The Blackstone Charitable Foundation and a consortium of area universities this week launched the Blackstone Entrepreneurs Network, a five-year initiative to help the Research Triangle become headquarters for new high-growth companies with the greatest potential to create new jobs.

Besides Carolina, partners include Duke, N.C. Central and N.C. State universities along with the Durham-based Council for Entrepreneurial Development.

The $3.63 million gift from the Blackstone foundation, announced April 25, will go toward creating a network of entrepreneurial support, similar to existing networks in Silicon Valley and the Boston Corridor.

The goal is to identify and mentor 30 startup teams each year for a total of 150 during the program’s five years.

“We believe this program has powerful potential to create jobs; attract millions in seed, start-up and expansion capital; and generate billions in revenue,” Chancellor Holden Thorp said.

The Blackstone foundation made the gift as part of its entrepreneurship initiative, a $50 million commitment to identify innovative projects and catalytic ideas that can meaningfully contribute to the nation’s economic recovery.
Telephone dial-out prefix changes from ‘9’ to ‘7’ effective April 30

Campus landlines will get a makeover of sorts at the end of the month. Beginning April 30, the University community will dial “7” instead of “9” to make an outside call from their landlines.

The change, which affects both University and UNC Health Care System landlines, is designed to reduce misdialed or hang-up 911 calls, saving both time and money.

Each time the University’s emergency dispatchers receive an unintentional 911 call, they have to verify that there is no true emergency. When a person calls 911 by mistake but stays on the line, the dispatcher can talk with the caller to determine that the person is safe. But hang-up calls require dispatching a Department of Public Safety officer to locate the caller and confirm that he or she is safe.

Public safety officials estimate that they receive close to 4,900 mistaken 911 calls a year at an annual cost exceeding $48,000.

“For many years, the Department of Public Safety has recognized that misdialed or hang-up 911 calls represent a significant workload for the Emergency Communications Center and the officers we dispatch to respond to these calls,” said George Hare, deputy director of public safety.

“We understand that it’s easy to call 911 by mistake with the current system, especially when people make a long-distance call, because they dial “9,” then “1” — and often dial another “1” unintentionally. Changing the dial-out prefix to “7” should substantially reduce these calls and allow public safety officers to focus on genuine safety situations,” Hare said.

N.C. State University, for example, has seen a 70 percent drop in mistaken 911 calls since it changed its dial-out prefix two years ago.

The Department of Public Safety, in conjunction with ITS Communication Technologies, has worked with AT&T to implement the change for Carolina at a cost of $70,000.

“Assuming that we would see a 70 percent reduction in mistaken 911 calls, as our counterparts at N.C. State did, the University would recover the cost for making the change in two years,” Hare said.

To give people a chance to get used to dialing “7” instead of “9,” there will be an overlap through May. See DIAL-OUT page 11

Leaders fear long-term effects of House subcommittee proposal on higher education

Both Chancellor Holden Thorp and UNC President Tom Ross have said the cuts to higher education outlined earlier this month in the House Appropriations Subcommittee’s initial proposal for the 2011–13 state budget would do long-term damage to the quality and reputation of the UNC system.

Under the proposal, the UNC system would see a 15.5 percent permanent reduction, community colleges a 10 percent reduction, and elementary and secondary education an 8.5 percent reduction.

In a statement released April 12, Thorp said the University “stands ready to be a partner in solving the state’s budget challenges,” but this initial proposal, which would mean more than $75 million in permanent cuts for Carolina, would create long-term damage to how faculty can teach students.

Because the number of course sections would have to be reduced, Thorp said, the number of students in each class would have to be increased.

Ross and Thorp said they were grateful that the House proposal calls for fully funding enrollment growth, but they expressed concern that state funding for need-based financial aid would shrink.

“That is a tremendous concern, given that 60 percent of our in-state undergraduates depend on need-based financial aid, and rapid tuition increases have put additional strain on students and their families,” Ross said.

When the reductions to need-based financial aid are factored in, the proposed permanent net cuts of 17.4 percent for the UNC system would total nearly $483 million, Ross said.

“To put this in context, a cut of this magnitude is equivalent to the entire state appropriations for UNC Asheville, UNC Greensboro, UNC Wilmington, Western Carolina University and Winston-Salem State University combined,” Ross said.

And because state dollars are the primary source of funding for basic academic programs, cuts at that level would require eliminating approximately 3,200 faculty and staff positions across the UNC system and eliminating 240,000 class seats.

Other proposed cuts that would adversely affect the UNC system include the loss of state support for indigent care provided at UNC Hospitals, the phased elimination of state support for UNC-TV, and the loss of a portion of graduate tuition remission funds that are critical for recruiting top graduate students.

At the April 15 Faculty Council meeting, Thorp said both he and Ross disagreed with the logic behind the tiered cuts and have spent considerable time expressing that disagreement with legislators.

The good news, Thorp said, is that the budget proposal would keep all revenue from previously approved campus-based tuition increases on campus, fully fund enrollment growth, preserve overhead receipts (the portion of federal research money that reimburses the indirect costs associated with research projects) and preserve funding for the University Cancer Research Fund.

When asked about the possibility of raising tuition, Thorp said it was too soon in the process to make that determination.

“If we end up doing that, as President Ross said very eloquently, we worry about the character and nature of higher education if we start going down the same path places like UC and Michigan and others have gone down,” he said.

“I also think it’s something that could have a large effect on the whole state, and the whole state has not been engaged in a conversation about
Committee helps shape campus emergency communication changes

When it comes to safety information, email might not be the communication dinosaur University officials believed it to be.

Earlier this month, the Student Advisory Committee to the Chancellor told top administrators that they thought email was an effective tool for conveying some non-urgent campus safety information.

Their feedback was part of a review of policies and procedures for notifying campus in the event of an emergency or dangerous situation through Alert Carolina. Chancellor Holden Thorp called for the review following an incident at Morrison Residence Hall on April 4 (see gazette.unc.edu/archives2/11apr13/health-safety.html), and he asked that student leaders be involved in the review process.

“Every time we have an incident, the pendulum switches back and forth in terms of how much information the campus wants, and whether they want it by email, or text message or the sirens, and we continue to refine that,” Thorp told the Faculty Council at its April 15 meeting.

“The police did a really good job in the Morrison incident. The safety of the students is more important than the communications, and I think they achieved that. But we’re reviewing communications because we can make that better.”

During an imminent, life-threatening situation, the University would activate the emergency sirens in conjunction with sending a text message to the more than 48,000 cell phone numbers registered by students, faculty and staff in the online campus directory.

Other means of communication about an emergency include campus-wide email and voice mail (only for campus land lines); the Adverse Weather and Emergency Phone Line, 843-1234, for recorded information; and the University Access Channel (Chapel Hill Time Warner Cable Channel 4) along with other campus cable television channels and social media.

Leslie Strohm, vice chancellor and general counsel, is leading the review. She chairs the University’s Executive Group, which is responsible for major decisions that affect University operations during an emergency. Executive Group members have met with student leaders representing both undergraduates and graduate students.

The University launched Alert Carolina in spring 2008 after installation of the sirens and after gaining access to text message capability. Students were part of the discussion in developing the protocols for sending emergency text messages, and their feedback in the review will help shape any changes to the communication policies.

“The Student Advisory Committee was quite sophisticated and understanding of the difficult choices people make under stressful circumstances in the middle of the night,” Thorp said. “They had very constructive suggestions that will help produce better policies for the campus community.”

For information about Alert Carolina, refer to alertcarolina.unc.edu.
Gifts totaling $10.5 million will support the University’s student-athletes in Kenan

The University earlier this month received two gifts totaling $10.5 million to support nearly 800 student-athletes across 28 sports.

Alumnus R. Charles “Charlie” Loudermilk Sr. made a $7.5 million commitment to fund facilities supporting student-athletes as part of the Kenan Stadium renovation. The commitment will create The Loudermilk Center for Excellence, a 150,000 square-foot facility being built on the stadium’s east side.

The John William Pope Foundation of Raleigh donated $3 million to upgrade facilities and provide a new home for the academic support center. The John W. Pope Student-Athlete Academic Support Center will be the largest feature of the Loudermilk Center.

POPE CENTER

The original academic support center, which was located in the stadium’s previous field house, opened in 1986 and also was funded by the Pope Foundation. The new center is named for the late John W. Pope Sr., a 1947 Carolina graduate who started Henderson-based Variety Wholesalers and founded the Pope Foundation.

“We’re committed to giving our student-athletes the support they need to succeed in the classroom as well as in their sport,” said Chancellor Holden Thorp. “We’re extremely grateful to the Pope Foundation for its continued generosity.”

At 29,000 square feet, the new center will be more than three times the size of the former space. Also housed there will be the Carolina Leadership Academy, which offers leadership training to Carolina’s student-athletes, coaches and staff, and serves as a model for intercollegiate athletics.

“My father loved Carolina and believed strongly in excellence in both academics and athletics, that each reinforced the other,” said Art Pope, president of the Pope Foundation and the son of the late John W. Pope Sr.

LOUDERMILK CENTER

In addition to the Pope Center, also housed in the Loudermilk Center will be a strength and conditioning center for Carolina’s Olympic sports programs, facilities for men’s lacrosse and a visitor’s locker room that can be split to host high school football championships.

Other features include premium seating for fans watching football games, as well as office and operations space for the Department of Athletics.

“The Loudermilk Center for Excellence attests to our commitment to athletic and academic excellence,” Thorp said. “We’re extremely grateful to Charlie for this generous support of our student-athletes’ success.”

Loudermilk is chair of Atlanta-based Aaron’s Inc. A 1950 Carolina graduate, he earned a bachelor’s degree in commerce and now serves on the Board of Visitors of the Kenan-Flagler Business School.

“I’m thrilled to support my University and this new facility, which will make a positive difference in the lives of future Tar Heel student-athletes,” Loudermilk said. “The education I received at Carolina and UNC Kenan-Flagler gave me the background for my success in the business world. I’m happy to give back to the University.”

KENAN RENOVATION

Scheduled for completion in September, the $70 million Kenan Stadium renovation is being funded by private gifts and sales of premium seating.

For information about the project, refer to New Kenan.com. [link]

Bridget Baucom became director of Grounds Services on April 4, although the career path that ultimately led her to Carolina began with an experience she had in high school.

As a senior, she visited Clemson University and was struck by the blooming flowers and trees, landscapes and creative paw-print flowerbeds that adorned the university grounds.

Originally planning to major in microbiology at Clemson, she found herself increasingly wanting to be outside and contributing to the scenery that made such an impact on her. She switched her major to resource management (parks, recreation and tourism management) with a minor in forestry so she could follow her passion, both in her education and her career.

Baucom said she hopes to make this same type of visual impact on students and families that visit Carolina’s campus. “I am genuinely thrilled to be a part of this outstanding team that supports the University,” she said.

Before coming to Carolina, Baucom served as operations manager for the Grounds Management Department at N.C. State University, where she led a team of 86 employees and was responsible for overseeing and coordinating all grounds maintenance activities on more than 1,000 acres of campus.

She also has held leadership roles with TruGreen Landscape, a provider of commercial landscape and lawn services, and has prior experience working with the Grounds Department at Western Carolina University.

Grounds Services, part of Facilities Services, is responsible for the appearance, care and maintenance of all landscapes, trees and outdoor areas of the University’s 800 acres of the main part of campus. The department’s services also extend to University property throughout Chapel Hill and Orange County, including forest and trail management at Carolina North.

Baucom replaces longtime director Kirk Pelland who retired in December. To contact Baucom, call 962-2069 or email her at bridget.baucom@facilities.unc.edu.

New campus email address, domain policies approved

Two new information security policies, the Email Address Policy and the Email Domain Policy, have been approved.

The policies, sponsored by Information Technology Services and the Office of University Counsel, set forth the guiding principles for how email will be used for official communications.

They apply to all University faculty, staff and student-employees, as well as to all email systems owned and/or managed by the University.

The policies specify that:

- All faculty, staff and student-employees must use University-owned, managed or approved email addresses for all work-related email correspondence (i.e., email accounts that end in unc.edu, including the new HeelMail live.unc.edu service for students), and they must maintain a University email address in the campus directory;
- Faculty, staff and student-employees may not automatically forward email from campus email systems to external non-University managed email systems (such as Yahoo, Gmail, or Hotmail);
- Any University department wanting to outsource management of department email services to an external entity must first have a contract in place that has been approved by the Office of University Counsel; and
- Email systems owned or managed by University departments must meet certain management criteria as identified in campus information security policies and have a completed and signed memorandum of understanding on file with the campus Information Security Office.

These policies have been created to maintain the privacy and security of the information the University creates and receives, said Larry Conrad, vice chancellor for information technology and chief information officer.

It is also essential that the University be able to provide legally required information for discovery and public records purposes. When third-party consumer email systems are used for official University business, there is no assurance that these important obligations can be met, Conrad said.

The policies are posted at its.unc.edu/ITS/About_ITS/ITS_Policies/index.htm. For assistance or questions, contact the Office of Information Security, security@unc.edu or 962-HELP.
Students recognize faculty and staff with awards

Students honored three faculty members, one staff member and six teaching assistants on April 12 in recognition of their teaching excellence and service to undergraduates.

Faculty members recognized with Student Undergraduate Teaching Awards were Alain J. Aguilar, a lecturer and director of the fitness professional concentration in the exercise and sport science department; Ted Leinbaugh, professor of English and comparative literature; and Eunice N. Sahle, associate professor of African and Afro-American studies and global studies.

All three teach in the College of Arts and Sciences; each received $5,000.

John David Mendoza Brodeur, director of Carolina Leadership Development, associate director of the Carolina Union and a clinical instructor in education, was honored for his service to students with a Student Undergraduate Staff Award. Carolina Leadership Development offers programs, services and academic courses for anyone interested in leadership at the University. He received $1,000.

The graduate student teaching assistant winners, who received $1,000 each, included Neal Viradia, who teaches biology; Elizabeth Johnson Darden, who teaches economics and environmental studies; Jason Robert Combs, who teaches religious studies; Tyler David Jones, who teaches chemistry; Michael K. Muraya, who teaches computer science; and Forrest Spence, who teaches economics.

A student selection committee chooses award recipients, who promote the value of undergraduate teaching by their example, demonstrate concern for each student through interaction and approachability inside and outside the classroom, create meaningful learning experiences and maintain high expectations of students.

Senate bill would consolidate personnel management under BOG

A bill has been introduced in the state Senate to create a personnel management system under the auspices of the UNC Board of Governors for all UNC system employees.

Currently, SPA employees (subject to the State Personnel Act) fall under the jurisdiction of the State Personnel Commission. Faculty members and EPA non-faculty employees (exempt from the act) work under a personnel management system tailored by the BOG.

State senators Richard Stevens and Jerry Tillman introduced the bill, titled “An Act to Provide Efficiency and Flexibility for the North Carolina Community College System and the University of North Carolina.” Stevens is a former member of Carolina’s Board of Trustees.

Brenda Richardson Malone, vice chancellor for human resources, told Employee Forum members about the pending legislation last month and urged them to keep an open mind about the potential benefits.

Consolidating personnel management under the BOG could lead to increased operational efficiencies system-wide, as well as a personnel system tailored to the needs of the higher education environment, she said.

“The state personnel system was not designed to meet the specific and unique needs of higher education,” Malone said. “Making this change to the personnel system will provide us with the ability to develop programs and policies that will help us recruit and retain the best employees.”

Over the years, employees have expressed concern about SPA employees losing legal safeguards.

“It is important for employees to understand that many things would not change if this legislation is adopted,” Malone said. “UNC system employees would remain state employees and still be eligible to participate in the State Health Plan and the state-regulated retirement systems. In addition, there is no intention for this initiative to take away from employees what are typically described as due process rights.”

Legal safeguards of the State Personnel Act, including the Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action policies and personnel records privacy protection, also would continue to protect all employees, Malone said.
COMENCEMENT from page 1

the Presidential Medal of Italy and the Crafoord Prize from the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. He also has received the Gold Medal of the Worldwide Fund for Nature and the Audubon Medal of the National Audubon Society.

He will receive an honorary doctor of science degree. Five others also will receive honorary degrees.

BURNETT

Timothy Burnett, president of Bessemer Improvement Company, a commercial and industrial real estate firm, will receive a doctor of laws degree.

A Morehead Scholar, Burnett received his bachelor’s degree in mathematics in 1962. He was inducted into the honorary societies Order of the Golden Fleece, Order of the Grail-Valkyries and Order of the Old Well. He also earned an M.B.A. with distinction from Harvard University.

His University leadership roles include service on the Board of Trustees, with two years as chair, and two terms on the Board of Visitors, twice as chair. He served on the steering committees for the Bicentennial and Carolina First fundraising campaigns.

Burnett is vice chair of the Board of Directors of the UNC Health Care System, vice chair of the trustees of the Morehead-Cain Foundation and a member of the board of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Foundation Inc.

He has received the trustees’ prestigious William Richardson Davie Award and the General Alumni Association’s Distinguished Service Medal.

COLEMAN

Mary Sue Coleman, president of the University of Michigan, will receive a doctor of laws degree.

Coleman earned her undergraduate degree in chemistry from Grinnell College in 1965 and her Ph.D. in biochemistry from Carolina in 1969 before completing an NIH postdoctoral fellowship.

She returned to Carolina first as associate provost and dean of research in 1990 and then as vice chancellor for graduate studies and research. She went on to serve as provost at the University of New Mexico and president of the University of Iowa and the Iowa Health System before becoming the 13th president of the University of Michigan in 2002.

Coleman built a distinguished research career through her work with the immune system and malignancies. She is a member of the Institute of Medicine and a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

In 2010, U.S. Commerce Secretary Gary Locke named Coleman co-chair of the National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Her honors include 10 honorary degrees and Carolina’s Distinguished Alumna Award.

GRISHAM

Ernest Gaines, considered one of the premier American writers of the second half of the 20th century, will receive a doctor of letters degree.

Gaines grew up in the old slave quarters of River Lake Plantation in Louisiana, a setting and culture that permeates his fiction. He moved to California when he was 15, joining the black diaspora from the American South. He earned a degree in literature in 1957 from San Francisco State University and later won a creative writing fellowship to Stanford University.

Gaines’ work explores the endurance of human dignity. He is best known for “The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman.” His novel “A Lesson Before Dying,” nominated for the Pulitzer Prize, won the National Book Critics Circle Award for fiction.

Gaines’ honors include Chevalier de l’Ordre des Artes et des Lettres, the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the National Humanities Medal, the Dos Passos Prize and a MacArthur Foundation “genius” grant. In 2004, he was nominated for the Nobel Prize in literature.

GRISHAM

John Grisham, the author of 25 books, including numerous legal thrillers, will receive a doctor of letters degree.

He received a bachelor’s degree in accounting from Mississippi State University in 1977 and a law degree from the University of Mississippi in 1981. Grisham practiced law for nearly a decade and served in the Mississippi House of Representatives from 1983 until 1990.

Grisham spent three years working on his first novel, “A Time to Kill.” His next novel, “The Firm,” became the bestselling novel of 1991, and “The Pelican Brief” and “The Client” also hit number one.

Grisham’s many charitable causes include the Rebuild the Coast Fund, providing Gulf Coast relief following Hurricane Katrina. He also is on the board of directors for the Innocence Project, which works to exonerate the wrongly convicted through DNA testing.

Grisham gave last year’s Commencement address. His wife, Renee, received her bachelor’s degree from UNC in 2010 and his daughter, Shea, graduated in 2008.

BURNETT

COLEMAN

BLACKSTONE from page 1

“We are pleased to join this partnership to develop what will be a dynamic regional network capable of applying the operational expertise and coordinated, laser-like focus on bringing ideas to market,” said Stephen Schwartzman, chair, CEO and co-founder of The Blackstone Group.

The network will draw from the ranks of veteran master entrepreneurs to identify marketable innovations from Triangle universities and regional startups with the greatest potential to become high-growth companies. Startups with the potential to create $40 million in revenue and become profitable within 10 years, and that are in the early stages of fundraising, are ideal targets. Master entrepreneurs then will mentor these local entrepreneurs in company building and provide access to the broader entrepreneur network.

Thorpe described Blackstone’s success as an example of the power of entrepreneurship.

Schwartzman founded Blackstone 25 years ago with a partner, an assistant and $400,000, he said. Today, Blackstone’s 64 investments in companies around the world would combine to translate to $129 billion in revenues and some 687,000 employees — the equivalent of what would be the seventh largest company by revenue among the Fortune 500.

“Blackstone’s entrepreneurial heritage has led them here today to lend the energy, talent and capital of their charitable foundation to help ignite job growth in the Triangle,” Thorpe said.

“Our universities are positioned to drive our economy forward and be engines of growth. We have people with great ideas. The Blackstone Master Entrepreneurs Network will connect those people with the expertise that will help them get their ideas off the ground and into the marketplace.”


For information about the University’s efforts to become a world leader in launching university-born ideas for the good of society, see the Innovate@Carolina Roadmap at innovate.unc.edu.
Judge instructs counsel in football-related public records case, upholds UNC position on student tutors

Last October, as the University and NCAA were in the final stages of the investigation into the football program, a group of N.C. media organizations filed a lawsuit against the University about public records and the investigation. This month, Superior Court Judge Howard Manning heard the case and on April 19 issued his instructions to the plaintiff’s counsel.

Manning’s instructions upheld the University’s position that the names, employment dates and salaries of student tutors and mentors was not protected under FERPA (the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act). But he said that information for non-student tutors and mentors was not protected under FERPA, the federal privacy law, and should be disclosed within the guidelines of personnel laws and regulations.

He disagreed with the University’s position that students’ telephone numbers and parking tickets issued by the Department of Public Safety were protected under FERPA. He said the requested telephone records could not be redacted and any parking tickets issued to the 11 football players should be released.

Still to be determined is whether all documents related to the University’s investigation into the football program should be released. Manning and attorneys for both sides agreed that it was necessary to resolve the other areas first.

In response to Manning’s instructions, Chancellor Holden Thorp said: “We are pleased that Judge Manning appears to have affirmed the privacy of student tutors. We are disappointed with the court’s apparent interpretation of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act as it applies to student records related to phone numbers and parking tickets.

“This has far-reaching implications for all of our students and their records that we believe federal law protects. When the judge’s instructions are finalized in an order, the University will review the ruling and evaluate its options for appeal.”

At the time the lawsuit was filed, Thorp said, the University had received 85 requests, many with multiple subparts. In response, the University provided more than 23,000 pages of documents, many in unredacted form or with minimal redactions to comply with FERPA or state personnel law.

“We did so as part of the University’s commitment to meet its obligations under North Carolina’s public records law and to respect the privacy rights of our students and employees,” he told the Faculty Council at its April 15 meeting.

Mueller Garden honors ‘pioneer of sports medicine’

Frederick Mueller, right, professor emeritus of exercise and sport science, is pictured with Kevin Guskiewicz in the garden dedicated April 19 in honor of Mueller’s 41 years with the University. He retired in 2009. The Mueller Garden is located between Fetzer Hall and the Stalling-Evans Sports Medicine Center.

Mueller, who was recruited to the University as a football player in the 1950s, went on to earn his B.S., M.Ed. and Ph.D degrees at UNC.

Over the years, he has served as a first-year football coach, head lacrosse coach, a professor, department chair, director of undergraduate studies and two-term Faculty Council representative.

Mueller was chair of exercise and sport science (EXSS) from 1995 to 2005. It was during this time that the department moved forward in a number of ways, said Guskiewicz, current chair of the department and Kenan Distinguished Professor.

“The number of EXSS majors grew steadily and the department’s reputation as a true science department took root,” Guskiewicz said.

In addition, he said, “During Fred’s tenure, we expanded our research laboratories and brought in more research funding than ever before. We recruited top-ranked faculty to EXSS and watched our graduate programs climb in the national rankings.”

Nationally, Guskiewicz said, Mueller is regarded as one of the pioneers of sports medicine and “considered by many as the founding father of the field of sports injury epidemiology.” He has directed the National Center for Catastrophic Sports Injury Research for the past 28 years.

The center monitors trends in catastrophic sports injury and provides vital information that is used by national sports organizations such as the NCAA and the National Federation of State High School Associations, Guskiewicz said.

“Fred’s work has led to rules and equipment changes in sport, which have had a remarkable impact on the reduction of sport-related catastrophic injury.”

Prior to the garden’s dedication, Mueller and Robert McMurray, Katherine Smith Gunter Distinguished Professor in EXSS, delivered the Carl S. Blyth Lecture. They spoke about “The Evolution of Science in Exercise and Sport.” McMurray plans to retire in June after 33 years of University service.

Mammography Registry (CMR), was successful.

Yankaskas had appealed the University’s disciplinary action against her in response to a data security breach in 2009 on a computer server owned by the University but operated and maintained by CMR. The unauthorized hacker potentially accessed identifying personal and medical information of approximately 180,000 women.

In the settlement, Yankaskas has agreed to dismiss her appeal, provide the University with a full release of all claims and retire from University employment on or before Dec. 31. The University has agreed to pay Yankaskas $175,000 toward her legal fees, reinstate her as a full professor and rescind her salary cut.


PARTING TRIBUTES

At the beginning of the meeting, Thorp thanked Coble for serving as faculty chair. “I am incredibly appreciative for the leadership we’ve gotten from McKay Coble,” he said.

“Thank you, McKay.”

At the end of the meeting, it was Coble who thanked the council’s many committees for their work, as she ticked off a list of topics the Faculty Council has dealt with during her tenure.

She thanked University administrators for their support.

“The administration never stops — ever,” she said. “Never stops thinking of ways we can move ahead and expand capacity — to make Carolina the best possible place to work and learn.”

She praised Thorp for “taking Carolina into his very capable hands. ... Sometimes his are necessarily tough hands, wonderfully creative hands, hands that hold up a weary head, hands that shake another’s hand in gratitude or congratulations, and always hard-working hands that will stop to wave to a student, a friend and play a sassy keyboard when needed.”

And she thanked her faculty colleagues for the privilege of working with them. “I do not leave anything behind because I’m the one who has gained the most from our time together,” she said.

END OF AN ERA Woody Durham, the legendary voice of the Tar Heels, makes it official April 20 as he announces his retirement. Luckily for his fans, some of his classic football and men’s basketball radio calls are posted online: http://bit.ly/i7wqm2.
Two upcoming projects affect access to library collections and services this summer

Campus libraries are advising users to prepare for two projects beginning this summer that will affect access to library collections and services.

Sprinklers will be installed in the Wilson Library special collections stacks, and science library collections will locate to the Wilson Library science stacks.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DISRUPTIONS

Installation of fire sprinklers in the special collections stacks will begin in late summer or early fall and continue through the 2011–12 academic year.

During the project, each of the library’s nine stack levels will be closed for six to eight weeks to protect special collections materials. The materials in each work zone will be enclosed in floor-to-ceiling protective sheeting and will remain inaccessible until the floor reopens.

People who anticipate needing specific special collections materials for research or teaching during the summer or the 2011–12 academic year should contact Wilson Library as soon as possible. Staff will make every effort to work with users to identify and make these collection materials available during the project, especially if they receive early notice.

The project is expected to cause little disruption in the reading rooms, exhibit galleries and other public areas of the library. It will not affect the Music Library or the science collections in Wilson Library.

Direct questions and requests for materials to Wilson Library (962-3765 or wilsonlibrary@unc.edu). As the project progresses, updates will be posted at library.unc.edu/wilson/research/sprinklers.html.

SCIENCE LIBRARY RELOCATIONS

Also this summer, collections of the Brauer Math/Physics and the Geoscience Libraries will be consolidated with the biology and chemistry collections already in the stacks of Wilson Library. Science collections are accessible from the library’s South Road entrance, opposite the bell tower.

The library is adding hours for the combined collections to facilitate browsing, and has purchased expanded backfiles for 42 e-journals in physics and the physical sciences to improve online access. The Carolina BLU delivery service will also continue to deliver books to faculty campus boxes, and to the library of choice for students.

Science librarians will have home offices in the newly opened Kenan Science Library in Venable Hall. They will continue to serve the departments with consultations, instruction, collection development and customized services.

The project to install sprinklers in the Wilson Library special collections stacks will not affect access to or retrieval of materials from the science library stacks.

Updated information about the relocations, including move dates and contact information, will be posted at library.unc.edu. For more information, contact Carol Hunter, associate university librarian for collections and services (962-1301 or chunter@email.unc.edu).

April 30. All proceeds will support the artistic, outreach and educational work of PlayMakers.

COLLECTION BEGINS APRIL 29 FOR TAR HEEL TREASURE

Tar Heel Treasure is beginning its third year of collecting and recycling students’ usable goods, with the goal of keeping as much as possible out of the Orange County landfill, but with a twist. Rather than staging a massive yard sale, this year organizers will work directly with Habitat for Humanity and Durham Rescue Mission to collect donated and abandoned items.

Each residential community will have drop-off locations, and items such as non-perishable food, clothing, cleaning products, electronics, small appliances and furniture will be collected.

All donated carpets and rugs will be removed from residence halls and delivered to a carpet facility in Georgia where they will be recycled to create new carpet tiles.

The Office of Waste Reduction and Recycling will be in charge of collecting broken furniture, e-waste and textbooks.

Goods may be dropped off between April 29 and May 7, daily from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information about Tar Heel Treasure, contact Debbie Bousquet, facilities management coordinator with housing and residential education (962-2570 or busquet@email.unc.edu).

DEADLINES FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

• April 30 — Nominations are due for the Finance Division’s Extra Mile Awards. Five finance employees will be selected to receive a letter of recognition, a $100 gift certificate and one day of paid annual leave. http://bit.ly/foWKQg

• May 20 — Nominations for Chancellor’s Awards may be made in six categories: outstanding state government service, innovation, public service, safety/heroism, human relations or other achievements. http://bit.ly/d9ts4q

• May 20 — Excellence in Management Awards are presented annually to two University employees in recognition of meritorious and distinguished accomplishments in management at the University. http://bit.ly/flSbie

‘LET’S HAVE A BITE!’

UNC alumnus and author Bob Forbes will read from his newest collection of poetry for children on May 7 at 3 p.m. in Wilson Library’s Pleasants Family Assembly Room. “Let’s Have a Bite! A Banquet of Beastly Rhymes” features characters that include a photogenic buffalo, a color-changing emu and a well-dressed narwhal, all illustrated by British artist Ronald Searle.

The reading will be part of an open house in the library from 1 to 5 p.m., in which treasures from the collection will be on view, as well as a new exhibit of Searle’s illustrations for the book. For information, email Liza Terfil (liza_terfil@unc.edu or 962-4207).

EMERGING COMPANY SHOWCASE PRESENTS UNC STARTUPS

Twelve startup companies based on innovations at the University will participate in the annual Emerging Company Showcase on May 3, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. at the Friday Center. Admission is free, but registration is required. See http://bit.ly/elN7.

The event will highlight early-stage companies spinning out...
Carolina Performing Arts announces 2011–12 season

Carolina Performing Arts will launch its seventh season with a wide-ranging selection of artists in 49 performances from September through April 2012. The 2011-12 season will focus on relationships with returning artists and will provide audiences with thoughtful, challenging performances and collaborations with local performers while adding programming in international contemporary dance, partnering with the University’s art department and presenting masterworks by Beethoven and Bach.

The season will include the return of 11 artists and ensembles, including Cloud Gate Dance Theatre of Taiwan (Oct. 6–7); Gil Shaham, violin (Oct. 28); Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (Feb. 13–14), appearing under new artistic director Robert Battle; Lincoln Center Jazz Orchestra with Wynton Marsalis on trumpet (March 15); and banjoist Bela Fleck with the original line-up of the Flecktones (April 25).

“Nurturing long-lasting relationships with artists is a vital aspect of our mission,” said Emil Kang, Carolina’s executive director for the arts. “Whether these performers are well known or emerging, we want to give everyone the opportunity to experience their diversity and enormous talent.”

The new season also will mark a renewed emphasis on the Triangle’s vibrant arts scene. On Sept. 7–8, Stefan Litwin, George Kennedy Distinguished Professor of Music, will perform Beethoven piano concertos with the Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen of Germany. Following her 2009 “Go in Grace” performance for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Durham native and current Ailey dancer Hope Boykin will return to Memorial Hall with her former company Philadanco in a Carolina Performing Arts-commissioned work with an original score by Ali Jackson, Jazz at Lincoln Center Orchestra drummer-composer (Sept. 23).

Grammy-winning tenor Anthony Dean Griffey, artist in residence in the music department, will join Carolina music faculty members on stage (Sept. 29). And nine of the music faculty will appear with the student Carolina Choir and the European Union Youth Orchestra under the direction of Vladimir Ashkenazy (April 13).

With an evolving interest in bringing visual art to the stage, Carolina Performing Arts will partner with the University’s art department for an out-of-the-box Loading Dock series, presented in an intimate configuration, with artists and audiences sharing the Memorial Hall stage. These performances will feature the multimedia romp “Four Electric Ghosts: An Opera-Masquerade” by Mendi and Keith Obadika (Feb. 9), the quirky video performance piece “Whispering Pines” by Shana Moulton and Nick Hallett (March 27–28) and the ritualistic theater-music work “Gospels of Childhood: The Triptych” by Poland’s Teatr ZAR (April 22-23).

“My career began in the visual art world, and I believe the future pioneers of our field will be creating work at the intersection of the visual and performing arts worlds,” said Kang.

New subscriptions to any of six Carolina Performing Arts series—which range from dance performances to roots, jazz, world music and classical offerings—will be available beginning June 6. On July 5, flex subscription packages will be available, allowing patrons to create subscription packages with performances of their choice.

Also on July 5, tickets to individual performances will be available. Sales on these dates will begin at 10 a.m. Subscriptions and tickets can be purchased online (www.carolinaperformingarts.org) or by phone (843-3333). When classes are in session, patrons also may visit the box office at 140 E. Cameron Ave. (open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekdays).

To learn more, see http://bit.ly/g4WFTA.

of UNC. This year two concurrent tracks will be featured, scientific and tech, which will include IT/gaming, life sciences and medtech companies. The showcase will provide an opportunity for promising young companies to interact with potential investors, develop connections to local entrepreneurs, experts and industry leaders and to gain exposure.

The event will be sponsored by Carolina KickStart, a program of NC TraCS Institute, in conjunction with the Kenan-Flagler Business School, the Office of Technology Development and RENCI.

PRINT CAMPUS DIRECTORY CEASES PRODUCTION

The campus directory that was printed for the 2010-11 year will be the last, and directories in print or on CD will no longer be available, according to Information Technology Services.

Personal information can be accessed online at MyUNC until June 3 (my.unc.edu). After June 3, personal information can be accessed online at www.unc.edu/offline/portal.

Department and organization information can be accessed at the ITS Communication Technologies Department and Organization (D&O) Online Directory (www.unc.edu/dept_addr).

D&O listings are maintained by ITS Communication Technologies and can be updated throughout the year through coordination with the office. Updates cannot be changed online for D&O listings. Department administrators who require updates to the D&O listings should contact Tonya Thomas (962-4189 or tonya_thomas@unc.edu) and request a printed copy of their current department listings.

DRUG CONFERENCE TO BE HELD MAY 11–12

The UNC Eshelman School of Pharmacy will host the Sixth Annual Chapel Hill Drug Conference, Comparative Effectiveness Research: Methods and Applications, May 11–12 in Kerr Hall. Scott Smith, with the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, will deliver the keynote address.

The conference will begin with an evening reception and poster session on May 11, followed by a day-long program on May 12. Registration is required, with fee. See pharmacy. unc.edu/chdc.

The conference will be sponsored by The N. C. Translational and Clinical Sciences Institute, the UNC-GSK Center of Excellence in Pharmacoepidemiology and Public Health and the Cecil G. Sheps Center for Health Services Research.

NEWS IN BRIEF SUBMISSIONS

Next issue includes events from May 12 to May 25. Deadline for submissions is 5 p.m., Mon., May 2. E-mail gazette@unc.edu. The Gazette events page includes only items of general interest geared toward a broad audience. For complete listings of events, see the Carolina Events Calendars at events.unc.edu.
Industrial hygienists team up to win first EHS Innovation Award

Janet Phillips came to work at Carolina in July 2005, a few months ahead of Kimberly Haley.

Both women work in the Department of Environment, Health and Safety (EHS).

Both are industrial hygienists, a profession that the American Industrial Hygiene Association describes as “devoted to the anticipation, recognition, evaluation, prevention and control of those environmental factors or stresses arising in or from the workplace which may cause sickness, impaired health and well being, or significant discomfort among workers or among citizens of the community.”

Phillips (pictured at right) specializes in asbestos; Haley (pictured at left), lead. Earlier this month, they became the inaugural winners of EHS’s Innovation Award in recognition of the Web-based information system that they adapted so it could be used to store and retrieve information about both potential hazards.

The two women worked in partnership with Facilities Services and Facilities Planning by using a Web-based information system already developed by Facilities Planning as the foundation for their work.

The system, which is called SPOTS (Space Planning and Occupancy Tracking System), provided exactly what Phillips and Haley were looking for: real-time access to floor plans, including electrical and plumbing information, for every building on campus.

Phillips and Haley then worked with a software consultant for about half a year to modify SPOTS to record, store and retrieve information on asbestos and lead.

The strength of their tracking system is its simplicity, which makes information easy to find and even easier to understand, said EHS Director Mary Beth Koza.

It uses pictures — in the form of floor plans for every building on campus where officials have conducted surveys for lead or asbestos. It also relies on color codes as basic as a traffic light. Areas shown in red identify materials that have been inspected and found to be positive (showing traces of asbestos or lead). Green identifies tested materials found to be negative. Yellow marks areas where the substances have been removed under a process called “abatement.”

In each floor plan, the area surveyed contains a brief word caption telling whether asbestos or lead was tested.

Lead is found almost exclusively on wall paint, particularly on baseboards and window and door casings, Haley said.

Asbestos, on the other hand, can be found almost everywhere, from floor tiles to ceiling tiles and various adhesives, Phillips said.

Another feature of the program is a catalog of pictures of building materials that have already been tested.

The two women said they tinkered with it to make it as user-friendly as possible. The system can call up building plans showing only floors, or ceilings or walls so workers can view only the specific information they need.

“We wanted something visual,” Phillips said. “All sorts of people need to be able to review and use this data, so the challenge for us was to present it in a manner that they could look at it quickly and know instantly what they have.”

Users range from maintenance workers to environmental consultants to remediation contractors who may have to retrieve information years later.

Before this new system put information at their fingertips, they had to sort through paper files and then spend additional time reading through documents to find the information they needed.

“It is not a stretch to say this program will make the University safer in the future, but will save time and money in the process,” she said.
Sun lights new Bell Tower parking deck stairwells

When football fans take the stairs in the new Bell Tower parking deck this fall, their steps will be lighted by the sun. A total of 30 photovoltaic panels in arrays on the deck’s northeast and southwest corners, cleverly tucked behind Carolina blue signs with the interlocking NC logo, collect the solar energy to power the light fixtures in the stairwells.

The $150,000 solar array, rated at six kilowatts, is the latest project paid for by the Student Renewable Energy Fee that Carolina students imposed on themselves starting in the 2004–05 academic year. The fee is $4 per student per semester, so it provides a little more than $200,000 a year for renewable energy, energy efficiency and education projects on campus.

“The PV array on the Bell Tower deck was a great addition to the variety of renewable energy sources already featured on campus,” said Erin Hiatt, a junior from Concord majoring in public policy analysis. Hiatt is co-chair of the Renewable Energy Special Projects Committee, which manages the money from the fee.

When the committee was looking for a project on campus, Ray DuBose, director of Energy Services and an ex-officio committee member, suggested they get involved in the early design phases of the Bell Tower development.

“We had added solar panels to Morrison residence hall for domestic hot water, but incorporating solar energy early in the planning stages has more advantages,” DuBose said.

One advantage of the committee’s early involvement was the opportunity to influence the design of the parking deck’s roof. “The committee actually decided to go ahead and have structural reinforcements built into the roof in case we decided to extend the array beyond the initial 30 panels,” Hiatt said.

Any electricity generated beyond what is needed to light the stairwells will feed back into the grid.

The committee is also using this highly visible location to educate football fans and others using the parking lot about renewable energy on campus – and to give credit where it is due.

“Signs near the exits inform those parking inside that first off, there are PV panels producing electricity on the roof,” Hiatt said, “and second, that they’re there because of Carolina students.”

DIAL-OUT from page 2

period in which both numbers will work.

Services that currently dial to an outside number such as alarm systems, fax machines, pagers, speed dialing, telephone forwarding and automated dial-out programming on lab equipment could be affected, said Cheri Beasley, customer support manager for ITS Communication Technologies. In addition, the change could affect the auto-dial feature on Centrex digital phones, overflow routes for telephone rollover configurations and automatic/ uniform call distribution (ACD/UCD) applications, she said.

“Signs near the exits inform those parking inside that first off, there are PV panels producing electricity on the roof,” Hiatt said, “and second, that they’re there because of Carolina students.”

Dial-out prefix changes at a glance

University and UNC Health Care System landlines will use “7” for outside calls, effective April 30:

- Emergency: 911 or 7 + 911
- Station-to-station dialing: Dial the last five digits of the telephone number (Centrex phones only)
- Local calls: 7 + seven-digit or 10-digit local phone number
- Domestic long distance: 7 + 1 + area code + seven-digit phone number
- Toll-free: 7 + 1 + toll-free exchange
- International calls: 7 + 011 + country code + city code (if needed) + local phone number
- Nationwide directory assistance: 7 + 411
- Hearing impaired: 7 + 711
- University or UNC Health Care operator: 0

BUDGET from page 2

so far this year, the number is 20 percent higher than at this point last year.

that means.” How deep the state budget cuts ultimately prove to be remains uncertain.

As the Gazette went to press, the subcommittee had approved its recommended education proposal, with the full House expected to take up the budget during the last week of this month.

Next, the Senate will release its budget proposal, and a conference committee will submit a final budget to Gov. Beverly Perdue, probably during the summer.

For current budget information, refer to universityrelations.unc.edu/budget.

PERSONNEL from page 5

When there are reductions in force, the University would continue to comply with the Office of State Budget and Management policy to ensure that employees received severance payments. Malone told forum members that change is always difficult and concerns are often heightened in an era of budget cuts, when people are naturally worried about keeping their jobs.

Sometimes, she said, change requires a “leap of faith.”

“I understand that employees may have questions about what this legislation means,” Malone said. “As additional information becomes available, we will be dedicated to communicating as much as we can to employees.”

People can send questions about the proposal to hr-personnel-flexibility@unc.edu. While each question cannot be answered individually, OHR will collect the questions and compile a list of Frequently Asked Questions as additional information becomes available.

WHETTING THE APPETITE OF FUTURE UNC STUDENTS

SOPHOMORE DANIEL TORELLI leads a tour of prospective Carolina students through the CHANL (Chapel Hill Analytical and Nanofabrication Laboratory) in Chapman Hall.

In addition to working with campus partners to offer special tours of the Kenan-Flagler Business School and University Career Services, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions has collaborated with Joe DeSimone, Chancellor’s Eminent Professor of Chemistry, to offer prospective students an insider’s view of CHANL and a few clean rooms in Caudill, New Venable and Chapman halls where Carolina student researchers work with particles on the micron and nanometer scale.

During the week of April 18–22, the admissions office welcomed more than 6,000 students to Carolina; the largest-ever number of visitors in a single week.

Special tours like these have helped boost campus visits. With 32,441 visitors

April 27, 2011
Kurzman looks at concerns about terrorism in the context of understanding its scope

In the span of time of an old-time horror movie, a real-life horror played out in the country’s skies on one sunny September morning. Four jet airliners. Nineteen hijackers. By noon, nearly 3,000 dead.

It became seared into the national consciousness as “9/11.” Nearly 10 years later, the scars on the nation’s psyche — and its politics — remain.

It was at this intersection of psychology and politics last month that Charles Kurzman, a Carolina sociology professor, collided with U.S. Representative Peter King, a Republican from New York.

He did not see it coming, Kurzman said. On the other hand, it would be a stretch to say that it happened entirely by chance.

In early March, King, as chair of the House Committee on Homeland Security, was about to hold a hearing on the radicalization of Muslim-Americans, examining what King saw as an unwillingness by Muslim leaders to help law enforcement identify possible threats.

The previous month, Kurzman, who is a specialist on Islamic movements, published a research finding that presented fresh data directly contradicting King’s assertion. The study was picked up by the Associated Press and the New York Times, and King was confronted with it during a March 9 interview on CBS’s “Early Show.”

The study showed that, of 120 Muslim-American terrorism suspects discovered by law-enforcement authorities since 9/11, 48 were turned in by members of the Muslim-American community. When confronted with that finding, King charged the study was skewed because it had left out cases involving terrorist financing.

Kurzman responded to King in a point-by-point rebuttal, posted on his homepage at www.unc.edu/~kurzman, along with a copy of the study, “Muslim-American Terrorism Since 9/11: An Accounting.”

The day after the King interview on CBS, Kurzman appeared on National Public Radio’s “The Diane Rehm Show” to talk about his research and the Congressional hearings. Kurzman’s study was also cited in a variety of opinion pieces in the national media, ranging from The Washington Post to the Los Angeles Times to “The Colbert Report.”

The study that has gained so much traction is an update of an earlier project, supported by the National Institute of Justice, that Kurzman had worked on from 2007 to 2010 with David Schanzer, director of the Triangle Center on Terrorism and Homeland Security, and Ebrahim Moosa, a professor in Duke University’s religion department.

It collected data to find out if Muslim-Americans are turning increasingly to terrorism, as King and others feared and as the recent pace of Muslim-American terrorist incidents and prosecutions seemed to suggest.

Of particular concern was the dramatic rise in the number of suspected terrorists to 47 in 2009, in contrast to only two the year before. Kurzman’s research showed that, of those 47, 17 were Somali-Americans who had joined al-Shabaab in Somalia. And in 2010, the number of Muslim-Americans suspected of terrorism fell to 20, bringing to 161 the total number of Muslim-American terrorist suspects and perpetrators since 9/11.

His media skirmish with King highlighted another of the study’s conclusions, that Islamic terrorism makes news, and that the amount of news it generates creates the impression that it is more prevalent than it really is.

Facts matter, Kurzman said. And they have to be placed in a broader context to unearth and understand their meaning, an examination that the rush of daily news reports seldom allows.

Take, for instance, data the National Counterterrorism Center have collected through its Worldwide Incidents Tracking System (WITS).

Since 9/11, WITS reported, the number of people killed by terrorists around the world has averaged about 5,000 per year.

It is a big number, an unacceptable number, but Kurzman has sought to add the missing context that could help enhance public understanding and reduce public anxiety.

According to the latest figures from the World Health Organization, more than 150,000 people die each day throughout the world — around 7,000 a day from HIV/AIDS, another 4,000 from diarrhea and 3,000 more from malaria.

Since 9/11, war and violence worldwide have claimed the lives of about 2,000 people every day. And of the 150,000 people who die each day worldwide, Islamist militants account for fewer than 100 fatalities — and fewer than 20 per day outside the hotspots of Afghanistan, Iraq and Pakistan.

Those small numbers do not mean that the threat is imaginary, or can be ignored, Kurzman said.

“International terrorism is a manifestation of our globalized world — of travel and technology, transnational networks and the flow of information that come from them,” he said. “All these things can serve the purpose of human betterment, but they can also be used for the purposes of violence and extremism.

“Anybody who has access to the Internet can download terrorists’ proclamations, their call to arms and recipes for violence. Huge numbers of people have access to that, and yet only a tiny trickle of the people who have access are acting on it.”

Part of the solution to terrorist threats is “killing the bad guys,” Kurzman said, “which we have done relatively successfully.” But another part of the answer, he believes, lies buried under sensational headlines and heated rhetoric that boost ratings and score political points.

Asked what he would have wanted to tell King if he had been given the opportunity to testify before his committee, Kurzman said, “Number one, we need to turn down the volume on our panicked fears about terrorism. The scale of the threat is not out of range of a bunch of other security and public health issues that are causing death on a daily basis.

“Once we do that, we can talk reasonably about where the precise line should be between security and liberty. Nobody is saying we should do away with security. Nobody is saying we should do away with liberty. We are talking about tweaking policies in this gray zone in the middle. As we do that, we should talk to law enforcement to see what is working for them so that we know what the best practices are. That way, we can avoid the kind of gross rhetoric and political partisanship that continues to drive so much of the debate these days.”

Not that Kurzman is complaining about all the news coverage he received lately, especially since he has a new book coming out in June. Titled “The Missing Martyrs: Why There Are So Few Muslim Terrorists,” the book examines why, in a world filled with more than a billion Muslims, there are relatively few Muslim terrorists.

This is a fact bemoaned by terrorists’ own websites and publications, and too often missed by politicians and pundits alike.

The threat of Islamist terrorism is real, Kurzman argues in the book, but its dimensions, so far, remain tightly confined.

Kurzman said the attention his work has received in the past month has been exciting and rewarding in ways he might have expected, but didn’t.

Already, he said, journalist Jonathan Alter has reviewed his book for the widely-read Slate website.

“This is all new for me,” Kurzman said. “My other books didn’t get reviews like this even after they were published.”