Alumni Association. Participating on the alumni board has allowed me to grow personally and professionally. Since serving, I have been able to build networks and relationships with fellow board members by working together on issues that concern UNCP."

Rudy Locklear '06, '11
1st Vice President

"The friendships and connections I've made while serving on the Alumni Board have added a valuable dimension to my life. It's also been fun to witness the new developments on campus and interact with younger generations of UNCP students. The involvement and generosity of alumni plays a central role in the tradition of excellence at UNCP. My philanthropic support of UNCP helps to ensure that future generations of Braves are given the same incredible opportunities for learning and personal growth that I enjoyed during my time as a student."

Join the board of directors or volunteer

The Office of Alumni Relations is seeking interested persons to serve on the Board of Directors of the Alumni Association. Volunteers for alumni outreach programs are also needed.

The duties and responsibilities of a board member include attending board meetings, serving on ad-hoc committees, attending alumni functions, providing input on Alumni Relations initiatives or programs and promoting and supporting UNC Pembroke's mission.

Volunteers are needed to serve in other capacities and assist with outreach efforts as coordinated by the Office of Alumni Relations. For more information on volunteer opportunities and to obtain an application for the Board of Directors, contact Renee Steele, director of Alumni Relations at (910) 521-6333 or renee.steele@uncp.edu.

CLASS OF 2012

Cherie Legette is a cap worker with Primary Health Choice. She is getting married on March 29, 2014. She resides in Lumberton.

Danita Wilkes is employed with Womack Army Medical Center as an operating room nurse. She resides in Maxton.

Jocelyn Hunt was crowned Miss Moore County. She will compete in the Miss North Carolina pageant in June.

CLASS OF 2011

Shannon Brayboy is employed with Public Schools of Robeson County as a curriculum specialist. Her son, Jack Bradley Carter, was born on January 12, 2012. She resides in Laurinburg.

Deborah Sweitzer is a group practice manager for the U.S. Army.

John Hass is employed with Accenture as a mortgage analyst. He resides in Sherrills Ford, N.C.

Ashley Clark '09 shares advice with undergraduates

The surroundings at the 2013 Pembroke Undergraduate Research and Creativity Symposium (PURC), UNCP's annual research exposition, were very familiar to Ashley Clark '09.

"I presented posters here several times," Clark said, while serving as a panelist on graduate and professional schools. "Undergraduate research is very important for grad school and careers."

Clark has accomplished both feats. After earning a master's degree in biochemistry and biophysics from UNC-Chapel Hill, she turned an internship into a job in regulatory affairs for Teleflex Medical, Inc., in the Research Triangle Park.

Today, Clark works with regulatory agencies around the globe to win approval for her company's healthcare products.

"This is something I never dreamed I'd be doing with my clinical science background," Clark said. "I absolutely love it."

Clark, who said she was well prepared for graduate school, offered some traditional advice for undergraduates. "Research, volunteer and get good grades," she said.

Clark, who earned EMT and CNA certification, reached out to shadow people in her prospective fields. She has some non-traditional advice too.

Be creative, she said, "Think outside of what you were taught. Employers are looking for employees who can reach out on their own."

And, she said, don't be afraid to take a break from study. "Rest your brain," she said. "It needs it."

Ashley Clark on a panel at the undergraduate research symposium

Mark Stevens '08 presented at UNCP's BioAg Symposium

Mark Stevens, right, with UNCP Farm Bureau Scholar Matt Bowen

Mark Stevens '08 made a statement arriving at the 4th Annual Farm Bureau BioAg Symposium on February 7.

He showed up in the lime green Novozymes Dodge Charger. No ordinary Dodge, this one is powered by ethanol produced by Stevens' employer, which is the largest global manufacturer of enzymes.

A research associate at Novozymes research facility in the Triangle Area, Stevens presentation was titled "An Introduction to Cellulosic Ethanol."

Novozymes is truly "rethinking tomorrow" as their slogan says. They are doing advanced research on turning trash, such as wood chips, corn stalks and yard waste, into energy.

And Stevens is helping do the research. "We are in the business of producing enzymes, so we hope this industry takes off," he said.

As an undergraduate, Stevens worked with UNCP's biodiesel research project and was a RISE scholar, which is a National Institute of Health program to train future researchers. Stevens met with UNCP faculty and students, including Farm Bureau Scholar Matt Bowen, who got a ride in the green machine.

Stevens is a poster child for UNCP, which continues to train students for exciting careers in science.

Derek Brunson '07 now competing in the UFC

Derek Brunson '07 on left

Derek Brunson '07 has used the combination of wrestling prowess and aggressiveness to take on the ultimate athletic challenge in the Octagon cage. A former three-time all-American wrestler, he has been studying mixed martial arts or MMA since graduating from UNCP with a degree in criminal justice.

The 29-year old Wilmington, N.C., native who is known for his versatility as an athlete was once a cheerleader at John T. Hoggard High School (there's video evidence). He notes on Facebook: "If it weren't for wrestling, I wouldn't be in the UFC."

Since 2010, Brunson has competed in a variety of mixed martial arts leagues and has compiled 10 victories in his 12 bouts since turning professional.

After working his way up the middleweight ranks from local events to several fights as a member of the popular MMA organization, Strikeforce, Brunson was able to build a reputation as a dominant force in the octagon.

Brunson became a member of the top-tier Ultimate Fighting Championship (UFC) late in 2012 making his debut against Chris Leben at UFC 155 in Las Vegas. In arguably the most important moment of his career, Brunson, who was a last moment substitute on the card, defeated Leben in three rounds by unanimous decision using his wrestling background to dominate his opposition.

"I'm back motivated now. I haven't been motivated over the year. Like I've said this year has been rough for me so just to get back refocused and make myself the best I can be to be a champion one day," Brunson said in a post-fight interview.

Looking to take the next step to becoming a dominant force in the UFC, Brunson is scheduled to fight again in Brazil on June 8.

Living in Wilmington, Derek is also a family man with two daughters. The family can be seen on YouTube doing a little Harlem Shake.

Pamela Quizon is employed with UNC-Chapel Hill as a research technician. In the fall, she plans to attend the University of South Carolina at Columbia to pursue a Ph.D. in biomedical sciences. While attending UNCP, she worked with Dr. Ben Bahr in the Biotechnology Laboratory and co-authored a publication on Alzheimer's disease that was featured in the *Neurotherapeutics Journal*.

CLASS OF 2010

Whitney Hanlin is employed with George Mason University as the external relations coordinator for the School of Management. She resides in Manassas, Va.

Christopher Moore is a software engineer for Big Nerd Ranch. He resides in Atlanta, Ga.

Zachary Emanuel '10 was recently promoted to circulation manager for Davis Memorial Library at Methodist University. He as recently spotlighted in the March edition of the Associates: The Electronic Library Support Staff Journal. As an undergraduate, he had a part-time evening job in the Mary Livermore Library. Zachary's wife, the former **Leslie Godsey '09**, works in the Business Department at Methodist.

CLASS OF 2009

Micheal Georgiou and **Peter Peranzo,'03** have started a web development/design and Internet marketing company, Imaginovation LLC. The company is currently ranked number one on Google for Raleigh software design and web development. Georgiou serves as the chief marketing officer for the company. He resides in Wake Forest, N.C.

Scotty Thompson is employed with Public Schools of Robeson County as an art teacher. He resides in Lumberton.

CLASS OF 2007

Kindra Lockear earned her second degree from UNCP in December 2012. Locklear, who works in the Office of the Chancellor, earned a Master of Public Administration degree.

Robert Sparks Jr. is employed as an organizational development and training analyst with the City of Fayetteville. He resides in Hope Mills.

CLASS OF 2006

Matthew McNeill, '06, '99 is employed as a youth development specialist with the Public Schools of Robeson County. He resides in Pembroke.

John J. Murray is a validation specialist with Grols. He resides in Morrisville, N.C.

Christopher Jenkins is self-employed as an automotive service technician. He resides in Euless, Texas.

Lauren K. Hardin is a budget officer at Robeson Health Care Corporation. She resides in Lumberton.

Adrian Woods is employed with Builders Mutual Insurance as an associate underwriter.

Melissa Locklear graduated from East Carolina's Nurse Practitioner Program in 2012. She is employed with AHEC as a family nurse practitioner. Melissa resides in Maxton.

Rolonda McBryde is an educator with the Public Schools of Robeson County. She resides in Red Springs.

CLASS OF 2005

Amber Laurence is employed with Onslow County Schools as a teacher. She is the seventh grade chairperson, AVID, social studies. She married Jason Laurence on July 21, 2012. Amber's husband completed his master's degree in administration at East Carolina University. The couple resides in Jacksonville, N.C.

Lisa Marie Guyton is married to **Rodney Lane Guyton '05**. She graduated from Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University in May of this year. Rodney is scheduled to graduate from medical school in May 2014. They reside in Winterville, N.C.

Newy Scruggs '94 joins new NBC Sports Radio

NBC Sports Radio announced in March that weekend host Newy Scruggs '94 will expand his duties with a new show that premiered April 1.

"Voices of the Game" with Scruggs as host airs in the noon – 3 p.m., Monday - Friday slot. Scruggs is the sports director and weeknight sports anchor at KXAS-TV (NBC-5) in Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas. NBC Sports Radio launched its full 24/7 talk programming on April 1.

Scruggs will be joined each day by a recognizable sports "voice" during the second hour of his show.

One of Scruggs' guest hosts will be Yahoo Sports' NBA writer and author Adrian Wojnarowski. On Tuesdays, retired Atlanta Braves third baseman Chipper Jones will co-host. On Wednesdays, guest host will be Sports Illustrated and NBC Sports Radio's Chris Mannix. On Thursdays, guest host will be former Major League Baseball manager and ESPN analyst Bobby Valentine. And on Fridays, guest host will be former NBA coach Stan Van Gundy.

Scruggs, who served as commencement speaker for winter 2011 is a member of UNCP's Board of Trustees with a term expiring in 2013. He was a broadcasting major who started his career with TV-13 WBTW before graduating. Since then, he has worked in several major markets, on radio and writing a column.

Campus Minister Ron Sanders '94 retires after 25 years

The university's campus minister will retire after nearly 26 years leading the Baptist Student Ministry. Ron Sanders was honored by the university at the annual Retirement Dinner on April 23.

"It was a privilege to be included in the life of this campus," Sanders said. "There will always be a place in my heart for Pembroke."

Sanders led the campus ministry beginning in 1988 when it was known as the Baptist Student Union or BSU. Campus ministry is an "investment in young adults," Sanders believes. He refers to his job as "a privilege and a gift."

"The students taught me a lot," Sanders said in an interview in late April. "They were always very open with me, and they taught me to appreciate them for who they are."

Sanders, whose talent for performing as a clown and juggler, helped opened students' eyes spiritually and culturally. He describes UNCP students as a diverse group, many of whom were the first in their families to attend college.

"We took mission trips with kids who had never left Robeson County before," he said. "It was a privilege for me to watch them grow and mature."

After studying geology at Murray State, Sanders earned a Master of Divinity degree from the Southeastern Theological Seminary. He earned a Master of Public Administration degree from UNCP in 1994, and his two sons, Jud and Chad, are also UNCP graduates.

An internship at Western Carolina University sold Sanders and his wife, BJ, on North Carolina. While working in campus ministry at Illinois Wesleyan University, he got a call about a job opening in North Carolina.

"When they offered me the job, they said Pembroke may not be a good fit," said Sanders, who was starting a family at this time. "They said if I stay three or four years, they would find another place for me."

"We were comfortable and felt welcome here from the start," he said. "I was given the challenge to bloom where I was planted; that's a lesson I give to my students too - accept who you are."

Sanders comfort level in Pembroke is evident in the Commuter Lunch program that he started many years ago. Several times a year women and men from area churches (primarily from the Burnt Swamp Baptist Association) served lunch to students, faculty and staff of the university.

"What was so remarkable about this program was the joyful spirit of service of the people who provided the meals," he said. "It was a lot of work for them, but they enjoyed it."

Sanders arrived just as the university celebrated its 100th year, and much has changed.

"Culture and technology have changed, and they have new labels for every generation of students," he said. "But the spiritual needs of students have not changed. They are still seeking a sense of identity and a purpose for their lives."

Lawrence Locklear picked up a Bachelor of Arts degree in American Indian Studies during Winter 2012 Commencement. Locklear married the former Natasha Bullard on June 16, 2012, in the Berea Baptist Church. Natasha is a dental hygienist with Collins and Lowry D.D.S. Lawrence is the university's web publisher. He received a special award from the university during Spring Commencement 2013 for co-chairing the 125th Anniversary Committee.

CLASS OF 2004

Anne Marie Britt is a peer counselor for the Domestic Violence Rape Crisis Center of Scotland County. She resides in Laurinburg.

Michelle Cox was named director of maternal/child health for Southeastern Health in Lumberton. She resides in Lumberton with her husband, David, and daughter, Lauren Addison.

CLASS OF 2003

Robert Bell is the director of human resources for the City of Fredericksburg, Va.

CLASS OF 2002

Kenneth Bowen was appointed as assistant superintendent for Washington County Schools on November 8, 2012. During the Alumni Awards Banquet in fall 2012, Bowen was named Outstanding Young Alumnus.

Chad Locklear recently won the culture slogan contest at Graphic Packaging International. He received a Master's degree in information technology specializing in network security from American InterContinental University in Atlanta, Ga. He is married to April Whittemore Locklear, who is employed with UNCP as a transfer liaison.

CLASS OF 2001

Bryan Ledford was employed as a senior account executive at TSM South in Cary, N.C., for the last eight years. In August 2012, he accepted a position as a biopharmaceutical sales representative for Amgen. Amgen is the world's largest independent biotechnology firm. Bryan and his wife, Patty, have two boys, Cruz, 3, and Hayes, 1. They reside in Holly Springs, N.C.

CLASS OF 1999

Natasha Bleck resides in Lumberton with her husband, Derrick. The couple is expecting a baby boy.

Tim McNeill '88 was featured panelist at E-Summit

Tim McNeill '88 was one of two featured presenters on April 4 at the Thomas Family Center for Entrepreneurship's 5th Annual Entrepreneurship Summit.

An attorney, McNeill offered his legal expertise for a program titled "Entrepreneurship and the Law: Practical Considerations." McNeill walked the 100 in attendance through the steps of starting a business.

Corporate structure, financing and protection of trade secrets are foundations of any new business, McNeill said. "You've got to have the basic legal documents that every company should have," he continued. "Our clients end up in litigations if they don't have them.

Good legal advice is more than the paperwork of creating business entities, and includes sound business advice, McNeill said. "Make sure you have competent legal advice at every step," he advised.

McNeill grew up in the Saddletree community, north of Lumberton. He is the older brother of Lorna McNeill Ricotta '01, '08, a member of the UNCP Board of Trustees.

"I've been an entrepreneur since I was selling Christmas cards from my bicycle in the Saddletree community," McNeill said. He graduated from the University of Iowa School of Law and is a managing partner of RTP Law in the Research Triangle Park.

McNeill is currently enrolled in Duke University's advanced Law and Entrepreneurship program.

Fun Run

Alumni members of track and cross country teams turned out for the 125th Celebration Fun Run on March 23 – From left: Dallas Locklear '85, Larry Rodgers '72, Julius Meekins '82, Rod Lattie '74, Jeff Cushing '77, Mike Jimenez '03, David Lewis '82 and Curtis Cheeks '02. The 5K run, to the university's first campus in the Pates community and back, was sponsored by the HEALTH and the 125th Anniversary committees.

Barrett named chair of the Board of Trustees

Dr. Wiley Barrett '69 was elected chairman of the university's Board of Trustees during a special meeting on March 12. UNCP's trustees voted unanimously in a meeting chaired by trustee vice chairman and former Athletic Director Dr. Raymond Pennington.

A Southern Pines, N.C., resident, Barrett will complete the term of Dr. Robin Cummings, who resigned from the board on March 4 to take a job as director of the Rural Health and Community Care division of the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services.

Dr. Barrett joined the board in April 2012. He is a career educator and 1969 UNCP graduate. He was an elected member and former chair of the Moore County School Board.

Appointed to a four-year term by the UNC Board of Governors, Barrett will serve as chair through the 2012-13 fiscal year.

At UNCP, Barrett was an outstanding basketball player during one of the university's great basketball eras.

CLASS OF 1998

Holly M. Hunt-Brewington married **Micah A. Brewington '02**, on January 19 at White Point Gardens in Charleston, S.C. Holly is a marketing specialist at the Lumber River Council of Governments and Micah is a service technician for Johnston, Inc. The couple resides in Clinton, N.C.

Gerard McRae was named the 2012 winner of the John D. Drake Distinguished Service Award, which is Southeastern Health's highest employee honor. Gerard received the award at the annual Service Awards Banquet held on January 29.

CLASS OF 1995

Grant Florita is the chief of police for the Town of Pembroke. He resides in Maxton.

Lisa Florita is employed with Collins and Sons Milling Company as a secretary. She resides in Maxton.

CLASS OF 1994

Ginger Kilgore is employed with Bladen Community College as a fund manager. She recently authored a cookbook, *Carolina Wine Country Cooking*, that was selected for publication by Second Wind Publishing, and the first volume in the series was released on September 8, 2012, at the Bookmarks Festival of Books in the downtown district of Winston-Salem, N.C.

James Bass '94,'03 and **Paula Bass '03** have a new addition to the family, Quinlyn Levay Bass. Quinlyn was born on November 20, 2012. She weighed 6 lbs., 10 oz. and was 20-inches long. She joins her older sisters, Layna, 6, and Annika, 4. The Bass family resides in Lumberton.

CLASS OF 1993

Gary Strickland is an assistant vice president for First Bank in Pembroke. He was elected to serve on the Public Schools of Robeson County's Board of Education representing District Five. Gary resides in Pembroke.

Micheal Lei Satterfield is the assistant director of processing for the N.C. Department of Revenue. He is married to **Leslie Marsh Satterfield '92**. They reside in Raleigh, N.C.

CLASS OF 1991

Tijuana Locklear is employed with Duke University Health Systems as a radiologic technologist. She resides in Holly Springs, N.C.

Pam Coughenour was selected as Scotland County's Outstanding Math Teacher of the Year for elementary schools.

CLASS OF 1990

Candace Forrester is a construction office manager for three entities Jernigan Builders, Inc. GMC Construction of North Carolina, Inc., and G&G Land Development, Inc. She resides in Bladenboro.

CLASS OF 1986

Allen Jamerson '86 was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General and assigned to the Pentagon as the U.S. Air Force's director of security forces.

CLASS OF 1985

Kathy Sanderson is an accounting assistant for UNC Pembroke. She resides in Pembroke.

Wayland Lennon was appointed to Southeastern Health's Board of Trustees. He resides in Fairmont and works in finance.

CLASS OF 1983

Craig S. Freeman resides in Raleigh, N.C. He earned his Master of Music degree from UNC Greensboro. Freeman earned his Master of Divinity, Master of Arts in Ethics and Doctorate in Education (Ed.D.) degrees from Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, N.C.

CLASS OF 1982

Mark E. McKenzie retired from the U.S. Air Force. He resides in Honolulu, Hawaii.

CLASS OF 1980

Peggy Cecil Hinds married Dr. Mark Hinds on November 20, 2011. She earned a Doctor of Ministry from Columbia Theological Seminary in May 2012. She is a life and congregational coach, minister, church educator and leadership consultant with Presbyterian Church (USA).

CLASS OF 1975

Nathaniel Randy Stephenson retired after 35 years of service as a teacher with the Wake County Public school system. He resides in Knightdale, N.C.

CLASS OF 1973

Sean Gaffney retired from the Internal Revenue Service, where he worked as an auditor. He is the proud grandfather of Logan Mitchell, who was born on Oct. 30, 2012. Sean resides in Mint Hill, N.C.

CLASS OF 1972

Larry Chavis was appointed to Southeastern Health's Board of Trustees. He resides in Lumberton and is CEO of Lumbee Guaranty Bank, headquartered in Pembroke.

CLASS OF 1964

Tim Brayboy recently received the Gold Whistle Merit Award for lifetime achievement. It is a joint award from the North Carolina High School Athletic Association, the North Carolina Coaches Association and the North Carolina Athletic Directors Association. Brayboy gave over 40 years of service as a game official, clinic leader and mentor for officials. He is in the halls of fame of UNCP, the North Carolina Athletic Directors, and the High School Athletic Association. This spring, Brayboy was the special guest speaker at the Mary Livermore Library's annual fundraiser with **Betty Oxendine Mangum '60**. During UNCP's ongoing 125th anniversary celebration, they talked about university and community history.

With the nutting stone, Ronald Nye sits in the Museum in Old Main, a building he rebuilt almost 40 years ago.

Alumni puts pre-Columbian artifact on display in Old Main

An ancient artifact of Robeson County's past found its way to the Native American Resource Center this spring thanks to Ronald Nye, a 1968 graduate. The gift – a nutting stone – is a unique Robeson County artifact and may be hundreds, perhaps thousands, of years old.

Nye, a building contractor from Fairmont, has a unique place in the university's 125-year-old history. He got the idea to donate the artifact when he attended the 90th Anniversary Celebration of Old Main in March.

"After the program, I walked through the museum and saw the pre-Columbian exhibit," he said. "I thought it might be enjoyed by more people here than in my sock drawer."

In the contracting business for more than 40 years, Nye was project manager for the reconstruction of Old Main in the 1970s, while working for his father's company, T. Avery Nye Construction.

"I think we did a pretty good job," he said looking around Old Main. "It was a difficult project because the heat of the (1973) fire weakened the walls. We buttressed them from the outside."

The artifact, which is circular in shape and weighs about four pounds, may be 8,000 years old. Stone tools like it were used by American Indians until about 700 years ago, according to Dr. Stanley Knick, director of the Native American Resource Center.

Nye said he found the stone while digging a foundation several years ago, and he knew right away it was special.

Dr. Knick, who said it is the only nutting stone from Robeson County in the museum collection, explained that nuts were an integral part of the American Indian diet. "Hickory nuts, acorns and all the nuts of the forest were used," he said. "They used stones like this to grind the nuts into meal for bread or thicken soup."

Dr. Knick said the stone likely originated in the Piedmont region of North Carolina. He theorized that it was used in a village, small settlement or individual homestead.

UNCP's African American student experience explored

Panelists from left: Renee Steele '93, Alice Melvin '95, Larry Barnes '71, Delthine Watson '84, Howard McLeod '75, Sylvia Baugham Banks '69 and Larry Rodgers '73

The university celebrated a group of pioneering students on March 27. A part of the ongoing 125th anniversary celebration, the African American Firsts program featured a panel of seven graduates, including Larry Barnes, who was the first African American student to enroll at UNCP in 1967, and Sylvia Baugham Banks, the first graduate in 1969.

Alphonso McRae '74 graduate and panel moderator, said "this group came to the university aspiring to change their lives and ended up changing the lives of every one they touched."

They were the first African-American basketball players, track stars, student government presidents and Miss PSUs too. They paved the way for a university, that was founded in 1887 to serve American Indians, to become one of the most diverse institutions of higher education in the U.S.

"I didn't realize the magnitude of what we were doing," said Renee Steele '93. Alice Melvin '95, a charter member of the first African American sorority on campus, agreed with Steele.

"We did not know at the time that we were making history," Melvin said. "We did not know we were blazing a trail for so many Zeta Phi Betas and other sororities for the future. We just had fun, but I'm a better person for it."

They also talked about life at the university. "Long before they invented the saying that UNCP is 'where education gets personal,' there was that personal touch from coaches, professors and administrators," said Rodgers '73. An all-American runner, Rodgers became the first African-American head coach in university history.

Howard McLeod was one of the first African-American basketball players at UNCP. "Before coming to Pembroke, I had worked to help support my family," McLeod said. "My parents told me not to let them down."

Barnes said he was unprepared for the rigors of college. "It's not about the setbacks; it's about what you do about it."

An Elizabethtown, N.C., native, Banks said when she enrolled at UNCP in 1967, she wanted to succeed badly. "I did not have a social life, but I felt completely at home at UNCP," she said.

Also on the panel was Delphine Watson '84, the first female African American student government president, The event was sponsored by the 125th Anniversary Committee, the Office of Multicultural and Minority Affairs and the Office of Alumni Relations.

Sylvia Baugham Banks, UNCP's first African American graduate, talks while Larry Barnes, the first African American student, listens

Martha Beach, UNCP benefactor, died on December 4

Martha Humphrey Beach, a 1962 UNCP graduate, passed away on Dec. 4, 2012, at age 95 in Pender County. A Proctorville native, she was a long-time Fairmont resident and a professional clinical social worker.

In the 1960s, she attended college at the same time her children were in college. After graduating from Pembroke State University, Beach worked for several years and returned to UNC-Chapel Hill to attain a Master of Social Work degree.

Beach was eternally grateful to UNCP for giving her the opportunity to better her life. She enrolled with the first small group of white students.

In her own words, here is the story of how she decided to go to college: "I was 40 with two children in school and sweeping dust off the front porch of our house. My husband was not well, I had a cracked tooth and had to hold the newspaper at arms length to read it. I was whistling a tune that was stuck in my head called 'Is That All There Is?' A young girl in the neighborhood came by and said she was going to school at Pembroke. She said all you had to do was send your grades. Well, they couldn't find my grades at Orrum. I told them to keep shakin' that dust because I'm going to college."

In 1997, she completed contributions to an endowment for the Martha Humphrey Beach Distinguished Professorship in Art. The "Beach Chair" has helped bring outstanding artists and teachers to the university.

In 2004, Beach was the keynote speaker at the annual Scholarship Recognition Dinner.

Martha worked for the state of North Carolina in Lumberton and Womack Army Hospital on Fort Bragg. In the final years of her working career she went into private practice, retiring at the age of 80.

Calendar of Events
Summer-Winter 2013

Events

July 1-6	**Lumbee Homecoming**
August 2	**Support Our Students Scholarship Beach Party** 7 p.m. University Center Annex
August 12	**First Year Student Convocation** 2:30 p.m. GPAC
August 14	**First Day of Fall Semester**
October 2	**Pembroke Day** 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.
November 1	**Alumni Awards and Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet** 6 p.m. University Center Annex
December 6	**Graduate Commencement** 7 p.m. GPAC
December 7	**Winter Commencement** 9 p.m. Main Gym
December T.B.A.	**Alumni Drop-in** 6 – 10 p.m. Chancellor's Residence

Football

September 5	**v. Winston-Salem State** 7 p.m.
September 14	**Two Rivers Classic Football at FSU** 6 p.m.
September 21	**Cape Fear Classic Football v. Shaw** 1 p.m. Legion Stadium, Wilmington
September 28	**v. Wingate** 2 p.m.
October 12	**at UNC Charlotte** Noon
October 19	**at Catawba** 1:30 p.m.
October 26	**at Newberry** 6 p.m.
November 2	**v. Tusculum** 2 p.m.
November 9	**at Valdosta State** 2 p.m.
November 16	**v. Va. Lynchburg** 2 p.m.

For more information, please contact University Communications & Marketing:
(910) 521-6252 or scott.bigelow@uncp.edu

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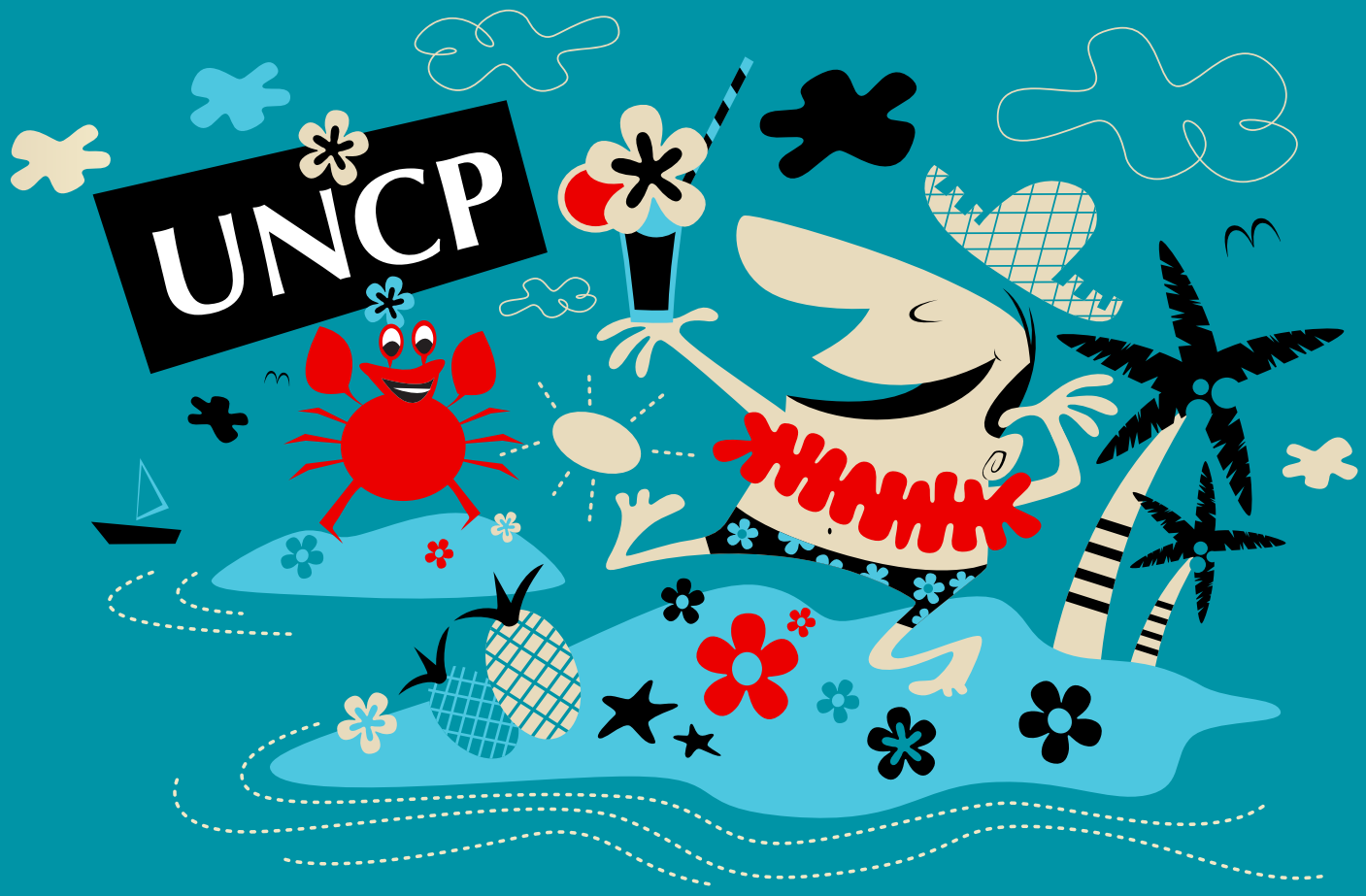

Support Our Students

SOS BEACH PARTY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2

The Holiday Band & Rhonda McDaniel

For ticket information visit: www.uncp.edu/advancement/sos
or call: (910) 521-6252