Eve Carson personified the Carolina way. She had an intellectual curiosity befitting a Morehead-Cain Scholar, coupled with a passion for making a difference in the world and an infectious enthusiasm. And she possessed a unique gift for touching the lives of many different people and making them better for it in some way.

“She was a representation of each of us, someone full of promise and passion, who excelled and loved life and the people around her,” Student Body President Jasmin Jones said. “I think that’s why so many of us can relate to her story and miss her, whether we knew her or not.”

Jones described some of what made her friend and mentor so special during the March 4 dedication of the Eve Marie Carson Garden.

The garden, located on Polk Place behind the Campus Y, was designed as a place for the entire campus community to reflect and interact — and to celebrate the life of Carolina’s former student body president, who was killed two years ago.

“This garden is a special place for us to visit, to remember and celebrate our friends,” Chancellor Holden Thorp said during the ceremony.

University prepares for potential state budget cuts

Economic analysts are optimistic that the worst of the recession is behind us, but North Carolina’s budget is not out of the red yet.

Legislative leaders expect at least a $500 million gap in the state budget for next year. That figure will be fine-tuned later this spring when the impact of income tax payments on the state revenue picture becomes clearer.

Like last year, however, the University is making plans for budget cuts well before the legislative session is under way.

Chancellor Holden Thorp told the Carolina community in a Feb. 25 e-mail message that the University was preparing for the likelihood of more cuts in state appropriations on top of the total 10 percent reduction taken last year.

Bruce Carney, recently named executive vice chancellor and provost, is leading the annual Budget Committee deliberations in which the vice chancellors and deans present their proposals. Starting last December, administrators were asked to develop proposals that assumed new cuts at the 5 percent level as well as continued declines in funding from endowment earnings, Thorp said.
Hand sanitizers installed in high-traffic areas on campus

Flu season is not over. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) predict flu activity nationwide — either seasonal flu or H1N1 — to continue for weeks. The CDC recommends vaccination as the best protection against the flu.

Since the fall, University health officials have held 19 clinics for the seasonal flu vaccine and 54 clinics for the H1N1 vaccine in 19 locations around campus, including eight in residence halls.

“We have received 13,210 doses of the H1N1 vaccine and so far have vaccinated 10,380 people,” said Mary Beth Koza, director of the Department of Environment, Health and Safety.

“Unfortunately, only a little more than 4,100 doses have gone to our students ages 18 to 24,” she said. “Students’ disinterest in taking advantage of the clinics is very disappointing since people this age are among the high-risk groups. We think a fair number probably were vaccinated at home during the winter holidays, though, so that’s a good thing.”

The University will continue to offer the H1N1 vaccine for faculty, staff and students.

Faculty and staff can get the vaccine at the University Employee Occupational Health Clinic on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays or Fridays by making an appointment at eohc.unc.edu/ueohc/h1n1flusth.shtml. Students can get the vaccine at Campus Health Services by calling 966-2281 to schedule an appointment Mondays through Fridays.

Health officials also recommend frequent hand washing, or using alcohol-based hand sanitizers if soap and water are not available, to keep the flu and other viruses from spreading.

Earlier this month, 122 hand sanitizers were installed in high-traffic areas around campus, including libraries, dining halls, the FPG Student Union, computer labs and entrances to many buildings — both academic buildings and those that see many visitors such as the George Watts Hill Alumni Center and the Friday Center for Continuing Education, among others.

State Industrial Products provided the General Refresh dispensers at no cost to the University.

Carney named executive vice chancellor and provost, pending BOT approval

Bruce Carney will become Carolina’s new executive vice chancellor and provost.

Chancellor Holden Thorp announced the appointment, which is pending approval by the Board of Trustees later this month, in a March 10 e-mail message to campus.

Carney, who has served in the position in an interim capacity since last summer, originally said he was not interested in the position permanently.

“But fortunately for us, he was willing to reconsider,” Thorp said. “Not only has he come to enjoy the job, but we’ve come to rely on him. Not only an outstanding job, and appointing him allows us to continue moving forward without skipping a beat.”

Carney, a faculty member since 1980, is the Samuel Baron Distinguished Professor of Physics and Astronomy. He has held a number of key leadership roles in the University, including serving as interim dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. He also served as senior associate dean in the college, overseeing a dozen academic departments and programs in the sciences.

The search committee, led by Shelley Earp, director of the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center, and Lisa Broome, Wachovia Professor of Banking Law, brought three candidates to campus for public forums. Ultimately, there was not a match, Thorp said.

“Rather than reopening the search, we prevailed upon Bruce to stay in his role,” he said. “And Bruce has clearly shown he’s up to the task.”

The executive vice chancellor and provost oversees all academic operations, including 13 schools and the College of Arts and Sciences, the University Library, a variety of centers and several cultural and educational units.

Carney, a former chair of the Department of Physics and Astronomy, is a scholar of optical and infrared photometry and spectroscopy, stellar populations and globular cluster ages. Among his many publications is the book “Star Clusters.”

He was involved in planning for the Carolina Physical Sciences Complex, Carolina’s largest construction project, and was instrumental in shaping the vision for, and success of, the SOAR Telescope in Chile. University faculty and students can use the telescope on site and remotely from Chapman Hall.

Last spring, Carney was re-elected chair of the board of directors of the Association of Universities for Research in Astronomy. The association, an international consortium of universities and nonprofit, manages two national observatories for the National Science Foundation and the Space Telescope Science Institute for NASA.

If his appointment is approved, Carney will succeed Bernadette Gray-Little, who left the position to become chancellor of the University of Kansas.
New Edward Kidder Graham Faculty Service Award to be given in 2011

Former University President Edward Kidder Graham, who worked to expand Carolina’s public service mission a century ago, famously said, “We hope to make the campus co-extensive with the boundaries of the State.” Since Graham made that declaration in 1914, the University’s commitment to service has extended to the far reaches of North Carolina and well beyond.

If Graham were making that statement today, it would be more accurate to say the boundaries of the world — maybe even the universe, Chancellor Holden Thorp said at the Feb. 26 Faculty Council meeting.

“Our faculty are extraordinarily committed to service to the people of North Carolina, the world and their professions,” he said, “but we don’t have a University-wide faculty award for service.”

That is about to change. On University Day 2011, the University will honor the first recipient of a new award recognizing faculty members for their excellence in carrying out this important mission.

Thorp said Faculty Chair McKay Coble and the Faculty Executive Committee endorsed his idea and recommended that the award be named the Edward Kidder Graham Faculty Service Award. Joe Ferrell, secretary of the faculty, is drafting the award criteria.

In recognition of an overall commitment to service, the University earlier that day was named one of six Presidential Awardees in the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll (see related story on this page).

“Our students can do anything, and they do it thanks to the good teaching you provide,” Thorp said.

He also credited Lynn Blanchard, director of the Carolina Center for Public Service, and Jenny Huq, director of the APPLES Service-Learning Program, for their work in spearheading the University’s service efforts.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND STUDENT AID

During the 2008–09 academic year, the Office of Scholarships and Student Aid provided assistance to 15,781 students.

Of the total 17,895 undergraduates enrolled at Carolina that year, 32 percent received need-based

The repercussions of state budget cuts, coupled with the ongoing challenge of how to respond to them, have been inescapable parts of University life since fall 2008, just a few months after Holden Thorp took over as chancellor.

From the beginning, Thorp told faculty and staff he would tell them what was going on with the budget as soon as he had the information. And he said administrators would undergo their share of cuts.

On March 3, when he spoke to the Employee Forum, Thorp reinforced these same themes as he reviewed some of the points he had outlined in a Feb. 25 campus e-mail message (see related story on page 1).

The state faces a projected $500 million budget shortfall. Although the situation for the upcoming fiscal year could be worse, especially when compared with last year’s shortfall that climbed into the billions, Thorp acknowledged that the University was working through difficult financial times.

He also admitted he could not say “it could be worse” without acknowledging that some people’s lives have been dramatically affected by the situation, and these people had his sympathy and understanding.

Thorp said any future layoffs that would be necessary would be evenly distributed across campus and would affect the ranks of senior academic and administrative officers as much as staff members.

The actual scope of the shortfall for next fiscal year, he said, would not be known until tax revenue numbers are announced in April.

Still, Thorp is hopeful that major cuts will not be necessary — either during the remainder of the current fiscal year or in the new fiscal year that begins July 1 — because of the cautionary action Gov. Beverly Perdue took last year when the 2009–10 budget was approved.

Perdue had instructed the Office of State Budget and Management to withhold 5 percent of each state agency’s monthly allotment starting last September. This means, in practical terms, that the University has essentially been operating at the same level that a 5 percent permanent cut would produce.

Based on the way things stand now, Thorp said he believed permanent budget cuts would not exceed 5 percent for the 2010–11 fiscal year.

REACHING OUT

In another matter, Thorp applauded the forum’s outreach efforts to the needy, including ongoing drives to collect shoes and food for earthquake victims in Haiti.

He talked about the intrinsic personal rewards people gain by giving to others.

In this same vein, Thorp cited the support forum Chair Tommy Griffin has given to a student proposal that Thorp’s wife, Patti, is instrumental in supporting, which would double the number of houses that Habitat for Humanity will be able to build for qualifying University and hospital employees in a Chapel Hill neighborhood.
Sharing patient information will speed and improve care

AHEC Program Director Tom Bacon believes that the challenge of extending better health care to the underserved rural pockets of North Carolina cannot be met simply by adding more health-care providers. What is urgently needed, in addition to more providers, is increased patient information that can be shared more quickly across a wide spectrum—from primary care doctors in a patient’s hometown to specialists hundreds of miles away, and from hospitals to county health departments to home-health providers.

And it may soon happen, Bacon said, thanks to an initiative by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources that will commit nearly $750 million in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act funding to advance the adoption and meaningful use of health information technology.

Of the $26.5 million awarded to North Carolina, AHEC (Area Health Education Centers) received $13.6 million to establish a regional extension center to provide training and technical support.

The center will provide assistance to primary care practices in the state in selecting and implementing electronic health records. By offering this targeted technical support, the center will enable primary practices to take full advantage of the electronically based Health Information Exchange that will be developed with the remaining $12.9 million North Carolina received.

Bacon said the program will, for the first time, establish financial incentives for software developers to create systems that “can talk to one another” in a way that will allow the Health Information Exchange to provide the information health-care providers need, when they need it, without compromising patients’ privacy.

The next step is to get health-care providers to use the system to raise both the quality and efficiency of care they can provide. And that is the central role AHEC will play with the creation of the regional education center, Bacon said.

Bacon and Sam Cykert, associate professor of medicine at Carolina and the program director for internal medicine at Moses Cone Hospital and the Greensboro AHEC, were the two co-principal investigators for the grant.

Ann Lefebvre, AHEC’s associate director for statewide quality improvement, will serve as the center’s executive director.

In addition to running the center in Chapel Hill, AHEC will use its nine centers across the state as a base for more than 40 technology specialists who will be able to offer on-site assistance to primary care providers in all parts of the state.

Bacon believes AHEC, with its historic mission of outreach and support to health-care providers across the state, was the natural choice for this assignment.

"Many of the physicians who we will be serving are graduates of our program, and we already work with them," Bacon said. "With our long history of working with these practices, this will add one more service we can offer to help them provide good quality care for their patients."

The long-term vision, Bacon said, is to develop a robust environment so improvements can be made in health information technology that will engage consumers and expand information sharing among key users, including primary care providers, consultants, care managers, hospitals, pharmacies and labs.

Bacon is convinced that the result of making information instantly available when it is needed will be better clinical decision making across multiple disciplines and from all practice settings.

“We are delighted to be taking the lead on the Regional Extension Center for North Carolina,” Bacon said. “Working with our collaborators, we look forward to supporting the primary care givers in the state as they take advantage of new technologies, including electronic health records, to enhance their practice, improve health outcomes and better serve the people of North Carolina.”

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Fifty years of Carolina computing to be celebrated on March 18

“Thousands of people have visited the Computation Center and ... have yearned over the performance of the marvelous monster.” Those words, from the 1960 brochure “The Computer at Chapel Hill,” describe the earliest days of computing on campus. This photo, provided by University Archives in Wilson Library, illustrates computing at the time.

Fifty years of Carolina computing will be celebrated tomorrow, March 18, at 2 p.m. in the Nelson Mandela Auditorium of the FedEx Global Education Center.

Chancellor Holden Thorp, President Emeritus William C. Friday and other special guests will be on hand to consider the impact of the “marvelous monsters” of the past, present and future. The event is free and open to everyone.

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"Those budget hearings are not yet complete, but it’s clear already that the vice chancellors and deans are responding thoughtfully in making plans for more possible difficult decisions about people, programs and operations,” he said.

Units also were asked to pay close attention to senior management positions in considering proposed reductions.

In addition, vice chancellors and deans have been asked to show in their budget plans how they are already drawing from ideas generated by the final Bain & Company report.

“This process is a good opportunity to step back and look at our long-term goals as we set up more efficient business processes,” Carney told the Faculty Council at its Feb. 26 meeting.

When the budget hearings are over, the committee will refine plans for next year and take into account the potential need for cuts of more than 5 percent, Thorp said in the e-mail.

He reassured the Faculty Council that no tenure decisions would be influenced by the budget situation. And a top priority will continue to be making sure the University can hire junior faculty, he said, both to help protect classrooms and to be able to conduct research, service and teaching.

“We need to make sure junior faculty have as much opportunity as we can create,” he said. “We might have to move fundraising efforts into this area.”

Although the University is trying to protect teaching and learning as much as possible, Thorp said, “It is getting to the point that it’s going to be hard to make a 5 percent cut and be able to protect academics.”

The following week, Thorp spoke at the Employee Forum meeting (see related story on page 3).

He told forum members that any future layoffs the University would have to make would be evenly distributed across campus and would affect the ranks of senior academic and administrative officers as well as staff members.

For the most current information about the budget, refer to universityrelations.unc.edu/budget.
Daniel Hubbard Pollitt, Graham Kenan Professor Emeritus of Law, died March 5 at 88.

In a message posted on the School of Law’s Web site, Jack Boger, dean of the school and Wade Edwards Distinguished Professor of Law, wrote the following tribute about Pollitt: “Dan began teaching Carolina Law students in 1957, and for almost 50 years thereafter, shared with them his crystal clear commitment to academic freedom, civil rights, free speech, labor rights and a just society. In a voice always soft spoken, with a manner invariably genial, Dan represented the finest progressive social and political values.

“He was a generous and caring teacher who opened his home and life to his students, and a scholar whose writings conveyed both the legal principles and the deeper animating spirit of constitutional law, labor law and civil rights.

“Dan had an unparalleled record of social activism, a deep devotion to the University and personal friendship with many leading American public figures of his age. Dan served the School of Law and the University in much the way that the University of North Carolina has served the state, as a strong, beneficent mind and voice, prompting all to aspire to principles of fairness and inclusion.”

Born in Washington, D.C., in 1921, Pollitt earned a bachelor’s degree from Wesleyan University in 1943, and after serving in active combat with the U.S. Marine Corps in the Pacific, he entered Cornell University Law School and earned an LL.B. degree with honors in 1949.

During his time at Carolina, he served four years as faculty chair and was honored with the Thomas Jefferson Award and the law school’s Lifetime Achievement Award when he retired in 1992. Among his statewide recognitions were the Order of the Long Leaf Pine and the American Civil Liberties Union of North Carolina’s Frank Porter Graham Award.

Pollitt is survived by his second wife, N.C. Sen. Ellie Kinnaird, three children and several grandchildren. A memorial service will be held at the Community Church of Chapel Hill this spring.

Contributions may be made to the Dan Pollitt Fellowship at the School of Law in support of summer clerkships for law students to work in the area of social justice. Donations may be sent to the School of Law Annex in care of Brandon Wright, 101 E. Weaver St, Suite 245, Carrboro, NC 27510.

Tributes on the Web sites of the School of Law (snpurl.com/urba) and the General Alumni Association (snpurl.com/urca) give a more complete picture of Pollitt’s leadership in civil rights and academic freedom.

See U-LEAD page 11

U-LEAD helps prepare Carolina’s emerging leaders

A new leadership program at Carolina known as U-LEAD, or University Leadership Education and Development, targets emerging leaders at Carolina and gives them tools to meet the challenges of the University’s changing environment.

U-LEAD, sponsored by the Office of Human Resources, replaces the University Management Development Program (UMDP), which had been put on hiatus for review.

“We wanted to ensure that the UMDP program continued to meet the needs of emerging University leaders,” said Brenda Richardson Malone, vice chancellor for human resources.

“As part of this assessment, our staff interviewed administrators across campus to determine what skills and concepts they believed those emerging leaders should possess,” she said. “The result is U-LEAD, which is designed to continue the most successful aspects of UMDP, while also emphasizing strategic planning, communication and the business of higher education.”

U-LEAD, which will begin in September, is a nine-week program, with one class per week for the first six weeks. Participants must be managers who are directly responsible for at least one supervisor or a University-wide program.

JENNY HUQ, associate director of the Carolina Center for Public Service and APPLES director, received the Civic Engagement Professional of the Year Award at Elon University on Feb. 10. Her work includes offering more than 100 service-learning courses annually to the Carolina community.

WEI YOU, assistant professor of chemistry, received a prestigious CAREER Award given by the National Science Foundation that includes a five-year, $490,000 grant.

The 2009 Friday Center Awards were recently presented to Friday Center staff and associates in recognition of outstanding service. ARLENE RAINEY received the Best All-Around Award, JESSA BLISS received the Extra Mile Award, and CHARLENE BRUMMITT won the Sunshine Award. The Center Service Award was given to MARILEE EIMAN, of Student Stores, and CYNTHIA O’DANIEL, of Information Technology Services.

NANCY ALLBRITTON, professor of chemistry, has been elected a fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering. Fellows are chosen for their outstanding achievements in medical and biological engineering.

SERGEI SHEIKO, professor of chemistry, was elected a fellow of the American Physical Society. This recognition for outstanding contributions to physics is awarded to no more than one-half of 1 percent of the society’s membership.

GREG KLAIBER, digital media labs manager, is the winner of the University Library’s Outstanding Employee Award for 2009. Klaiber’s colleagues recognized him for his customer service and outreach and for his work in the ongoing development of the Undergraduate Library’s media lab.

DEREK CHIANG, assistant professor of genetics, was named a 2010 Research Fellow by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. The two-year, $50,000 fellowships are awarded to 118 researchers in recognition of distinguished performance and a unique potential to make substantial contributions to their field.

JEANETTE COOK, assistant professor of biochemistry and biophysics, has received the School of Medicine’s Jefferson-Pilot Fellowship in Academic Medicine. Cook will receive $20,000 over the next four years for scholarly endeavors.
Robert Lowman knows that shutting down the wastewater treatment operations at the University’s Bingham Facility in response to three recent spills was the right thing to do.

He also sees it as the first in a series of steps necessary to repair the treatment operations and to begin rebuilding the surrounding community’s trust, which was lost as a result of the spills and what to neighbors seemed an inadequate University response to a serious problem.

That latter process began on Feb. 23 when Lowman, the University’s associate vice chancellor for research, and other campus officials met with nearby residents after Chancellor Holden Thorp appointed Lowman to take full control of managing the facility and its operations.

“It is one thing to stand up in front of folks and make promises about being more transparent about the decisions we make and being more open and sensitive to community needs,” Lowman said. “It is another thing to make good on those promises in our actions.”

In an e-mail Thorp sent to township residents last month, he emphasized his commitment to correcting the problems and cited Lowman’s experience in managing complex research projects.

Thorp also said Lowman had his full support to do whatever it takes to fix the problems at the animal holding facility, which the University has owned and operated since the early 1970s on a 57-acre site in Orange County’s Bingham Township.

The facility supports the University’s biomedical research of genetic diseases, including finding gene therapy to cure diseases such as hemophilia and muscular dystrophy, by housing colonies of dogs that have these diseases. In the past, the facility has also housed swine with heart disease. The facility is also used for the temporary preventive quarantine of new animals.

Lowman’s appointment instantly created a clear chain of command among the many units in the University that are planning, constructing, maintaining and operating the Bingham Facility. Lowman will report directly to Thorp on all matters related to the facility, which means he will have the authority to make most decisions on the ground and will need the chancellor’s approval primarily for issues of policy and overall direction.

Lowman said no one intentionally made mistakes at the Bingham Facility, and every decision seemed reasonable to those involved at the time. The problem was that different people made various decisions without necessarily communicating or considering the cumulative impact of what others were doing.

“If a whole bunch of people make a lot of decisions that are 99 percent right, eventually you can get enough drift in that 1 percent that’s wrong to cause problems,” Lowman said, “and I think that is what happened here.”

The most recent spill occurred in the middle of February when approximately 1,900 gallons of highly treated wastewater leaked from an underground pipe in one of the spray irrigation fields. Lowman said the pipe burst, probably from age.

Earlier spills were detected in November and December. On Nov. 18, a leaking pipe allowed 630 gallons of treated wastewater to seep into the ground on the site. In December, by adding green dye to the treated water in the largest holding pond, the University was able to confirm that the pond had a leak that had reached a nearby creek. The creek feeds into the Haw River, which flows to Jordan Lake. After the University reported the leak to the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), state officials served the University with a violation notice on Dec. 18.

The University obtained a permit from DENR to pump and haul the treated wastewater from the facility while the wastewater treatment operation was closed and under evaluation.

Late last month, an army of trucks worked for days to haul away all the treated wastewater that was pumped out of the pond to seep into the ground on the site.

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Making more lungs available for transplant

EGAN

Today, if you need a new lung, the odds are against you. But thanks to Thomas Egan’s newest research, there could be more than enough lungs to go around in just a few years.

Lung disease is the fourth-leading cause of death in the United States, killing some 400,000 Americans every year, said Egan, a professor of surgery in the School of Medicine.

And while only about 1,400 lung transplants take place annually in the United States, there are 1,800 people on the lung transplant list and thousands more whose names never make it to the roster.

The problem is that only about 20 percent of lungs in the pool of U.S. organ donors are suitable for transplant, Egan said. Most lungs come from donors who have suffered head injuries, been declared brain dead and then later died when taken off a ventilator.

Brain death often causes what Egan calls ischemia reperfusion injury, which brings about inflammation and fluid build-up in the lungs. In the past, surgeons have considered these injured lungs ineligible for transplant.

Now, Egan and his team at UNC are using a $1.4 million grant from the National Institutes of Health to perfect and test a new technology that could drastically increase the number of lungs suitable for transplant.

It could also tap into a donor pool that no one has ever before considered.

Using a technique called ex-vivo lung perfusion (ex vivo means outside the body), Egan can treat donor lungs that have suffered ischemia reperfusion injury and restore them to a transplantable state. The process requires donor lungs to be removed from the body, hooked up to a ventilator, and then perfused — that is, washed continuously with deoxygenated blood.

Ex vivo lung perfusion could double the number of conventional lungs available for transplant in the United States. “Although, if we only double the number from 1,400 to 2,800, that’s still not anywhere near the number that we need,” Egan said.

The real numbers will come from donors who die suddenly, rather than days or weeks after brain death.

“We know that when the heart stops, your brain dies within minutes, which is why we do CPR,” Egan said. “Your heart dies within minutes, your liver dies within minutes. But your lungs are different.”

Unlike cells in other organs, lung cells don’t depend on a heart pumping blood to get oxygen — they can get oxygen from the air, Egan said. This means that unlike other organs, lungs do not begin to decompose immediately after a person dies.

“There are three quarters of a million sudden deaths in the United States every year,” he said. “If we could get our hands on just the bottom 5 percent, that’s over 35,000 donors. And since many of the patients that we could transplant could need single lungs, we could be doing upwards of 50,000 transplants a year, easily.”

Of course, getting access to donors who die outside of hospitals will be difficult, Egan said. EMS personnel, medical examiners, and emergency room personnel would all have to be retrained, and outdated laws in some states about brain death in organ donors would have to change.

It could take years. “But it’s a challenge we can deal with,” he said.

During the March 4 dedication, Peggy Jablonski, vice chancellor for student affairs, read a poem she wrote called “Ordinary Miracles” for all the students the garden honors.

Sacred place, a celebration of life.
Spirits alight in Eve’s garden.
The seasons will witness colorful moments.
Friends will gather, bonds will deepen.
Ordinary miracles will happen here.
They already have.

Memories rest on the new stone wall,
Announcing to those who can hear:
We had dreams, We had plans.
We walked these brick paths.
We cheered for the teams.
We left before our time.
We became priceless gems.
We will always be Tar Heels.

Ordinary miracles will happen here.
They already have.

A Carolina spring bursting forth.
Notes from Memorial Hall fill the air.
Let us pause in Eve’s garden.
Breathe deeply of this moment.
Ordinary miracles will happen here.
They already have.

At far left, Seth Dearmin, former student body president, speaks during the March 4 dedication of the Eve Marie Carson Garden. A tribute to Carson, Carolina’s student body president who was killed in 2008, the garden also is intended as a place of honor for all Carolina students who pass away before they graduate. At left, guests plant ferns on the site following the dedication ceremony.
PAULSON TALK KICKS OFF LAUNCH OF GLOBAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Former U.S. Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson Jr., who led efforts to quell the 2008 financial crisis, will give a talk March 22 at 5:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the FedEx Global Education Center. “On the Brink: Inside the Race to Stop the Collapse of the Global Financial System” — the title of Paulson’s new book — will also be the name of the free public program. He will answer questions posed by William B. Harrison Jr., a 1966 UNC graduate and the retired chair and chief executive officer of JPMorgan Chase & Co.

The program launches the University’s new Global Research Institute, a concentration of UNC and visiting international scholars housed on the center’s fourth floor. Paulson’s talk relates to the institute’s first theme, beginning next fall: “At the Crossroads: Globalization, the Economic Crisis and the Future of North Carolina.”

A $1 million gift from Harrison will fund the institute for its first three years. Now a fellow at Johns Hopkins University’s School of Advanced International Studies, Paulson was treasury secretary of North Carolina.”

Achieve a Healthy Lifestyle

The UNC Wellness Committee has partnered with Campus Recreation to announce a new wellness program, the Olympic Walking Challenge. Participants can earn Olympic rings by participating in various physical activities.

Among the benefits of the free program are wellness workshops or group fitness classes, fitness assessments and group walks. Those who complete multiple activities within the eight-week time span will be eligible for the Olympic Walking Challenge prize drawings. campusrec.unc.edu/employee_rec

Playmakers Repertory Company presents “I Have Before Me a Remarkable Document Given to Me By a Young Lady From Rwanda” March 24-28 in the Elizabeth Price Kenan Theatre in the Center for Dramatic Art. The play follows the story of a Rwandan refugee as she attempts to write a book recounting her country’s genocide.

Lectures, Seminars Meetings

March 19 — Carolina Women in Business will host the 2010 Women in Business Conference with the theme, “Intuition Sparks Innovation: A New Approach in a New Business Environment.” The keynote address will be given by Laurie Ann Goldman, CEO of Spanx. wbcconference.wordpress.com

March 22 — MSNBC co-anchor Alison Stewart will give a free lecture at Kenan-Flagler Business School’s Koury Auditorium at 5:30 p.m. as part of the Dean’s Speaker Series. To reserve a seat, call 843-7787 or e-mail kfbssrpv@unc.edu.

March 23 — The Association for Women Faculty and Professionals will present a talk by law school professor Maxine Eichner titled “Women, Work and Family: Prospects for Gender Equality in a Challenging Economy.” It will be held from 12:30 to 2 p.m. in Wilson Library’s Pleasant Family Assembly Room. The event is free and open to the public. Those attending are welcome to bring a lunch.

MARCH 25 EVENT GIVES UPDATE ON HOME PAGE REDESIGN

Members of the development team from University Relations and ITS will lead three sessions on March 25 to discuss the launch of the redesigned Carolina home page, unc.edu. The meeting will be held in the auditorium of the Tate-Turner-Kuralt Building with the following agenda:

- 1 p.m. — Consistency of design and navigation;
- 2 p.m. — Content management system: CarolinaContent; and
- 3 p.m. — Improvements in campus events calendar, standards and more.

For more information, e-mail Scott Jared (sjared@email.unc.edu).

READINGS, SCREENINGS

March 23 — Lee Smith will be at the Bull’s Head Bookshop at 3:30 p.m. to read from her new collection of stories “Mrs. Darcy and the Blue-Eyed Stranger.”

March 24 — Pulitzer Prize winner Edward P. Jones, the Morgan Writer in Residence, will give a presentation in Carroll Hall from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

March 25 — “To Have and Have Not,” based on the book by William Faulkner, will be part of the permanent collection on view through April 29 in the DeBerry Family Gallery is “Celebrating Green,” featuring paintings by Mary Crenshaw inspired by her vegetable garden.

Also in the Eleanor Pegg Exhibit Hall is a series of prints, “Discovering Life in America,” made from high-resolution scans of specimens that showcases life within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (detail shown at right). The prints will be on display through April 22.

For more information, see ncbg.unc.edu or call 962-0522.

Garden Springs to Life with New Exhibits and Education Center Tours

The North Carolina Botanical Garden offers free tours of its environmentally friendly Education Center each Saturday at 1:30 p.m. The tours offer behind-the-scenes looks at the unique features that make this one of the state’s most efficient buildings. Tours begin in the Eleanor Pegg Exhibit Hall. Guides also offer free tours of the gardens every Saturday at 10 a.m.

Two exhibits recently have opened in the Education Center. On view through April 29 in the DeBerry Family Gallery is “Celebrating Green,” featuring paintings by Mary Crenshaw inspired by her vegetable garden.

Also in the Eleanor Pegg Exhibit Hall is a series of prints, “Discovering Life in America,” made from high-resolution scans of specimens that showcases life within the Great Smoky Mountains National Park (detail shown at right). The prints will be on display through April 22.

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Drawing on Carolina

AN EXHIBITION ON VIEW THROUGH JUNE 30 at the Health Sciences Library presents the work of Ned Brooks, clinical associate professor in the Gillings School of Global Public Health and Carolina’s former associate provost. Many of the 20 drawings — displayed on the library’s first and second floors — are of the town and campus buildings. snipurl.com/uppb4

WORKSHOP AND LECTURE ADDRESS DIGITAL HUMANITIES MANIFESTO

Stanford professor Jeffrey T. Schnapp will give a workshop and discussion March 23 related to his Digital Humanities Manifesto and the project he has developed at the Stanford Humanities Lab. His workshop will be held at 3 p.m. in Room 3009 of the FedEx Global Education Center. At 5:30 p.m., he will give a lecture on “The Statistical Sublime” in Room 4003 of the center. The programs are sponsored by the Center for European Studies.

For more information, e-mail hmelehy@unc.edu or rcante@email.unc.edu.

‘CELEBRATION OF INVENTORSHIP’ SET FOR MARCH 25

The Office of Technology Development’s Sixth Annual “Celebration of Inventorship” will be held March 25 in the Top of the Hill Restaurant’s Great Room from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. OTD will honor UNC innovators who had a patent issued in 2009 with a plaque of the first page of their patent. In addition, the Hill will offer a seminar at the Carolina Indian Circle’s 23rd Annual Powwow.

For more information, e-mail hmelehy@unc.edu or rcante@email.unc.edu.

News in Brief Submissions

Next issue includes events from April 1 to April 14. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m., Mon., March 22. E-mail gazette@unc.edu. Fax: 962-2279; clearly mark for the Gazette. Campus Box# 6205. The Gazette events page includes only items of general interest geared toward a broad audience. For complete listings of events, including athletics, see the Carolina Events Calendars at www.unc.edu/events.

To make it possible for a dean to hit the ground running, Thorp said he wanted to develop a standing committee of people who have experience running the campaign. He said he would like to see forum members included on the committee.

In part, the idea behind the standing committee is to run a campaign better and have a greater impact on the world, Thorp said.

But there is another reason. “I would like more people on the campaign, Thorp said.

Each year, the chancellor selects a dean to manage and lead the campaign, Thorp said, but that means each year a new person has to learn how to conduct the campaign from scratch.

University, said Bill Burston, director of Housekeeping Services, and the University is responsible for keeping them filled with the alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

“We are grateful both to the Budget Committee for providing the funding for this important effort and to State Industrial Products for giving us the dispensers,” Koza said. “This is a key way to help people on campus stay healthy, even beyond flu season.”

UNIVERSITY WOMAN’S CLUB SPRING PROGRAM

Current and prospective members of the University Woman’s Club are invited to its spring program on March 25 at 9:30 a.m. at the Education Center of the North Carolina Botanical Garden.

www.unc.edu/uncw

DEADLINES TO WATCH

March 19 — Nominations are due by March 19 for Information Technology Awards, which recognize outstanding technical support by an IT individual or team.

March 31 — Nominations are due by March 31 for the 2010 Thomas Jefferson Award, which honors a faculty member who best exemplifies the ideals and objectives of Thomas Jefferson. Nominations and supporting statements should be sent to Joseph Ferrell, secretary of the faculty (jsferrel@email.unc.edu or CB# 9170). snipurl.com/uoq3

POWWOW MEETS MARCH 20

The Carolina Indian Circle’s 23rd Annual Powwow will be held March 20 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. in Fetzer Gymnasium.

Among the planned activities are a roundtable discussion and reception that will be held at 3 p.m. at the FPG Student Union.

The celebration is free and open to the public. snipurl.com/uoq9o

An editorial presents a student’s perspective on a key way to help people on campus stay healthy, even beyond flu season.

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In part, the idea behind the standing committee is to run a campaign better and have a greater impact on the world, Thorp said.

But there is another reason. “I would like more people on our campus to benefit from the joy of helping other people,” he said.

Each year, the chancellor selects a dean to manage and lead the campaign, Thorp said, but that means each year a new person has to learn how to conduct the campaign from scratch.

known as Phoenix Place. (For information on the initiative, refer to gazette.unc.edu/archives/10feb24/file1.html)

Thorp also shared with forum members his plan to improve the way the University’s State Employees Combined Campaign is conducted.

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With Harvey Award, Allen creates ‘Main Street, Carolina’ project

As the inaugural Harvey Award winner, Robert C. “Bobby” Allen had an exciting year.

Allen, James Logan Godfrey Professor of American Studies, History and Communication Studies, used the $75,000 Harvey Award to assemble a campus team and begin collaborating with two North Carolina communities to get their local history projects up and running online.

The C. Felix Harvey Award to Advance Institutional Priorities is an annual award recognizing exemplary faculty scholarship that reflects one of Carolina’s top priorities.

Its namesake is alumnus C. Felix Harvey, chair of Harvey Enterprises & Affiliates and founder of the Little Bank Inc., both in Kinston. The Harvey family endowed the award with a $2 million gift in 2007.

Allen used the award funds to build and roll out Main Street, Carolina. The Web-based digital history project will serve as a resource for local communities around the state.

The project provides a digital platform for museums, historic preservation groups and other community organizations to build their own history projects, to see and study their own history in new ways.

They begin with the unparalleled collection of historic city maps in the University Libraries North Carolina Collection and then add whatever local data they wish: historical and contemporary photographs, newspaper ads and articles, architectural drawings, historical commentary, family papers and excerpts from oral history.

“The ‘community outreach’ goal of the Harvey has encouraged us to find partners across the state who might become early adopters of our Main Street, Carolina toolkit,” Allen said. The software isn’t even finished yet, and we already have five such partners in Wilmington, New Bern, Durham, Chapel Hill and Charlotte — all eager to use this toolkit and to partner with us here at UNC.”

For example, the New Hanover Public Library in Wilmington, one of Allen’s two beta-testing community partners, is developing a system to map the locations represented in more than 200 historic photographs of the Wilmington waterfront. This digital exhibit will become a part of the library’s Web site and linked into the Web site for the new civic center being built near downtown.

The Levine Museum of the New South in Charlotte is recreating and combining maps of the city in 1911, with the goal of examining how Charlotte went from having mainly racially mixed neighborhoods and downtown in the 1880s to having racially and class segregated neighborhood by the end of the first decade of the 20th century.

On campus, Allen is working with the Carolina Digital Library and Archives. Natasha Smith, head of Documenting the American South, the University Libraries’ digital publishing initiative that provides Internet access to texts, images and audio files related to southern history, literature and culture, leads the library team.

That kind of collaboration and innovation are exactly what the Harvey family intended.

“We wanted this award to be used for real-world challenges,” Harvey said when the award was endowed.

Unlike most scholarly awards at Carolina, the Harvey Award is not directed toward a specific area, but will support a variety of institutional initiatives, among them undergraduate education, community engagement, research and economic development in the areas of public health, business, science, the humanities, law and the environment.

“Main Street, Carolina brings together scholarly expertise, world-class technological innovation and the resources of a great library to illuminate the history of the state,” Allen said.

“Our goal is to make this scholarship, technology and archival treasure available to local organizations across the state to allow them to see and use the history of local communities in new ways.”

Human Resources news: Violence in the workplace policy is enhanced

In the wake of recent workplace violence events on college campuses across the country, the Office of Human Resources wants to remind all faculty and staff about the University’s Violence in the Workplace policy.

The policy has been enhanced to include guidance for reporting threats of workplace violence:

For violence in progress or an immediate threat, call 911 (UNC Public Safety); and
For a potential threat, call 843-3444 (Employee & Management Relations in the Office of Human Resources).

“The University is absolutely committed to providing a workplace that is free from all types of workplace violence,” said Gena Carter, senior director for employee and management relations in Human Resources.

“The changes to this policy reinforce that commitment.”

In addition, the policy now includes a new Employee Threat Assessment and Response Team, which is charged with assessing and responding to immediate and potential threats of workplace violence.

“This team will be responsible for receiving threat reports, conducting thorough assessments, determining appropriate responses, tracking and reporting workplace violence information, and conducting related training,” Carter noted.

To read the workplace violence policy and to learn more about the Employee Threat Assessment and Response Team, refer to hr.unc.edu. The keyword is workplace violence.

If you have questions about the policy, you can contact your supervisor, your department’s HR facilitator or Employee & Management Relations (843-3444).

To learn more about the warning signs of potential workplace violence situations, refer to the Workplace Violence Reference Guide, hr.unc.edu/Data/SPA/employeerelations/harassment/wpv-refguide.pdf.

To deal with personal and work-related concerns, employees can contact the Employee Assistance Program (EAP). This free confidential service provides access to support and counseling services. An EAP counselor can be reached during normal business hours by calling 929-2362, or toll-free 24 hours a day at 877-327-7658. Refer to hr.unc.edu/Data/SPA/employeerelations/eap.

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Powers, social work professor, is 2009 Harvey Award winner

Joelle D. Powers, a clinical assistant professor in the School of Social Work, received the 2009 C. Felix Harvey Award to Advance Institutional Priorities at Carolina.

Powers plans to use the $75,000 award to implement a one-year pilot project to boost student mental health in the Durham Public Schools.

"It is estimated that up to 20 percent of the U.S. school population overall has mental health conditions that interfere with academic success," Powers wrote in her Harvey Award application. "In Durham, this percentage may well be higher due to the high rate of economic disadvantage among students."

The annual Harvey Award supports a variety of institutional initiatives at Carolina, including undergraduate education, community engagement, and research and economic development in the areas of public health, business, science, the humanities, law and the environment.

The award is named for C. Felix Harvey, a 1943 graduate, who is chair of Harvey Enterprises & Affiliates and founder of the Little Bank Inc. The Harvey family, which includes five generations of UNC graduates, endowed the award in 2007 with a $2 million gift to the University.

Powers’ project will form a partnership between Durham Public Schools and Durham’s public mental health provider, The Durham Center. It aims to train school staff in one school to recognize mental health problems in students, creating a school-based referral process, and bring professional mental health providers into the school to serve students.

The project’s goal is to increase the capacity of the school to recognize and meet the needs of students with mental health problems that threaten their school success.

A former school social worker, Powers earned her doctoral degree at UNC and then worked as the director of student services in Durham Public Schools. As a professor, her professional interests remain social work in schools, risk assessment, data-driven school interventions, child and adolescent mental health and evidence-based practice.

For more information about the Harvey Award, refer to giving.unc.edu/harvey.
The suitcase she willfully left behind was perhaps the first sign that Hana Pichova was determined to go. Nothing was going to keep her from fleeing Czechoslovakia.

Not the suspicion of a border guard because the family carried a third suitcase for the short visit to Spain that their travel visas stated as their destination.

Not her parents’ indecision about leaving their cherished homeland.

And definitely not her own fear of the unknown.

It was the summer of 1979, and Pichova had just turned 18. She understood with a crystalline clarity that nothing lying ahead could be worse than the future that awaited her if she did not seize this chance, which might be her last.

In Czechoslovakia, she already knew that all the doors of opportunity were locked. And that meant she would never be able to fulfill her dream of attending the university to study the censored literature she secretly read.

It was in 1948, 13 years before Pichova was born, that the Communists took over the country and soon took from her mother’s parents their tiny subsistence farm outside Prague. Her father, who as a boy dreamed of teaching history, instead became a geologist, one of the few ideologically free professions.

Her father was helping host an international conference in Prague in 1968 when Pichova, then age 7, awoke to the sounds of Soviet tanks rumbling through the city to squash democratic leanings.

That event also started her parents’ conversation about leaving for America to make a better life. They were able to do so the summer after the invasion, thanks to an invitation her father received to study for two years as postdoctoral student at the University of Wisconsin in Madison.

What Pichova most remembers about those days, besides the experience of learning English and making new friends, was the sheer joy of biting into one of the oranges her parents bought by the box at the grocery store.

“There were always shortages of food in Czechoslovakia that were escalating when we left for Wisconsin,” Pichova said. “The only oranges we got came from Cuba, by boat. They were always shriveled up and dry by the time we got them.”

She was standing with her mother on the lip of the Grand Canyon in summer 1970, watching her father descend to the bottom, when the Arizona state trooper handed them the order from the Czech government to return home within two weeks.

In a small act of defiance, her father stayed on to complete his postdoctoral studies, but they returned to Prague shortly before Christmas, Pichova said.

“My father quickly realized going back had been a horrible mistake because he was convinced they would never get another opportunity again,” she said.

A PATH OPENS

Two years later, though, the Czech government permitted him to teach geology at the University of Kuwait. The government benefitted by taxing the bulk of the handsome salary the university paid him.

Pichova and her mother returned from Kuwait in 1974 when the girl aged out of the tiny government-run school for Czech children. Her father returned three years later and was stunned by the deterioration of political and economic conditions during his years away.

Hope for a better future for Pichova dimmed when she was initially denied entrance to high school after completing eighth grade, a painful episode confirming her fear that she had no chance of ever attending the university.

“The idea in Czechoslovakia in the 1970s was to make everybody the same,” Pichova said. “My problems arose because I was different.”

Her parents tried to get three visas for a family vacation and toyed with the idea of never returning. The decision point came on June 19, 1979 — Pichova’s 18th birthday — when the visas arrived.

Pichova saw them as a ticket to freedom, but her parents wavered.

Her father had lived under a veil of suspicion since he first refused to join the Communist Party. Suspicions deepened in 1979 when he resisted the enticements of the secret police to serve as an informant.

In exchange, they promised, he would be able to travel anywhere he wished. His wife would have access to the best care for her arthritis. And their daughter would be able to attend the university as she wished.

The arrival of the visas so soon after his refusal left Pichova’s parents wondering whether it was the opportunity they had been waiting for, or a trap.

DECLARING INDEPENDENCE

To make it harder for people to flee the country, the Czech government permitted people to take a tent, cans of food and the small amount of money it was determined would be needed for the trip, but no more.

At the border, guards combed cars for anything suspicious, including an extra suitcase packed with too many clothes. Even the presence of a pet could raise questions.

So Pichova gladly parted with her suitcase and agreed to leave the family poodle, Snoopy, behind with her grandmother, the only person the family told they were leaving.

With nothing to wear except the skirt and sweater she had on and the shoes on her feet, Pichova was relieved when the Czech border guards allowed them to pass into Germany without as much as a glance into the car.

They reached Switzerland by nightfall and stopped at the home of Rolando, a Swiss man married to a Czech woman who befriended in Kuwait. Rolando had long ago promised that he would help them seek political asylum in the United States. As a neutral country, however, Switzerland only allowed political refugees to seek asylum in Switzerland.

“We got the news when we went to the American embassy the next morning,” Pichova said. “My father took this as a sign that our escape was not meant to be. ‘That’s it,’ he said. ‘Tomorrow we are going to turn around and go back.’”

As Pichova’s father talked, she and Rolando exchanged glances, and she knew he was willing to help her press on. With Rolando’s help, Pichova left for the German border where she applied for political asylum as soon as she arrived.

Her parents appeared a few hours later and standing across the border from her yelled, “What have you done?”

They knew that if she went to the United States without them, they would never see her again. So they did the only thing they could: They stepped across the border.

ON THE OTHER SHORE

This was not the last time Pichova followed her heart.

She knew that it was a risk to study comparative literature after she enrolled at the University of Wisconsin in Madison in 1980.

She was, after all, a first-generation emigré, and she knew her parents were right when they gently suggested that the best path to a sure job would be a degree in science.

But her parents had no choice in the matter, and neither did she.

That choice had been settled in high school, where she read censored books secretly passed on from student to student. One of those books was Kafka’s “The Metamorphosis,” which she skipped school to read in a single day while riding the subway.

“I read it and it totally changed my life,” Pichova said. “There has been no other book, before or since, that has had that kind of influence on me. I felt like it was speaking to me directly, as if it was describing exactly the society I was in.”

From that point on, reading was no longer a hobby, but a pursuit.

At Madison, a wise professor advised her to switch her major from comparative literature to Slavic studies so she could teach languages and increase her chances of employment.

She stayed on at Madison to complete her Ph.D. in Slavic literature and languages, and she focused her dissertation on literature in exile.

On Dec. 29, 1989, while Pichova was completing her dissertation, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia announced it would relinquish power. Overnight, Pichova’s scholarly work became topical in a way she could never have dreamed.

In June 1991, she joined the faculty at the University of Texas in Austin and remained there until last July when she joined the Carolina faculty as associate professor of Czech language and literature.

COMPLETING HER JOURNEY

The years Pichova spent studying exile — coming to an understanding of what is lost and what is gained in flight — were an attempt to come to terms with her own journey, she understands.

Until now, she has never told that story publicly.

March 1 marked the 30th year of her arrival in America. Beyond her scholarly work, Pichova has the same preoccupations as any wife and mother raising two teen-age boys.

She recently began work on a book, “The Mysterious Affair in Prague: In search of the Stalin Statue and Its Sculptor.”

As for her study of exile, “I got it out of my system,” she said. “I have moved on.”