Classroom on wheels ready to roll for 11th year

A crash course might be a poor choice of words to describe a classroom on wheels. But that is exactly what the Tar Heel Bus Tour has been during the past decade for hundreds of newly arrived faculty members and administrators, and what it will be again when the tour hies the road May 12–16 for the 11th class of passengers.

In all the miles traveled, there has been only one subject — North Carolina — viewed through a kaleidoscope of perspectives, from culture to history to commerce.

The tour also helps faculty members understand the University’s commitment to public service by showing them how Carolina is connected to the entire state.

Chancellor James Moeser, in his welcome message to last year’s participants, said, “As we aspire to be the leading public university, we do so realizing that as leaders, we must serve the people and communities that surround us.”

This year, an added lens on the tour’s kaleidoscope will be nutrition. The bus will stop at the School of Public Health Nutrition Research Institute in Kannapolis, scheduled to open in June. The institute will study nutritional aspects of behavior and genetics, focusing on the areas of brain development, obesity and cancer as part of the North Carolina Research Campus.

Other stops on this year’s tour include:
- Seymour Johnson Air Force Base in Goldsboro — where participants will tour the base and see a display of the F-15 E, the base’s premier aircraft flown by the 4th Fighter Wing.
- Walk Wise, Drive Smart program in Hendersonville — a collaboration between Hendersonville and the School of Medicine’s Program on Aging, designed to create a safer and more inviting walking community to accommodate the elderly.
- Blue Ridge Parkway — a guided tour by Anne Whisnant, adjunct assistant professor of history and author of “Super-Scenic Motorway: A Blue Ridge Parkway History.”
- N.C. Arboretum in Asheville — a RENCI at UNC-Asheville community partner, where participants will learn how RENCI (Renaissance Computing Institute) is helping western North Carolina deal with issues confronting the region, specifically those related to climate.
- Hickory Nut Gap Farm-Spring House Meats in Fairview — a farm that uses pasture-raised animals to produce beef, pork, lamb and eggs. It is part of the Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project that provides locally grown food to the region. The UNC Center for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention works with the institute to provide local food to area schools.
- James B. Dudley High School in Greensboro — highlighting the Morehead Planetarium and Science Center’s traveling science laboratory bus, Destiny.
- Victory Junction Gang Camp in Randleman — started for disabled children by the Petty NASCAR family. The UNC Craniofacial Center has worked with the camp to provide children with craniofacial anomalies a chance to attend.

The late Chancellor Michael Hooker began the privately funded tour in 1997 as a means of helping incoming professors gain a rich understanding of the state and its people by visiting some of the places 82 percent of undergraduates call home.

Some students have completed summer school through the Carolina Covenant Scholars. The groundbreaking University had a no-loans program. The Covenant was the first low-income initiative by a public university and the first to add support measures to foster academic success by the scholars. It has been the model for some 80 other programs at public and private institutions around the country.

Since Moeser announced the Covenant, it has sparked nearly $10 million in private contributions. Donors’ support allowed Carolina to expand eligibility for the program and add services to help the scholars adapt to campus life and address any financial, social and cultural barriers they faced.

In spring 2005, the University began recruiting faculty and professional staff mentors to help first-year Covenant Scholars integrate into college life and facilitate academic advising and counseling.

Veteran Portuguese Professor Fred Clark created the mentoring program. As the face of the program to nearly 1,400 Covenant Scholars,
University partners with town for new homeless shelter

Property next to the United Church of Chapel Hill off Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard has been identified as the site for a new homeless shelter.

University officials, in a joint news conference with the town of Chapel Hill, announced that the University is in the process of buying more than 13 acres from Duke Energy, including the 1.5 acres that will become the site for the shelter. The University intends to lease the 1.5-acre site to the town and the town will make the site available to the Inter-Faith Council for Social Service (IFC), the local organization that will build and operate a new homeless shelter.

Chancellor James Moeser praised the solutions-oriented connectivity of town, campus and religious leaders and the greater community. “This community has always taken care of those in need,” Moeser said. “Today’s announcement continues that tradition. Carolina students, faculty and staff have long been among those volunteering with the Inter-Faith Council. Providing the IFC the land where it can realize its expansion plans exemplifies what we hold dear as partners in the future of Orange County.”

Chapel Hill Mayor Kevin Foy said the town has a long history of caring about the homeless and supporting the IFC. “This in-kind contribution has been a public-private partnership that enables the IFC to help countless numbers of homeless people to get back on their feet,” he said.

The IFC serves the community’s homeless population by managing Community House, a community kitchen and 30-bed men’s residential facility. The shelter is currently housed at the Old Municipal Building at 100 W. Rosemary St., which has been leased from the town since 1985. Services for homeless women and children are provided at IFC’s HomeStart facility on Homestead Road.

Chris Moran, IFC executive director, said the goal is to have the new men’s residential facility on Homestead Road. After IFC’s founding by a group of local church women in 1963, much of the work of the agency has been done by community volunteers, including town employees, University students, faculty and staff, and members of the community’s congregations.

Mangum wins Mary Turner Lane Award

Elmira Mangum, senior associate provost for finance and academic personnel, has won the 2008 Mary Turner Lane Award. Established in 1986, the award recognizes people who make outstanding contributions to the lives of women students, faculty, staff and administrators at Carolina.

The University’s Association for Women Faculty and Professors presented the award to Mangum April 30 at the group’s annual banquet.

Mangum received multiple nominations that recounted how she goes above and beyond her work responsibilities to mentor women in their professional development.

During her career at UNC, Mangum has taught classes at the School of Government and has mentored women students. She has served as a mentor and coach to women faculty and staff in the BRIDGES Program. Her community involvement includes serving as president of the Orange County Rape Crisis Center and working with the Bethune Annual Recognition Luncheon honoring women for their community service.

In her role at the University, Mangum provides administrative leadership to the finance, human resources, institutional research, facilities and strategic planning efforts throughout the Office of the Provost. She is responsible for drafting, developing and communicating guidelines, policies, procedures and processes that facilitate resource management.

Mangum also serves on many management and policy groups, including the University Budget Committee, Tuition and Fees Task Force and the Information Technology Strategic Planning Committee. She also manages the annual and biennial budget processes for the University.

She is renowned among her colleagues for her knowledge of issues and trends in higher education, and for her mastery in cutting through complicated and sometimes thorny financial issues. One example is her detailed work to develop various charts and formulas to prepare members of the Chancellor’s Task Force on Tuition and Fees with the background they need to develop recommendations for campus-based tuition increases.

“Elmira has a knack for presenting information in such a way that goes deeper than the numbers on the page,” said Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Bernadette Gray-Little. “I think that’s because her grasp of our campus culture is equal to her understanding of our finances and budget. By understanding both, she enables us to keep our budget in sync with who we are and what we as an institution value.”

The award, established in 1986, is named after Mary Turner Lane, founding director of the Curriculum in Women’s Studies and the first recipient of the award.

“This kind of recognition is richly deserved and long overdue,” Gray-Little said.

A native of North Carolina, Mangum previously held administrative and management posts at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the State University of New York at Buffalo. Immediately prior to her arrival at Carolina, she was vice provost at the University at Buffalo and on the faculty of the graduate school of education.

She received her Ph.D. from the University at Buffalo and graduated with honors from the University of Wisconsin-Madison with two master’s degrees, one in public policy and public administration and another in urban and regional planning. She received her bachelor’s degree in geography from N.C. Central University (NCCU). While enrolled at NCCU she worked in Washington, D.C., as the first African-American to serve as a Congressional intern from the state of North Carolina.

Survey results help inform Gazette redesign

Last fall, the Office of University Relations asked faculty and staff to participate in a survey as part of efforts to improve overall University communications. The survey asked people about the ways they currently receive information and how they prefer to obtain information.

The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment (OIRA) designed the Web-based survey, which also was available in the Nov. 14 University Gazette (with a reminder in the Dec. 7 issue). In addition, faculty and staff received an e-mail announcement about the survey, and both the Office of Faculty Governance and the Employee Forum promoted the survey in their online communications.

No names or other identifiers were collected to protect participants’ anonymity. As an additional precaution, OIRA staff reviewed each response to open-ended questions to delete information that might identify the respondent.

A total of 530 responses were received: 258 SPA employees (50.1 percent), 140 EPA non-faculty employees (27.2 percent) and 117 faculty members (22.7 percent).

Besides informing overall internal communications, the survey findings will help guide the redesign of the University Gazette later this summer.

Responses show that in general, people:
- Prefer the print Gazette to the online version, but would read it online if prompted;
- Prefer data to be presented clearly and without jargon;
- Prefer the print Gazette for reading at work; and
- Want to read the Gazette online for reading at home.

Responses were analyzed by type of employee. For example, non-faculty employees were more likely to read the Gazette online than faculty members, who preferred the print version.

A majority of respondents desired to search the archives and more.

See Survey, page 11
Earp honored with Thomas Jefferson Award

The peers of esteemed scientist and cancer researcher H. Shelton Earp honored him with the prestigious 2008 Thomas Jefferson Award. Chancellor James Moeser presented the award at the April 25 Faculty Council meeting.

Earp is professor of pharmacology and medicine, Lineberger Professor of Cancer Research and director of the UNC Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center.

The annual award was created in 1961 by the Robert Earl McConnell Foundation to recognize a Carolina faculty member who, through personal influence and performance of duty in teaching, writing and scholarship, has best exemplified the ideals and objectives of Thomas Jefferson. UNC faculty members nominate candidates for the honor, which carries a cash prize; a faculty committee chooses the recipient.

Barbara K. Rimer, dean of the School of Public Health and Alumni Distinguished Professor, wrote the citation honoring Earp.

"A man of Jeffersonian breadth and depth, Dr. Earp is an exemplary scientist and humanitarian, educator and healer, mentor and leader, citizen and colleague... true blue 'Tar Heel,'" she said.

"Dr. Earp has strengthened this university not only through his own accomplishments, but by nurturing a culture of collaboration. Because of Dr. Earp's efforts, there is better treatment today for patients in North Carolina, and there will be much better prevention and treatment tomorrow."

A faculty member since 1977, Earp earned his medical degree from Carolina in 1970 and has devoted more than three decades to researching the behavior of cancer cells and the signals that regulate cell growth and differentiation. He earned a bachelor's degree from Johns Hopkins University in 1966.

"I still have a real thirst for trying to understand some of the molecular details of this disease we're trying to fight," Earp said. "It's not just a medical disease. It's not just cancer. It's a paradigm for how health affects the way we behave, the way we spend our federal money, the way we go out and try to change community behavior. All of those things are threads that come together."

Nominators characterized Earp as an exemplary scientist, caring clinician and benevolent administrator.

He was instrumental in generating statewide support for the University Cancer Research Fund, which will provide $50 million a year toward the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer.

"He mobilized citizens, scientists, clinicians, patients and legislators, and with them as partners, secured a dramatic commitment by the legislature to create the University Cancer Research Fund," the citation said.

"The success of this effort is testimony to Dr. Earp's ability to galvanize support around common goals for uncommon ends, the prevention, early detection, treatment and eradication of cancer. Dr. Earp embodies Jefferson's optimistic belief that knowledge can be turned to positive benefit for all people."

Colleagues have called Earp a genuine, generous person who always puts Carolina first.

"In a world that too often rewards selfishness, Shelley backs the trend, said Dean Holden Thorp. He is, observed Dean Bill Roper, our priceless gem," the citation said. "Dr. Michael O'Malley (Lineberger Center associate director) said about Dr. Earp: Hidden by his many achievements but fundamental to them are his emotional intelligence, sense of commitment and a physician's purpose to make the world a better place."

When he accepted the award, Earp said his blood ran Carolina blue.

"I love this place and my love is shared by people across this state and it is shared by a legislature that does not run against the flag-ship university, it runs for it and towards it. The University Cancer Research Fund is the latest in a long line, and hopefully not the last of them, that the legislature is counting on us to do."

The author of 125 peer-reviewed publications, Earp is board-certified in internal medicine and endocrinology. He is the past president of the Association of American Cancer Institutes and has served on its board of directors since 2001. He is also a member of the American Association for Cancer Research, the Association of American Physicians and the American societies of clinical oncology, hematology, cell biology, microbiology and clinical investigation.

Cancer researcher Shelton Earp is honored by his peers with the Thomas Jefferson Award. Among his accomplishments, Earp helped generate statewide support for the University Cancer Research Fund.

Pérez elected American Academy of Arts and Sciences fellow

Louis Pérez Jr., J. Carlyle Sitterson Professor of History, is the latest Carolina faculty member to be elected a fellow in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

His research interests center on 19th- and 20th-century Caribbean, with emphasis on the Spanish-speaking Caribbean. His current research explores the sources of Cuban nationality and identity. Pérez is the author of “To Die in Cuba: Suicide and Society,” a social and cultural history of suicide in Cuba. He teaches courses on the history of Latin America, Mexico, the Caribbean and Cuba. He also directs the Institute for the Study of the Americas.

Pérez is among 191 fellows and 22 foreign honorary members to be inducted into the academy at a ceremony on Oct. 11 at the academy’s headquarters in Cambridge, Mass. The new members are leaders in their fields and include Nobel laureates and recipients of Pulitzer Prizes, Academy Awards and Grammy Awards and Kennedy Center Honors.

Pérez joins a distinguished list of new fellows that includes U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens, computer company founder Michael Dell, two-time cabinet secretary and former White House Chief of Staff James A. Baker III, Academy Award-winning filmmakers Ethan and Joel Coen and blues guitarist B.B. King.

The University now has 35 faculty members in the academy (see page 5). An independent policy research center, the academy was founded in 1780 to undertake studies of complex and emerging problems.

Council gives Moeser send-off on a high note

Everyone knew it was to be Chancellor James Moeser’s swan song, his final appearance before the Faculty Council before his retirement as chancellor. But little did he suspect there would be actual singing.

Two songs, in fact, were masterfully performed by soprano Terry Rhodes with accompaniment from cellist Brent Wissick. Both are Faculty Council members and professors in the music department.

The first song was the old Cole Porter standard “You’re the Top.” The second song was a modified riff on “Thanks for the Memory,” the signature musical sign-off of comedian Bob Hope. One modified stanza went like this:

Thanks Chancellor Moeser,
UNC’s much stranger now,
Because you brought the know-how,
Your expertise, your wisdom,
You need to take a bow;
You’ve lucky we’ve been.

Afterward, the room erupted in applause, but the standing ovation came much earlier when Moeser recounted his own good fortune to have been named chancellor eight years ago.

In his remarks, Moeser spoke about the difficulty of coming to Carolina as an outsider and the skepticism he encountered when, at his first meeting with Faculty Council, he spoke of his strong belief in faculty governance.

“Because I was a total stranger, there was an appropriate level of skepticism about whether I was committed to that or not,” Moeser said.

“There was a kind of Missouri show-me attitude. That was absolutely fair.”

Moeser said he did a lot of homework after he was appointed chancellor, studying the history and traditions of the University to the point that he felt reverence for them by his first day on the job.

He also understood from the outset that the heart of Carolina’s quality was the strength of the faculty. That was true when he arrived and is no less true today, he said. That excellence has been reflected in the ranks of the faculty members who have become engaged in faculty governance.

“I cannot tell you how impressive that is to me because I know what the pattern is in most other places,” Moeser said. “I think it speaks to the fact that we take shared governance very seriously here. We honor it. We respect it. And in return, you have responded by being active participants in that process and I want to thank you for it.”

Competitive salaries

Making salaries more competitive with national peers to preserve the excellence of the faculty was the University’s top legislative priority when he first took office and will remain so long after he leaves, Moeser said. Money to increase the number of endowed professorships was a major focus of the Carolina First, fundraising campaign. Those efforts have born fruit, he said.

According to a faculty salary survey conducted by the American Association of University

See Faculty Council, page 6
Online research management tool benefits Carolina, entire state

To lead requires being out front. But being a leading public university, Andy Johns has learned, means something slightly different.

For Carolina, being out front creates an opportunity to show others a better way. And it is out of that tradition that the idea of sharing the University-grown RAMSeS (Research Administration Management System and e-Solutions) emerged.

Johns, assistant vice chancellor for research and director of Information Systems and Management, has led the development and implementation of RAMSeS, the Office of Research Information Systems’ online research management tool. The University began using RAMSeS to replace Coeus, a grant management program developed by MIT, in the summer of 2006.

Over the past two years, RAMSeS has been integrated throughout campus and has become the electronic linchpin connecting the entire research enterprise at Carolina. It is now used to handle all aspects of the research process, from grants management to compliance and clinical trials management to intellectual property management.

And in recent months, University leaders have decided to share RAMSeS with other universities, starting with select campuses within the UNC system. That process is already under way at UNC-Greensboro, UNC-Charlotte and North Carolina A&T, Johns said, and it will be completed throughout the entire UNC system by September 2009. Carolina is also sharing RAMSeS with Ohio State University and plans to share it with the University of Arizona and the eight universities that comprise the University of Tennessee system.

“There are many ways that Carolina can be a leading public university,” Johns said. “This is just one more way.”

At the January meeting of the University Board of Trustees, Chancellor James Moeser recognized Johns for his contributions toward this seminal achievement.

But Johns is not simply being modest when he says the accolades directed at him make him uncomfortable. Though appreciated, he said, singing him out conveys the false impression that he was the only person doing the work that has made RAMSeS such a success.

“Building an effective team has been critical for all this to happen, and I really want to acknowledge all the rest of the team who are a part of this,” Johns said.

The search for a solution

Johns is also quick to acknowledge that the idea for this did not come to him all at once, but through a process of discovery that revealed in fits and starts what the possibilities might be.

Less than a decade ago, campus research offices had no way to interact electronically, which made it difficult to share information. Most processes used to share information were done by hand, with paper, and were painstakingly so, he said.

Coeus, the software system introduced at Carolina in 1999, was once billed as the grant management software program that would push Carolina’s research enterprise into the electronic age.

But by 2005, Johns had become convinced that Coeus, because of its inflexible format, was not up to the task. And he also understood that any software program offered by any other national vendor would likely be inadequate, too.

He may have been in the best position to know.

That’s because, the year before, Vice Chancellor for Research and Graduate Studies Tony Waldrop hired Johns to run the newly created Office of Research Information Systems. As director of the office, Johns’ mission was to design and implement the tools needed to create a unified business process for research administration. That process had to be capable not only of supporting all the offices on campus that had direct ties to research, but also of supporting the many faculty and staff who transact business with those same offices, Johns said.

The confidence to build such a system from scratch was predicated on some of Johns’ past successes since he started work here in fall 1998, the summer after he graduated from Carolina.

After spending two years working for Information Technology Services, Johns was hired as the director of operations for the Office of Technology Transfer, where he was charged with tracking all the University-developed research that could be marketed in the private sector.

Even then, Waldrop began calling on Johns for his technical expertise. First, Johns improved the capacity of the information management system used for the care of laboratory animals — an action prompted by allegations leveled against the University by PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals). He also was tasked with designing a system that could address the various security challenges related to research that emerged after 9/11.

And from that track record of success came the impetus to develop RAMSeS, which over the past two years has proven itself up to the many tasks it was created to perform.

As an electronic management system, RAMSeS not only saves time by centralizing research data, it can also automatically route internal processing forms paperwork everywhere it needs to go in the proper sequence — and keep researchers abreast of its progress.

RAMSeS centralizes data so that research administration knows what the institution as a whole is doing, Johns said, and it has become quicker and easier to catch any compliance errors.

In user-friendly one-click options guide users through the proposal process, such as create new proposal, checklists and a submit button that lets users know when they are through.

RAMSeS features a Web portal that allows investigators and research administrators to review all the research they are associated with and get project status updates. They are also able to view the details of a grant proposal or clinical trial.

Beware of pitfalls

Johns said another strength of RAMSeS is its infinite adaptability. At a growing, complex research university like Carolina, systems will continually need to be tailored to meet emerging needs.

Good technology, Johns said, is built on the platform of good communication between people, or in this instance, between IT specialists who understand RAMSeS and the researchers and administrators who depend on it.

“You can take the best software in the world and give it to any entity and the software by itself isn’t going to solve whatever problems it has,” Johns said.

Online research management tool benefits Carolina, entire state

Commencement from page 1

he continually reminds students that the program “needs to be more than just money,” hosting them for lunch, checking on their grades and enhancing their academic success.

In addition, the Office of Student Affairs underwrits the cost of summer orientation for Covenant Scholars and parents, and University Career Services teaches the scholars about the demeanor that will be expected of them in their careers. The office plans to include courses on public speaking this fall.

Other campus units involved include Carolina Performing Arts, which contributes tickets for many world-class performances.

This year, UNC medical faculty members began a monthly mentoring class for Covenant Scholars interested in health-care careers.

The doctors also allow the scholars to shadow them in clinics.

Honor degree recipients

In addition to Norman, other recipients of honorary degrees include a Nobel Prize winner in chemistry, a genome scientist, a psychiatric epidemiologist and a North Carolina state senator.

Peter Courtland Agre, 2003 co-recipient of the Nobel Prize in chemistry, vice chancellor for science and technology and professor of cell biology and medicine at Duke University, will receive a doctor of science degree.

Agre, who has been at Duke since 2005, was elected to the National Academy of Sciences in 2000. He was also elected to the American Academy of Arts in 2003.

He shared the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 2003 for his revelation concerning the molecular basis for the movement of water into and out of cells through the discovery of the first water-channel protein, called an aquaporin.

After earning a bachelor’s degree in chemistry from Augsburg College, Agre earned his medical degree from Johns Hopkins University and did his internship and residency in medicine at Case Western Reserve University.

Agr pursued his postdoctoral training at UNC in hematology and continues to have strong ties with the University.

Philip Palmer Green III, professor of genome sciences at the University of Washington, will receive a doctor of science degree.

He is also an investigator for the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Acredided with key algorithms and software tools that made possible the systematic analysis of complex genomes, Green received his undergraduate degree from Harvard and his Ph.D. from the University of California at Berkeley.

Nobel Prize winner James D. Watson stated that, “without his (Green) Phred and Pup computation tools, the assembly of the human genome would have moved ahead much more hesitantly, if not chaotically.”

Green became a postdoctoral fellow in the bioinformatics department of Carolina’s School of Public Health, and worked on the Linds Research Clinic Project and joined the Washington faculty in 1994.

Heather Munroe-Blum, principal and vice chancellor of McGill University in Montreal and Carolina alumna, will receive a doctor of science degree.

Born in Montreal and raised in Ontario, Munroe-Blum earned her undergraduate degree at McMaster University and her Ph.D. from Carolina’s School of Public Health in 1983.

A specialist in psychiatric epidemiology,
News Briefs

Animal rights extremism subject of May 14 talk
The University and Americans for Medical Progress will host a presentation May 14 by Tom Holder, of Speaking of Research (www.speakingofresearch.org). It will be held at 3:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Molecular Biology Research Building.

Holder will speak about animal rights extremism in the United States and what students can do to defend biomedical research.

Information security briefing set for May 8
ITS (Information Technology Services) Information Security is hosting an all-day information security briefing May 8 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Stone Center.

The event is open to all information technology staff and managers at no cost.

Among the presentations will be information on current information security threats, risks and best practices as well as the opportunity to collaborate with other campus IT professionals.

Registration is required. Refer to tinyurl.com/5yv7fl. For more information, see www.unc.edu/security/isb.

Math/science summer camp begins June 23
The North Carolina Mathematics and Science Education Pre-College Program is sponsoring a non-residential summer camp for rising students in grades six through 12.

Summer camp dates are June 23 – July 3. For more information, visit www.unc.edu/depts/ed/pwp or call Dianne Affleck (962-9362).

Nominations open for UMA Manager of the Year award
The University Managers Association (UMA) is soliciting nominations for the 2008 Manager of the Year award.

Any permanent, full-time University manager with two or more years of service may be nominated for the award. UMA membership is not a requirement for candidacy.

The winner will be announced at UMA’s annual program on May 15.

Nomination forms are available at uma.unc.edu/uma_08_manager_award.doc. Complete the form and return it to John Guillo through e-mail (guillo@sog.unc.edu), campus mail (CB#1330) or fax (962-2709) by May 8.

Scholarship applications accepted through May 15
The application deadline is May 15 to apply for full scholarships for children of UNC employees.

The need-based fund was created to provide financial support to the children of full-time employees to attend any of the 16 UNC system schools as well as any of the accredited community and technical colleges in North Carolina.

More information is available at www.unc.edu/familyfund.

Orientation required for new work-study supervisors
The Office of Scholarships and Student Aid is offering training sessions for full-time permanent faculty and staff who wish to join the Federal Work-Study Program in order to begin making requests for students as early as Aug. 19.

The training sessions last two hours and cover topics such as the job classification system, student payroll, creating and marketing jobs on the Web site and both institutional and federal guidelines.

The sessions will be held June 11 (2–4 p.m.), July 9 (10 a.m.–noon) and Aug. 6 (2–4 p.m.), all in the auditorium of Hanes Art Center. No registration is required.

For more information, call Michelle Klemens (962-4176) or e-mail michelle_klemens@unc.edu.

Botany library relocates, two other libraries affected
The botany, zoology and chemistry libraries will close for two weeks beginning May 19 as the botany library relocates from Coker Hall to join the zoology and chemistry libraries in Wilson Library. The merged biology/chemistry library will reopen June 2 at the South entrance of Wilson Library, across South Road from the Bell Tower.

During the move, the print collections of these libraries will be unavailable for loan or consultation. For reference assistance during this time, visit www.lib.unc.edu and select “Ask a Librarian.”

After June 1, call the combined biology/chemistry library at 962-2264 or 962-1188.

Unks' film 'Town Before Brown' to air May 10
The film “The Town Before Brown” will be featured on the “N.C. Visions” series shown on WUNC-TV. It is scheduled to air on the May 10 program between 11 p.m. and midnight.

Gerald Unks, professor of education, wrote and produced the film to help students in his Education 41 class, “The School in American Society,” understand about de jure segregation in Chapel Hill and other parts of the South and into the Midwest before the 1954 landmark Brown v. Board of Education decision. That decision struck down the “separate but equal” clause that had sanctioned segregated schools.

The film features interviews with individuals, both black and white, who lived in Chapel Hill during the era of segregation.

Nominations open for American Academy of Arts and Sciences
Every spring, members of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences have the opportunity to nominate their peers for membership in the academy. Current members only may make nominations.

To assist campus members of the academy in identifying those who may be sufficiently accomplished in their respected disciplines to warrant nomination for membership, a list follows of UNC members who can be contacted if you have a colleague to propose for nomination. Some disciplines on campus are not yet represented among current members of the academy from UNC. In such cases, contact Jo Ann Gustafson (962-1319 or joann.gustafson@unc.edu), and she will help find sponsors in cases where there is no obvious fit.

To help academy members avoid the work of preparing duplicate nominations, contact Tony Waldrop, vice chancellor for research and economic development, by May 21 if you are suggesting a potential nominee (962-1319 or twaldro@unc.edu).

For more information, see www.amacad.org.

SPRING FLING
Fifteen teams and more than 200 faculty and staff participants turned out under blue skies and green trees May 2 for Spring Fling, the annual 3-mile run/1.5-mile walk sponsored by Campus Recreation. Refreshments, awards and giveaways followed the race.

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For more information, see www.amacad.org.
Communication studies professor balances teaching, environmental advocacy

In a classroom in Wilson Library, Robert Cox pauses to update his class about the sudden disintegration of a massive Antarctic ice shelf.

Raising his eyebrows, he gestures animatedly in front of satellite images depicting a slab of ice the size of Connecticut crumbling into the ocean.

With passion in his voice, he adopts a preacher-like rhythm that suggests that some of his words are italicized: “The physics of it are so uncertain and unstudied that we cannot model how quickly this will break down.” He is referring to scientists’ projections about how global warming will affect the ice.

Cox has good reason to be passionate about the collapse of Antarctic ice. In addition to teaching a course about global warming in the communication studies department, he is president of the board of directors of the Sierra Club.

The San Francisco-based Sierra Club is a national environmental organization that claims more than 1.3 million members and supporters. The naturalist John Muir founded the organization in 1892, and its members have worked to preserve wilderness and to protect national parks.

In 2005, Sierra Club members decided to expand the organization’s traditional mission to make fighting global warming a top priority.

Cox said that under his leadership, the club was pressuring the U.S. Congress to enact regulations that would reduce emissions of carbon dioxide by 80 percent by 2050. Climate scientists have warned that carbon dioxide concentrations in the atmosphere are rapidly approaching a tipping point after which dangerous climate destabilization will be inevitable.

Cox’s work with the club, for which he declined compensation, requires frequent travel and up to 60 hours of work each week, he said. “There have been quite a few late or all-nights.”

Cox’s longtime partner, Julia Wood, Lineberger Professor of Humanities, said his devotion to environmental causes is rooted in the mountains of West Virginia where he was born. There, he witnessed the destructive effects of coal mining on the environment and on the health of miners.

“He grew up in an economically poor but environmentally rich area,” Wood said.

During the 1960s, Cox participated in the civil rights movement, where he began observing the communication techniques of social movements.

His appointment as an instructor at Carolina in 1971 came just nine months after the first Earth Day, April 22, 1970. That year’s demonstrations were the largest public protests in U.S. history, drawing more than 20 million Americans.

Cox credits the rise of the environmental movement with his desire to join the Sierra Club.

“Earth Day commanded so much attention at the dawn of the 1970s that it was only natural for me to turn my attention to the environment,” he said.

After working with local and state chapters of the group for more than a decade, Cox came to the attention of national Sierra Club leaders. They encouraged him to run for the national board of directors, and in 1994 he was first elected president of the board. Cox also served as president in 2000-01, and he was elected to his current term in May 2007.

But he admits that balancing his roles as professor and national leader is not always easy.

Cox has reduced his teaching load to one course each semester and must still cancel some classes to attend Sierra Club meetings.

Even so, his work with public policy and the environment helps him demand the workings of government for students.

“That inside experience has allowed me to see that the environment really is a crucible for democracy where people can really make a difference,” he said.

And students seem to feel that the benefits of learning about the environmental movement firsthand outweigh the drawbacks of an occasional canceled class.

Patricia Phillips-Ayers, a staff member in the School of Education and a student in the global-warming class, describes Cox’s personal experience with environmental activism as inspirational.

“He is really passionate about what he teaches,” Balthrop said. “He’s one of those people who is able to put all those pieces together and do it really well.”

Cox’s current term as Sierra Club president will end this month, but his fight against global warming will continue. At the end of a class lecture, he paused, as if to let the urgency and complexity of global warming sink in. Then he said: “I want to dedicate the time I have left … to this issue.”

Editor’s note: This article was contributed by Sara Peach, a master’s student from Durham in the School of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Then Moeser paused to gather himself to deliver what he knew would be his exit line on the council’s stage. “The highest honor of my life has been to be your chancellor,” he said. “Thank you.”

Faculty elections

Of the 3,428 members of the voting faculty, 3,294 had valid e-mail addresses and received ballots for the 2008 faculty elections. More than 800 cast ballots, double the voter participation of the year before, said Faculty Secretary Joe Ferrell.

The results of the election are available at www.unc.edu/faculty/facccoun/Elections/2008/2008electionresults.shtml.

In other news, Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Bernadette Gray-Little announced a search to replace Linda R. Cronenwett as dean of the School of Nursing. Cronenwett is retiring July 31, 2009.
Botany Library looks forward and back

This month, the Botany Library will relocate from its current home in Coker Hall to join the Zoology and Chemistry libraries in Wilson Library (see news brief, page 5). The move will make more science collections and services available in one place and will promote collaboration among the libraries.

The Botany Library has also been involved with two projects that celebrate the history and foundations of science at the University:

- **Elisha Mitchell journal online**
  - The Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society was founded at UNC in 1883 to promote professionalization of the sciences on campus. The society began publishing its journal a year later to permit members to communicate their discoveries.
  - Seventy-eight volumes of The Journal of the Elisha Mitchell Society are now freely available online (www.lib.unc.edu/do/jncaj), thanks to a partnership between the University Library and the North Carolina Academy of Science.
  - The journal was among the earliest scientific publications issued in connection with a university in the American South. Among its editors were notable scientists Francis P. Venable (president of the University from 1900 to 1914), William C. Coker (chair of the botany department for 36 years) and John N. Couch (professor of botany at UNC).

- **The History of the Biology Department**
  - The history of the biology department is on view in a new exhibit in the lobby of Wilson Hall. Titled “From Organism to Molecule,” the exhibit celebrates the department’s first century, from its founding in 1908, when Coker and Henry Van Peters Wilson founded departments of botany and zoology, respectively.
  - In 1982, the departments merged to form the Department of Biology, chaired by Lawrence L. Gilbert.
  - “From Organism to Molecule” summarizes the organizational history of the department and provides a glimpse of teaching methods from years past. Artifacts include life-like models of mushrooms, a 1915 microscope used in the botany laboratory, specimens of sponges and models of a frog and crayfish. More recent equipment on view includes a gel electrophoresis chamber used to separate DNA fragments and a spectrophotometer used to measure light intensity.

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Early articles provide a window into the practice of science at the University, including accounts of chemical experiments, local meteorological readings and anthropological discoveries in North Carolina.

Beginning around 1900, articles focus predominantly on the botany and zoology of the state and region. The online collection also includes an 1858 memoir volume in honor of Mitchell, who fell to his death in 1857 while conducting experiments in Yancey County on the mountain that is now named in his honor.

The North Carolina Academy of Science was founded in 1902 and used the Journal of the Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society as its official publication. When the Mitchell Society dissolved in 1983, the academy continued to publish the journal, renaming it The Journal of the North Carolina Academy of Science in 2002.

The academy and the library intend eventually to publish the entire run of the publication.

Department of Biology centennial exhibit

The history of the biology department is on view in a new exhibit in the lobby of Wilson Hall. Titled “From Organism to Molecule,” the exhibit celebrates the department’s first century, from its founding in 1908, when Coker and Henry Van Peters Wilson founded departments of botany and zoology, respectively.

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“From Organism to Molecule” was created by Biology Librarian William Burk and graduate assistant Tom Hailey, with assistance from the North Carolina Collection Gallery in Wilson Library.

COUNTING DOWN

Left, Chancellor James Moeser and Susan Moeser are presented a Carolina clock by Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Bernadette Gray-Little on behalf of the University community at a May 1 reception at the Carolina Inn to honor the chancellor. Bottom, the crowd of well-wishers applauds Moeser for his nearly eight years of University leadership. Moeser became Carolina’s ninth chancellor Aug. 15, 2000, and will step down at the end of June. After a one-year research leave, he will join the Carolina faculty.

ITS seeking participants for VoiceThread pilot

If you are looking for an easy-to-use tool for online presentation and commentary — something that supports text, images, audio and video — VoiceThread could be the solution.

Information Technology Services (ITS) Teaching and Learning is piloting VoiceThread, a Web-based application for posting media files and inviting other people to participate in an online conversation. Participants can upload audio and video files and invite other people to participate in the conversation.

VoiceThread is easy to use and has many potential applications,” said Kathy Kyzer, senior manager of academic outreach. “Those on campus we’ve talked with have already expressed interest in using it to practice foreign language skills, to demonstrate math and science solutions, to analyze and critique visual arts and film, to give feedback on student work and to respond to media-based scholarship. It could also be used for online campus tours and for other aspects of student life.

“We are looking forward to partnering with faculty, staff and students in the Carolina community to explore the many ways VoiceThread can be used in an academic environment.”

To learn more, refer to voicethread.unc.edu.

Commencement from page 4

Munro-Blum has held faculty positions at the University of Toronto and York University. She has led large-scale epidemiological investigations of the distribution, prevention, course and treatment of major psychiatric disorders.

She was selected as one of Canada’s Most Powerful Women: Top 100, and continues to promote the development of effective public policy to support innovation through science. She is a fellow of the Academy of Science of the Royal Society of Canada and past winner of the School of Public Health’s Outstanding Alumna Award.

Anthony Eden Rand, a Fayetteville attorney, Carolina alumnus and N.C. senator for the 19th district, will receive a doctor of laws degree.

Currently the Senate Majority Leader and chair of the Rules Committee, Rand has long been a constant in the North Carolina Senate, having been re-elected 10 times since 1981. He earned his A.B. in political science in 1961 and in his J.D. in 1964, both from Carolina.

Rand has co-chaired the Joint Selection Committee on Higher Education Facilities Needs and is currently treasurer and a member of the board of directors of the General Alumni Association, where he has served previously as chair. He also served on the Carolina First Campaign Steering Committee and on the University’s Board of Visitors.

Rand’s previous honors at Carolina include induction into the Order of the Golden Fleece in 1961, the William R. Davies Award in 1995, and the General Alumni Association’s Distinguished Service Medal in 1998. He received the 2000 Legislative Leadership Award from the N.C. Council of Community Programs and holds an honorary degree and Chancellor’s Medallion from Fayetteville State University.

Severe weather information

In the case of severe weather — heavy rain accompanied by high winds, thunder and lightning — the commencement ceremony will be moved to the Dean E. Smith Center. The event time will remain 9:30 a.m., and the University will announce any change early that morning.

All shuttle services will be redirected to the Smith Center.

Announcements will be posted and air on the UNC Web site at www.unc.edu, the University Travelers Information System Radio (1610 AM), WCHL-AM (1360), WUNC-FM (91.5), the University Access Channel (Chapel Hill Time Warner Cable Channel 4) and other local TV or radio stations.

Because of limited seating capacity in the Smith Center, the University uses a ticketing system for the event. Each eligible graduating student is limited to five severe weather admission tickets — one for the graduate’s entrance and four for guests. Both graduates and guests must have the tickets for admission.

Students cleared to graduate must secure their tickets online in advance at www.unc.edu/commencement. Tickets are available through May 9.

For more information, visit the UNC homepage, www.unc.edu, or the commencement page, www.unc.edu/commencement/ MayCommencement2008.htm.
Robert C. Cefalo, professor emeritus of obstetrics and gynecology in the School of Medicine and director of the medical residency and fellowship programs at UNC Hospitals for 25 years, died April 22 at age 74.

“Bob Cefalo was part of the fabric of UNC School of Medicine,” said Daniel Clarke-Pearson, chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

“He had a passion for medical student, resident and fellowship training. During his nearly three decades of leadership at UNC, he improved the care of mothers and their infants throughout our region; not only by his compassionate obstetrical care, but by his positive influence on all of us who had the privilege to learn from him.”

During Cefalo’s tenure as director of graduate medical education, UNC earned national recognition for the development of “best practices” in residency and fellowship programs.

He joined the faculty in 1979, headed the physician training programs from 1981 to 2006 and served as assistant dean for graduate medical education.

He also served as director of maternal-fetal-medicine from 1979 to 1997, as interim chair of obstetrics and gynecology in 1981–83 and 2004–06 and as interim director of maternal-fetal medicine in 2005–06. In 2007, he was visiting professor at Hebei Normal University in Shijiazhuang, China. His honors include being named a National Academy of Education Spencer Fellow and receiving the Outstanding Contribution to Interpretative Research Award from the American Educational Research Association. Cefalo is the author of three books, many book chapters and numerous journal articles and research monographs.

He received a bachelor of arts degree with highest honors in American studies from Carolina in 1969 and earned his doctor of education degree in administration, planning and social policy from Harvard University’s Graduate School of Education in 1984.

“I would like to thank the search committee, led by Dean Jean Folkerts of the School of Journalism and Mass Communication, for their work,” Gray-Little said in announcing Cefalo’s appointment. “I also want to express my deep appreciation to Dr. Jill Fitzgerald, professor of literacy, who will continue to lead the School of Education until Dr. McDiarmid arrives.”

Lawrence Band to lead Institute for the Environment

Lawrence Band, Vott Gilmore Distinguished Professor of Geography, has been named director of the Institute for the Environment. He succeeds Doug Crawford-Brown, who led the institute until earlier this year and has left to become a senior sustainability adviser to the firm of Pelli Frischmann in the United Kingdom.

Band, who came to Carolina in 1998, served as chair of the geography department from 2002 to 2007.

His research focuses on the hydrological and ecological structure, function and dynamics of watersheds, a key area for North Carolina and the nation in view of recent droughts and storms.

“Professor Band’s deep knowledge of the mission and goals of the institute and his impressive record of scholarship and administrative leadership have prepared him well to direct this critically important campuswide center,” said Bernadette Gray-Little, executive vice chancellor and provost.

“I look forward to the contributions that Professor Band and the Institute will make to increasing our understanding of the pressing environmental problems that we face, and developing solutions to them.”

Band received his bachelor’s degree at the State University of New York at Buffalo, and master’s and doctoral degrees at the University of California, Los Angeles. Before coming to Carolina, he served on the faculties of San Francisco State University, Hunter College and the University of Toronto.

The institute was founded in 2000 as an expansion of the Carolina Environmental Program.

McDiarmid appointed School of Education dean

G. William (Bill) McDiarmid has been appointed dean of the School of Education and Alumni Distinguished Professor of Education effective Jan. 1, 2009. He comes to Carolina from the University of Washington-Seattle, where he has been Boeing Professor of Teacher Education since 2001.

McDiarmid is a senior fellow with the Washington Center for Teaching and Learning and Teachers for a New Era, a national initiative designed to enhance K-12 teaching.

With funding from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, Teachers for a New Era works to renew pre-service teacher preparation, create residencies for education graduates and track their classroom performance.

He also helped create the Teaching/Learning Partnership program, working in conjunction with the University of Washington’s College of Arts and Sciences, the Seattle Public Schools and the Seattle Education Association. The program prepares people in mid-career transition to teach math and science in Seattle’s high-need middle schools.

“Dr. McDiarmid’s credentials in teacher education and learning are impressive,” said Bernadette Gray-Little, executive vice chancellor and provost.

Carolinas School of Education includes 56 full-time and 30 part-time faculty members, 193 undergraduate students, 543 graduate students and 150 licensure students.

A Carolina alumnus and native of Raeford, McDiarmid previously served on the faculties of the University of Alaska-Anchorage, the University of Alaska-Fairbanks and Michigan State University. In Anchorage, he was director of the Institute of Social and Economic Research and professor of educational policy, where his research focused on Alaska Native educational issues.

In 2007, he was visiting professor at Hebei Normal University in Shijiazhuang, China. His honors include being named a National Academy of Education Spencer Fellow and receiving the Outstanding Contribution to Interpretative Research Award from the American Educational Research Association. McDiarmid is the author of three books, many book chapters and numerous journal articles and research monographs.

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Each course addresses unique local and state community needs while providing substantial learning opportunities for students. Course topics range from grassroots community development to reporting for new media, demonstrating a broad application of service-learning across the disciplines.

Grant recipients will receive $8,000 to support expenses such as course development, books, materials and stipends. Recipients must teach the course at least three times within five years, starting in the 2008-09 academic year.

Grant recipients are: Elizabeth Bruno, lecturer in Romance languages; Billie Murray and Natalie Framer, graduate students in communication studies; Karla Slocum, associate professor of anthropology; Sandy Smith-Nonini, adjunct assistant professor in education and adjunct assistant professor in child psychiatry; and Billie Murray, adjunct assistant professor in educational psychology. The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Joel Schwartz

Professor emeritus of political science and adjunct professor of public policy, Schwartz was the recipient of the Faculty Excellence Award April 17 during the APPLES Service-Learning Program’s ninth annual celebration: Fruits of our Labor.

Carol Trexolini, associate provost for academic initiatives, presented the awards.

Ueltschi Service-Learning Course Development Grants

The APPLES Service-Learning Program has announced recipients of the 2008 Ueltschi Service-Learning Course Development Grants. Six recipients were selected to develop five innovative service-learning courses for undergraduate students by integrating community service into the traditional academic setting.

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Patterson appointed chair of ERP Student Stakeholder Committee

Roger Patterson, associate vice chancellor for finance, has been appointed chair of the Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Student Stakeholder Committee. He replaces Executive Associate Provost Steve Allred, who will leave the University at the end of June to become provost at the University of Richmond.

The ERP is the University-wide effort to streamline and integrate the computing systems that manage student information, human resources, payroll and finance. As committee chair, Patterson will work closely with the ERP team and engage with campus units to facilitate the ERP implementation.

“I’m pleased to have the opportunity to guide the collaborative efforts for such a critical system,” Patterson said. “It is my hope that I can continue to build on the project’s progress and Steve’s leadership. I’m looking forward to working with the project team and affected schools and units to solve any challenges that lie ahead.”

Committee members are:

- DeAhn Baucom, director of student accounts and University receivables;
- Stephen Farmer, assistant provost and director of undergraduate admissions;
- Phillip Asbury, deputy director of scholarships and student aid;
- Bobbi Owen, professor of dramatic art and senior associate dean for undergraduate education; and
- Alice Pochels, assistant provost and University registrar.

For more information about ERP, contact Debra Beller at 843-0477 or debra_beller@unc.edu.

Matson appointed dean of the Graduate School

Steven W. Matson, professor and chair of the Department of Biology, will become dean of the Graduate School effective July 1.

A member of the faculty since 1983, Matson is widely respected for his teaching, mentoring and research in the field of genetics and molecular biology, said Bernadette Gray-Little, executive vice chancellor and provost, when she announced the appointment.

Matson will oversee the approximately 8,000 graduate students in Carolina’s 66 doctoral and 100 masters programs.

“Dr. Matson is an innovative and collaborative administrator whose background and extensive experience working with graduate students and postdoctoral fellows make him especially well suited to further the University’s efforts to attract the best students to the Graduate School and ensure that they receive a quality education,” Gray-Little said.

On the national level, Matson is a recipient of the American Cancer Society Faculty Research Award and has served as a reviewer for the Journal of Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences and the Journal of Biological Chemistry, where he served as an editorial board member from 2000 to 2005.

At UNC, he has taught courses on Current Topics in Biology, Advanced Molecular Biology, Advanced Cell Biology and honors sections of Genetics and Molecular Biology.

A 2004 recipient of the University’s Tanner Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching and a 2005 Institute of Arts and Humanities Leadership Fellow, Matson is also a member of the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee, Bank of America Distinguished Professorship review panel and Honors Program Faculty Advisory Board.

He is a past member and chair of the Pre-health Professions Advising Task Force and has served on various University administrative review committees through the years.

Matson’s research focuses on DNA repair, conjugal DNA transfer and enzymatic mechanisms and biological roles of DNA helicases. His laboratory’s long-term goal is to understand the molecular role of several helicases in the bacterium E. coli and the budding yeast S. cerevisiae.

He earned a bachelor’s degree in mathematics from Colgate University. His master’s and doctoral degrees are from the University of Rochester, both in biochemistry.

He succeeds Linda Dykstra, William Rand Kenan Jr. Professor of Pharmacology and Psychology, who will return to full-time research and graduate student training.

“The University community is extremely grateful to Dr. Dykstra for her commitment and long-term leadership of the Graduate School,” Gray-Little said.

Ovitt, government data librarian, dies at 51

James Harvard Ovitt, government data librarian, died suddenly of a heart attack on April 20. He was 51.

Ovitt became government data librarian in 2005 after serving as a reference librarian and a student assistant at Davis Library.

He received a master’s degree in library science from Carolina’s School of Information and Library Science in 2003 and a bachelor’s degree in history from Cornell University in 1980.

Before entering the field of library science, Ovitt spent nearly 20 years in the media industry in New York as a producer and director of documentary and industrial films.

He was a member of the American Library Association (ALA) and of ALA’s Association of College and Research Libraries and Government Documents Roundtable. He was also a member of the North Carolina Library Association and of the association’s Government Resources Section.

A college fund for Ovitt’s daughter has been established. Checks may be made payable to Ovitt College Fund, State Employees Credit Union, P.O. Box 878, Carrboro, 27510 or brought to the SECU office, 100 Highway 54 West, in Carrboro.

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2008 IT Awards

The 16th Annual UNC Information Technology Awards ceremony was held April 22 at the Carolina Club. Each year the awards recognize the work and dedication of the campus staff involved in information technology (IT).

Individual winners were: Erin Adair, Christina Arts, Alex Azad, Roger Carden, Eric Chapman, Manuel Garcia, Caitlyn Hill, Carrie Holbert, Shumin Li, Kevin Masters, David Perrin, Bonnie Smyre, Jeff Vandrimmelen, Scott Wilber, Gary Wilhelm and Diana Woodhouse.

Team winners were: Chris Williams, Jeremy Buenviaje and Paul Kamen (ResNET); Richard Hill and Tony DeLuca (TTS Internal Support); Leslie Kreizman, Penny Ward, Baskin Cooper and Curtis Webster (IT South Building).

URC Spring Awards

The University Research Council (URC) administers a small grant program for faculty and professional librarians at UNC. There are two types of grants, research and publication, reviewed twice a year. The maximum total award is $5,000. The council encourages the use of URC grants as a stepping stone to extramural support.

For the spring term, there were 88 applications and 33 award recipients. Recipients are listed at the following Web site: research.unc.edu/red/urc_winners.php.

For more information about research and economic development small grant and internal funding programs, see research.unc.edu/red/internal.php?urc.

MD-MPH program

The MD-MPH joint degree program between the schools of medicine and public health was featured in an article in the April issue of Academic Medicine, “The MD-MPH Program at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.” It was written by Russell Harris, Linda Kinsinger, Sue Tollefson-Rinehart, Anthony Viera and Georgette Dent.

The article describes the collaboration between the schools that led to the 1997 development of the Health Care and Prevention MPH concentration.

The concentration is designed to meet the unique needs of medical students, residents, fellows and others with clinical science backgrounds who seek to integrate training in population sciences with their medical training.

North Carolina Botanical Garden

The American Public Gardens Association (APGA) has chosen the Web site of the North Carolina Botanical Garden (ncbg.unc.edu), to receive first place honor in the mid-size public garden category for the 2008 Dorothy E. Hansell Publication Award.

The award recognizes excellence in publications related to public gardens. The award will be presented at the APGA’s annual conference in June in Pasadena, Calif.
Retirement system communications updated

**ORTB system has log-in change**

In an effort to streamline access to members’ retirement accounts, the Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System (TSERS) has simplified the steps that are required to register on the online retirement site, ORBT (Online Retirement Benefits through Integrated Technology).

The ORBT system offers many features to TSERS members: viewing account history; tracking requests for information; scheduling a one-on-one meeting with a retirement counselor and much more.

To access ORBT, visit [www.mynceretirement.com](http://www.mynceretirement.com) and select the “ORBFT” button from the “Retirement” drop-down menu. You will be directed to the log-in page, where you can complete your registration or log in if you have already registered.

If you originally registered to access your ORBT account prior to March 13 using the more complex NCID process, you will need to re-register as a first-time user following the instructions outlined above.

**Annual benefit statements for TSERS members**

The Teachers’ and State Employees’ Retirement System is now distributing annual benefit statements for TSERS members directly to employees’ home addresses.

“The mailing began in April and is expected to be staggered over several months, so not all employees will receive their statements at the same time,” said Brian Ustechon, senior director of Benefits and Employee Services. As an alternative to statements, employees can log on to ORBT to check the status of their account.

If you have questions about your annual benefit statement, contact the retirement system at 919-807-3030 or toll-free at 1-877-627-3287.

**Training & Development mentoring materials available**

Are you looking to strengthen leadership, motivation and communications skills in your department? A mentoring program may be just the answer.

The Training & Development department in the Office of Human Resources has a variety of mentoring resources available at [hr.unc.edu/Data/SPA/training/mentor/index](http://hr.unc.edu/Data/SPA/training/mentor/index).

“Mentoring also creates a sense of ownership throughout the organization by holding everyone accountable for organizational learning and success. The actual practice and look of mentoring varies based on the people and departments participating in the process.”

**What are the benefits of mentoring to my organization?**

There are numerous advantages to providing mentoring programs within and across University departments. Recognized benefits of mentoring include:

- Increased competency levels in accomplishing crucial work for departments and the University;
- Personal and direct contributions to the career development of talented employees;
- Accelerated leadership development to sharpen coaching, management and communication skills (both for the mentor and the mentee) — vital skills for successful leadership practices;
- Increased organizational commitments and job satisfaction, leading to renewed interest and vigor for work responsibilities, which benefits the University as a whole;
- Heightened individual and organizational learning;
- Stronger and more cohesive teams;
- Shared responsibility that influences learning and growing; and
- Maximum resources for departments with a small workforce or high employee turnover.

**Who should participate in the mentoring process?**

Mentoring takes place throughout an organization. Whether people engage in traditional one-on-one mentoring partnerships or peer and team mentoring, the process helps participants grow into their full potential and enriches the workplace. The partnerships can be developed face-to-face or through distance mentoring, including videoconferencing, e-mail and phone calls.

**How do I get started in the mentoring process?**

Training & Development is ready to help individuals, departments and organizations realize goals by developing mentoring skills. Training & Development will provide:

- Stock and custom mentoring materials;
- Information about mentoring to promote a mentoring culture and educate University employees;
- Individual departmental consultations to develop and support mentoring efforts; and
- Organization development programs custom-designed to meet specific mentoring needs.

For more information on mentoring, contact Training & Development at 962-2550 or [training_development@unc.edu](mailto:training_development@unc.edu).
Students ratchet up protest after committee decision

Chancellor James Moeser began the May 2 meeting of Licensing Labor Code Advisory Committee (LLCAC) by drawing a line between the idea of supporting fair labor practices and the strategies that should be employed to achieve them. “I don’t believe there is any disagreement in the room about the principles and practices that this University is committed to,” Moeser said. “There is a disagreement on tactics.”

Minutes after the meeting ended, the dividing line over tactics became all the more real when five student protesters, who had been staging a legal sit-in inside the South Building rotunda from April 17 to the end of last week, occupied the chancellor’s office to protest the LLCAC’s decision not to endorse their demands.

The five students were arrested for violating the ground rules they had been given: to respect University property, not disrupt operations during business hours, not occupy any business offices and not exceed the fire marshal’s posted capacity for the rotunda.

“We showed tremendous forbearance in a 16-day sit-in that was, until today, peaceful,” Moser said after the incident ended. “We made it clear all along that any disruption of business or occupation of offices would not be tolerated. I regret the students chose to end the sit-in in this manner.”

The official goal of the meeting was for LLCAC members to recommend to Moeser what the committee’s charge for next year should be. But even as that charge was being debated, students representing Student Action with Workers (SAW) stood around the table in silent protest with signs reinforcing the demands of the sit-in, which was for the chancellor to endorse the Designated Suppliers Program (DSP). The DSP was proposed by United Students Against Sweatshops as a system to protect rights of workers who make university logo apparel.

It includes requirements for university licensees to source apparel from factories that universities have endorsed based on their independent verification that employees’ rights have been protected.

After asking the LLCAC to review DSP in fall 2005, Moeser decided in August 2007 to reject the DSP proposal because of lingering questions about its feasibility and concerns about unintentionally hurting licensees. The DSP was not part of Moeser’s charge to the LLCAC this academic year.

The LLCAC’s charge for next year

In response to Moeser’s charge to set an agenda for 2008–09, the LLCAC passed a motion for the advisory panel to put under increased scrutiny the roles of continuing the University’s affiliation with two groups, the Fair Labor Association (FLA) and the Worker Rights Consortium (WRC). The WRC is a coalition of student and worker-rights organizations.

Specifically, the motion calls upon the FLA and the WRC to coordinate with each other to see how they can work together to help Carolina meet its objectives concerning acceptable labor standards. The second part of the motion calls for FLA and WRC to explain to the University what they plan to do to become more effective working together rather than separately.

LLCAC member Jack Evans, who is the executive director of Carolina North, said the demands placed on the two organizations would constitute a “shot across the bow” warning that Carolina was ready to pursue its goals without them if they could not demonstrate an ability to work together to achieve real and verifiable results.

The second motion, which was defeated, would have called on Moeser to endorse the DSP as SAW had demanded.

Wrestling with a moral dilemma

LLCAC members wrestled with Carolina’s status as one of the premier trademark licensing programs in the country and the moral obligations that such stature brings. That will not be easy, though, because all the university licensing programs in the country combined constitute less than 1 percent of the global apparel industry. With that tiny fraction of the market, universities lack the economic leverage to force the kind of sweeping changes needed.

But many LLCAC members said that Carolina’s prominence in the trademark industry, coupled with its historic values, creates a moral obligation to do all it can to push for fair labor practices.

Altha Cravey, associate professor of geography and long-time member of the LLCAC, said, “We have an opportunity to wrestle with a moral dilemma and our chancellor has that same opportunity.”

Cravey voted in support of endorsing the highest standards, arguing that such a step would be a step forward toward achieving something practical and reasonable rather than continuing with “tinkering around the edges” of the problem.

At the same time, however, Cravey agreed with administrators on the panel who said that the next chancellor must reserve the right to accept or reject the recommendation of the advisory panel, whether that recommendation was unanimously approved or not.

LLCAC co-chair Don Hornstein, Aubrey L. Brooks Professor in the School of Law, responded. Of those, 200 said the print publication was easier to read, 61 percent read it online; 3.1 percent read it only in print, 3.1 percent read it only online and 13.2 percent read it sometimes in print and sometimes online.

When asked to explain their preferences, 290 people responded. Of those, 289 said the print publication was easier to read or more convenient. Around 50 people said they were unaware of the online version and two dozen said they already spent considerable time online in their jobs.

Enhancing online Gazette information

Nearly two-thirds of respondents (63.1 percent) indicated they would visit the Gazette Web site more often if it contained current University news and upcoming events in addition to all the information in the print version.

When asked their reasons for not reading the Gazette online, most respondents said they preferred to receive information via paper or they were too busy to look online. Others said they would have to rely on e-mail reminders or RSS feeds to look for the updated Gazette or they already received the information in other ways.

Adequate means of communication

When asked how well communications met people’s needs for University information, mass e-mail ranked highest at 92.3 percent said extremely well or adequately. This was followed by communications from the University unit (82.3 percent); departmental manager, campus communicator or human resources facilitator (81.3 percent); and the University Gazette (79.3 percent).

Next were the Daily Tar Heel (71 percent); communications from the Faculty Council or Employee Forum (67.1 percent); and the University’s main Web site (63.3 percent).

Credible information

When asked to rank the two most credible sources of information, people cited communications from the unit (44.9 percent), the main University Web site (42.5 percent), suggested to Moeser that the University could be a leader in this arena in the same way that it was in promoting access to qualified low-income students through the Carolina Covenant.

Hornstein said what Carolina did through the Covenant was “path-breaking and historic.” It is now a national model that has been replicated more than 80 times. He said this issue marks another opportunity for the University to blaze the path leading to a solution to a huge problem that could then be replicated by other universities.

Survey from page 2

■ Feel that the Gazette provides information about the University adequately or very well;

■ Would like to see more photos/graphics and color, shorter stories and a style more like a magazine; and

■ Are interested in information on safety/alerts, events and opportunities, salaries and benefits, and policies and procedures.

Print versus online

The majority of people read and prefer the print Gazette: 68.7 percent read it only in print, 3.1 percent read it only online and 13.2 percent read it sometimes in print and sometimes online.

When asked to explain their preferences, 290 people responded. Of those, 289 said the print publication was easier to read or more convenient. Around 50 people said they were unaware of the online version and two dozen said they already spent considerable time online in their jobs.

Two paws up

Hispy, who makes his home with Jim White of UNC Printing Services and is rumored to be a faithful reader, analyzes Gazette content before deciding if completing the survey is worth the time taken away from his napping and grooming.

Former social worker gives UNC $1.4 million

Melvarene Adair, a retired North Carolina social worker, has established a charitable gift annuity with the UNC Foundation, directing nearly $1.4 million to the School of Social Work—one of the largest gifts in the school’s history.

The money will be used to create a $1 million endowment for The Johnson-Howard-Adair Distinguished Professorship. About $394,000 will go to an existing scholarship, which was created by Adair’s son, Kenneth Howard, in his mother’s honor.

The professorship will target a scholar or distinguished teacher interested “in the impact and influence of poverty on individuals, families and communities.”

“Mel’s transformative gift will have a lasting impact on the school” said Mary Beth Hernandez, associate dean for advancement. “The Howard-Johnson-Adair professorship will be among the largest professorships established at a school of social work, and the Adair Scholarships will support masters of social work students in perpetuity.”

Adair, who earned her master’s degree in social work from Carolina, hopes the gift will also help attract more students to the profession of social work.

“I’ve gotten the impression that everybody wants to go into mental health because of the prestige, but I want them to realize that this is a good field, too,” she said.
**Calendar**

**READINGS | FILMS | PERFORMANCES**

**CAROLINA PERFORMING ARTS**
Call 843-3333. performingarts@unc.edu. www.carolinaperformingarts.org. $ 5/7 Chapel Hill Community Chorus presents: Carl Off’s Carmina Burana. Memorial. 8 pm.

**MOREHEAD PLANETARIUM**
Call 649-8863 for show times or 962-1236. mplanet@unc.edu. www.moreheadplanetarium.org. $

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**GALLERIES | EXHIBITS**

**ACKLAND ART MUSEUM**
Wed-Sat, 10 am-5 pm; Sun, 1-5 pm. Call 843-8626. www.ackland.org.

**UNC GLOBAL**
global.unc.edu. Contact Laura Griest, lauragriest@unc.edu.

**HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY**
www.hsl.unc.edu.
- "Great Minds/Great Finds." "Celebrating National Occupational Therapy Month."

**IT’S ALL ONLINE**
The Gazette calendar is geared only toward items of general interest. For more information, visit www.unc.edu/calendar.

**LECTURES | SEMINARS | COLLOQUIA**

**TUESDAY, MAY 13**

**RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** "Speaking of Research." Tom Holder speaks about animal rights extremism. Aud, MBBR. 3:30 pm.

**FRIDAY, MAY 16 – SATURDAY, MAY 17**

**School of Pharmacy** Third Annual Chapel Hill Drug Conference: Academic Drug Discovery. Rizzo Conf Ctr. fridayscenter.unc.edu/pdep/drug-discovery.

**NOTEWORTHY**

**BELL TOWER TOASTMASTERS**
Every Tuesday Practice formal and informal presentations with feedback. 5th floor conf room, Health Sciences Library. 11:45 a.m. – 1 pm.

**ITS INFORMATION SECURITY**
Registration required: tinyurl.com/5vy7rl. Information security briefing. Stone Ctr. 8 am-4:30 pm.

**UNIVERSITY MANAGERS ASSOCIATION**
E-mail duval@email.unc.edu. uma.unc.edu.
- Wednesday Conversations – brown bag lunch. Campus Y. 11:45 am.

**WOMEN’S HEALTH INFORMATION CENTER**
- Women’s Check-up Day Health Fair. Cholesterol screening, $15 (3:30-5 pm). Body fat analysis, blood pressure testing. Email: wfh@med.unc.edu.
- Women’s Check-up Day Health Fair. Thursday, May 15. 11 am-3 pm. Cholesterol screening, $15 (3:30-5 pm).

**DEADLINES TO WATCH**

**UNC BOARD OF GOVERNORS**
Call Bart Corgnati, 962-4952; e-mail bco@unc.edu.
- Deadline to make nominations for 2008 Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Public Service. Send nominations accompanied by biographical information and a statement of the nominee’s public service achievements to Mike Smith, CB# 3300.

**UNIVERSITY MANAGERS ASSOCIATION**

**ROBERT AND SALLIE BROWN GALLERY AND MUSEUM**
Stone Ctr, 150 South Rd. 962-8001. Gallery hours 10 am-7 pm, Mon-Fri, closed University holidays.

**WILSON LIBRARY**
Exhibit areas open Mon-Fri, 8 am-5 pm (NC Collection Gallery opens at 9 am). Weekend hours vary by exhibit; call 962-0114 for details. NC Collection Gallery offers guided tours Wednesdays at 2 pm, other times by appointment. Call 962-1172.

**SECOND MAIN FLOOR**
- The History of the North Carolina Collection. Hall.
- Recent Acquisitions, NC Collection Reading Room.

**THIRD FLOOR**

**FOURTH FLOOR**
- "Paper Trail: The Poster Art of Casey Burns and Ron Liberti."