

OPEN DOOR

A Publication of the North Carolina Community College System

Fall 2006 • Vol. 9, No. 3

Golden LEAF helps community colleges

By Peggy Beach, System Office, Public Affairs

Golden LEAF has certainly proven golden for North Carolina's community colleges.

The Golden LEAF Foundation, a nonprofit corporation created in 1999, manages one-half of the funds coming to North Carolina from the master settlement agreement with cigarette manufacturers. The foundation is helping the long-term economic climate of the state through grants and investments in education. In a 2005 report to the State Board of Community Colleges, H. Martin Lancaster, president, North Carolina Community College System, praised Golden LEAF for its "generous support" to the System Office and to the community colleges. Since its first grant announcements in 2000, Golden LEAF



Students in the landscape gardening program at Johnston Community College work in the college's garden. The college was able to purchase better soil for the students to work in because of a Golden LEAF grant.

has invested almost \$26 million in about 50 projects directly related to community colleges. About 30 of North

Carolina's 58 colleges and the System Office have received the funds or are major partners in large joint projects. While some have statewide impact, many are concentrated in the east, where tobacco has been the main crop, and in the poorest counties in the west. By far the largest Golden LEAF investments in community colleges are the \$8.7 million given to begin Bionetwork and \$12 million for BTEC.

Bionetwork is a statewide initiative that connects community colleges across North Carolina, providing specialized training, curricula and equipment, to develop a world-class workforce for the biotechnology, pharmaceutical and life sciences industries. BTEC is the Biomanufacturing Training and

See LEAF page 8

Duke Energy grants "power" manufacturing training

Two years ago, Duke Energy began its Community and Technical College Grant Program with plans to fund up to \$3 million a year in grants in North Carolina through June 30, 2009. At that time, H. Martin Lancaster, President of the North Carolina Community System, said, "Duke Power's commitment to North Carolina's community colleges is truly historic. Certainly this new program represents one of the largest investments in our statewide system by a company, and the potential impact on our state's economy is tremendous." That potential has already turned into results, more quickly and on a much bigger scale than the program's founders had anticipated. To date, 13

community colleges have received more than \$2.6 million in grants for 16 projects. A conservative estimate of the number of manufacturing jobs created by employers participating in the funded projects is more than a thousand, with at least 2800 existing jobs retained thanks to improved productivity. Examples of funded programs include integrated systems technology training at **Central Piedmont Community College**; BioWorks training for Gaia Herbs at **Blue Ridge Community College**; and an ambitious job retention program for electronics assembler Solectron run by **Vance-Granville Community College**. One of the biggest success stories comes from one of the system's smallest colleges, **Tri-**

County Community College. Under the leadership of Norman Oglesby, college president and Terrie M. Kelly, vice president for institutional advancement, Tri-County worked with industry to identify machinists' training as a critical need for the region's manufacturers. Oglesby and Kelly pursued a Duke grant to help support training for a "machined product cluster" in its service area. In the first two years of the program, the training has served Sioux Tools (a division of Snap-On Tools), Team Industries, and Moog Components Group. Companies in the machining cluster have invested in the program. Student employees train in each plant,

See Duke page 9

Student representative on state board values learning experiences

Jonathan Smith has spent the last few months learning many new things.

As the president of the North Carolina Comprehensive Community College Student Government Association (N4CSGA), Smith is also the student representative on the State Board of Community Colleges. "I do not by any means take this responsibility lightly," said Smith



Smith

on officially becoming a state board member in July. "I promise to work hard, listen to our students, and serve all that have placed their trust and faith in me by sharing their concerns and ideas with you."

Since becoming a state board member, Smith has served on the committee to help select the Wachovia Community College President of the Year and helped plan the N4CSGA fall conference in Charlotte. He also spoke at the tribute to H. Martin Lancaster, system president, at the System Conference in Greensboro. In November, he will give the invocation at the Day of Recognition Awards Luncheon in Raleigh. In

April, he will introduce the student speakers at the Academic Excellence Awards Luncheon in Raleigh.

Smith is used to being busy. A former U.S. Marine, he is studying criminal justice technology at Roanoke-Chowan Community College. He plays center for the college basketball team, serves on the college's board of trustees and has a 4.0 GPA.

By far his most important responsibility, he said, is that of father to his three-year old daughter, Amani. He and his daughter attend Ahoskie Christian Center, where his father, Dr. Daniel Smith Sr., is the founder and pastor.

More than \$3 million approved in BioNetwork 2006 Grant Awards

In September, the State Board of Community Colleges approved a comprehensive package of grants in the 2006 grant cycle for North Carolina Community College System BioNetwork to fund biotechnology training in North Carolina.

The total amount approved was \$3,042,005 in equipment and innovation grants. Twenty-seven equipment grants were funded for a total of \$2,351,392 and 15 innovation grants for a total of \$690,613.

Community colleges use the grants to obtain new or used equipment, purchase laboratory supplies, upgrade

outdated equipment and enhance laboratories. Because pharmaceutical and biomanufacturers will not hire people without the specialized training needed to work in this highly-regulated sector, the BioNetwork grants provide community colleges with the equipment they need to be able to offer realistic training.

The biotech industry is growing by an estimated 3000 jobs annually, of which 2000 require education and training at the community college level.

BioNetwork has now funded 142 grants since its inception in 2004,

totaling more than \$12.2 million. The grant process is competitive and review panels are comprised of representatives from industry, the State Board of Community Colleges, the North Carolina Biotechnology Center, and the North Carolina Community College System office.

For a complete list of grants, contact

www.ncbionetworks.org. For more information on Bionetwork, contact Norman Smit, marketing director, at smitn@ncbionetwork.org or at 919-807-7181.

State Board to hold Day of Recognition Awards Luncheon

The State Board of Community Colleges will hold its annual Day of Recognition Awards Luncheon on Friday, November 17 at noon at the RBC Center in Raleigh.

A number of award recipients are honored at the event including the I.E. Ready Award winner, the Distinguished Partners for Excellence Award recipients, the R.J. Reynolds Excellence in Teaching Award winner and

four finalists, the BB&T Staff Person of the Year, and the Wachovia President of the Year. The board also recognizes retirees from the System Office and the community colleges from the past year.

The RSVP deadline for the luncheon is November 3. For more information, contact Peggy Beach, luncheon coordinator, at beachm@nccommunitycolleges.edu or at 919-807-6964.

The Open Door

Vol. 9, No.3 Fall 2006
The Open Door is an information and idea exchange for employees and friends of the North Carolina Community College System. The ideas and opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the official policy or view of the State Board of Community Colleges or of the Community College System.

Hilda Pinnix-Ragland, Chair
State Board of Community Colleges

H. Martin Lancaster, President
North Carolina Community College System



NORTH CAROLINA
COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
Published November 2006
Distributed Electronically
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Community College News

(news about community college people and programs)

Dr. Garrett Hinshaw is the new president of **Catawba Valley Community College**. Hinshaw was previously the executive vice president at

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute. He is also a former dean of corporate and continuing education at **Surry**

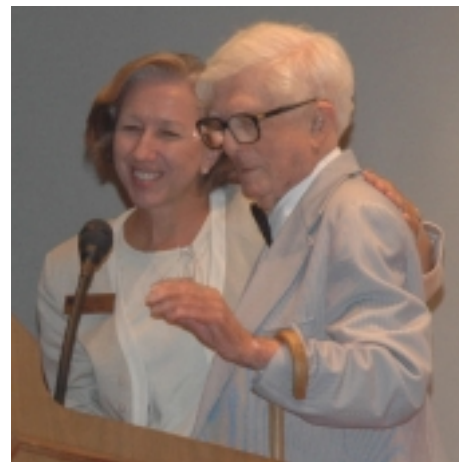


Hinshaw

Community College. Hinshaw earned a bachelor's and master's degree at Appalachian State University. He later earned a doctorate from North Carolina State University. Hinshaw assumed his new responsibilities in August after the retirement of former president Dr. Cuyler Dunbar...In July, Governor Mike Easley appointed **Edward W. Kelly III** of Greensboro to the North Carolina Workforce Development Commission. Kelly is a continuing education instructor at **Guilford Technical Community College** and is a member of the North Carolina Employment Security Commission. In 1994, Kelly received the North Carolina Department of Labor's Outstanding and Meritorious Service and Apprenticeship Award...**K. Ray Bailey**, president, **Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College**, was awarded the Order of The Long Leaf Pine in July. The award is one of the most prestigious honors bestowed by the governor. It recognizes those who give extraordinary service to the state. Bailey has served in numerous community organizations including the United Way of Asheville, Bele Chere, the American Red Cross, Goodwill Industries and Western North Carolina Tomorrow...A national report on leadership development in community colleges cited the annual leadership institute at **Pitt Community College** as a program for other community colleges to emulate. The 55-page report, released in August and entitled "Growing Your Own Leaders: Community Colleges Step Up," was produced by the Leading Forward initiative of the American Association of Community Colleges...In July, **Surry Com-**

munity College received the award for excellence in critical thinking at an international conference on critical thinking in Berkeley, California. Dr. Linda Eller, president of the Foundation for Critical Thinking, presented the award. The college has a web site on critical thinking at www.surry.edu/about/ct/index.html. In 2002, the college identified critical thinking as an important tool for student learning...In August, the consortium of Sioux Tools, Moog Components Group and Team Industries was selected to receive the Governor's Award for Workforce Development. The consortium works with **Tri-County Community College** (see Duke Energy, page 1) to develop the workforce in their community...**Dr. Dallas Herring**, "godfather" of the North Carolina Community College System, spoke at the fall semester opening ceremonies at **Edgecombe Community College** in August. Herring worked with Governor Luther Hodges in 1957 to develop a statewide system of industrial education centers. In 1963, those centers became the nucleus of the North Carolina Community College System...**Chris A. Johnson**, computer information technology instructor, **South Piedmont Community College**, has written a training manual for OpenOffice.org, a free office software suite. Prentice Hall is the publisher of the manual. Johnson, who has taught at South Piedmont for 12 years, realized that students had a need for inexpensive software in computer classes...**Dr. Mike Taylor**, president, **Stanly Community College** was featured in an article in the August 29 issue of *Community College Times*. The article discussed Taylor's interviews with World War II veterans as part of the Veterans History Project of the Library of Congress. Taylor has sent 66 videotaped interviews to the Library of Congress...Students in the professional crafts program at **Haywood Community College** were among students from several institutions that participated in the construction of a 20-foot tower of firing clay at Appalachian State University in September. Danish artist Nina Hole, artist-in-residence at Appalachian, designed the sculpture in front of the university's Wey Hall. Students from Penland School of Crafts, Appalachian State University, University of North Carolina at Asheville, and Western Carolina University also

participated...Two community college students who were interns through the state internship program this summer are now working for the organizations they interned for. **Tina Mortier**, a student at **Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College**, began working as a correctional officer at the Marion Correctional Institution in October. **Connie Hedrick**, a student at **Western Piedmont Community College**, began working part-time at the J. Iverson Riddle Development Center in October. The Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office of the North Carolina Department of Administration operates the internship program...**H. Martin Lancaster**, president, North Carolina Community College System, received the Distinguished Citizen Award from the Wake County Alumni chapter of Phi Beta Kappa in October. Lancaster received the award for "his outstanding service to promotion of the humanities in North Carolina's community colleges."



Dr. Deborah Lamm, president, Edgecombe Community College, thanks Dr. Dallas Herring after his speech to students in August.

"A teacher affects eternity. He never knows where his influence stops."

Henry Adams

Student Leadership Institute celebrates eight years

By Kathryn Reed, Intern, System Office, Public Affairs

See one, do one, teach one—that's the theory behind the Student Leadership Institute (SLI), a seven-year-old program that broadens leadership training for community college students.

During the course of the year-long program, students receive leadership instruction from experts, develop their own workshops and share the skills they learn with their campus communities.

Karen Yerby, system associate director of student development services, and Joan McLendon, Johnston Community College's director of admissions and counseling, developed the idea for the program in 1994. After securing a North Carolina State Board Reserve Fund Grant for \$35,000 in 1998, the co-directors kicked off the program in the summer of 1999.

"Both Joan and I had worked with students on a local and state level," Yerby said. "We both saw great potential, but there was nothing state wide that focused on leadership and soft skills."

Administrators may nominate up to two students from each college per year based on their leadership potential and ability to commit a year to SLI. Participants are selected by the YLI Board of Directors. There are 27 students currently in the program, which Yerby said has the resources to enroll up to 30 per year. The program is funded by student registration fees as well as a system-wide fee prorated to college size.

The institute consists of a weeklong summer session at Peace College in Raleigh and two mini-sessions in the fall and spring.

During the summer session, students participate in speaker-led workshops on various facets of leadership. The workshops focus on such topics as business etiquette, image, team building, parliamentary procedure, public speaking and ethics.

Students also work on group projects developing workshops of their own.

"We felt like they get all this information in the morning and early

afternoon, but we want them to put it to practical use," Yerby said.

Students are grouped based on the results of a Myers-Briggs Type Inventory assessment of their personalities and leadership methods "so they get familiar with their styles and how they work and communicate with other types," Yerby explained.

Each group develops a 50-minute workshop aimed at typical community college students. They are given a \$100 budget and six days to develop objectives, publicity plans and presentations. This year's students created workshops on multicultural awareness, healthy living, time management and early- and middle-college students.

"We call it a workshop in a can," Yerby explained.

She said the idea is that if a community college wanted to hold the workshop, the group could provide it with everything it would need. At the end of



The Student Leadership Institute class of 2007. Applications for the class of 2008 will be accepted beginning in January. For more information, contact Karen Yerby at yerbyk@nccommunitycolleges.edu or at 919-807-7107.

the week, the groups give ten minute synopses of their workshops.

"The project is extremely important not because of the end result, the workshop. That's gravy," Yerby said. "The important part is the process they go through. In six days they have to go through group dynamics that other groups have six months to go through."

She said the group members must overcome differences in backgrounds, interests and ages. In the process, they learn about conflict, resolution, delegation, research, communication and responsibility.

In addition to the workshop projects, students complete individual assignments during the summer session. Each

student is required to keep a leadership journal, write at least one article for the session's daily newsletter and introduce one speaker.

"We make it an intense six days," Yerby said.

The mini-sessions in the fall and spring also focus on workshops, group projects and networking. Students attend a graduation banquet during the spring session.

Students are expected to arrange or facilitate two to five workshops for their college or community independent of the three YLI sessions. Yerby said the participants conduct a total of about 80 workshops each year.

This approach of seeing a workshop, doing a workshop, then teaching a workshop seems to be working. Thirty SLI students have earned Academic Excellence Awards, and 14 have been All-USA Academic Team Nominees. Five graduates have become North

Carolina Comprehensive Community College Student Government Association (N4CSGA) presidents and numerous graduates have become executive board members. The N4CSGA Daryl Mitchell Outstanding Student Award is named after a student of the first SLI class. A 2006 SLI graduate received the first Robert W. Scott Leadership Award. Four former SLI students currently work for North Carolina community colleges, and at least two graduates have been speakers at their college graduation ceremonies.

"It's phenomenal," Yerby said. "We get unbelievably positive feedback from the students on how it has changed their lives. We also hear back from their campuses about what it has done."

Forsyth Technical Community College graduate Jaimie Brown was a participant in the first SLI class. She said SLI taught her self-confidence, self-awareness, time management, interpersonal skills and stress management.

"I learned a lot about myself and my personality and my leadership style," she said. "I learned how to take my leadership style and incorporate it with everyone else's. It's almost like it's a new you. It's like a before and after, and it's because of the things that you learn and the things that you see."

Community colleges continue to help Hurricane Katrina survivors

By Peggy Beach, System Office, Public Affairs

As the nation commemorated the first anniversary of Hurricane Katrina on August 31, community colleges across North Carolina are continuing their efforts to help the hurricane survivors, many of whom are still reeling from the storm's effects.

In May, Steve Johnson, past president of the North Carolina Comprehensive Community College Student Government Association (N4CSGA), traveled to New Orleans to tour Delgado Community College. Johnson presented the college with a check for \$5,687 for the college's student relief fund. The money was raised during a "Quarter War" activity held by N4CSGA. "Quarter War" is a friendly fundraising competition between colleges in each region of North Carolina.

Several months before Hurricane Katrina, Beverly Dickson, dean of the North Campus at **Central Piedmont Community College**, met Anna Faye Kelley-Winders, vice president at Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College (MGCCC) while on a trip to New York. "My husband and I were trying to catch the subway to Ground Zero," said Dickson. "Anna Faye came up to me and said 'Do I detect a Southern accent?'" and we became friends right there." Dickson kept in touch with Winders and after the hurricane, students, faculty and staff from Central Piedmont sent money to the college, which has campuses in Perkinston, Gulfport and Gautier. Dickson said that Central Piedmont adopted a family in Gulfport last Christmas.

"We couldn't get in touch with Anna Faye for eight days after the hurricane because her cell phone did not work and neither did her Internet," said Dickson. "You never think about things like that. We all talk about emergency response plans but most of us are not ready for that level of catastrophe."

"We couldn't get in touch with Anna Faye for eight days after the hurricane because her cell phone did not work and neither did her Internet," said Dickson. "You never think about things like that. We all talk about emergency response plans but most of us are not ready for that level of catastrophe."

During a visit to Central Piedmont in August, officials from MGCCC visited the construction, welding, advertising and graphic design, heating and air conditioning, flexography and electrical/electronics programs. Dickson said that MGCCC needs those types of programs on its campuses. "They have to re-invent their college," said Dickson. "A lot of what they needed pre-Katrina is not what they need post-Katrina." She said that officials from Central Piedmont will visit the MGCCC campuses next spring.

Students in the computer club at **College of The Albemarle** raised

social sciences coordinator, chose to adopt Pearl River. "Our students really liked the idea of helping other community college students," she said. Safford and Monica Shuford, student activities coordinator, organized a campus wide fundraising drive in April. Students sold everything from jewelry to hot dogs and raised more than \$1,100 for their adopted college.

In July, **Haywood Community College** received a gift of two vans from the Liz Claiborne Corporation in recognition of the volunteer efforts of Steve Kirton, electrical technology instructor and his students.

About three weeks after the hurricane, Kirton and four of his students traveled to Kiln and Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, to build 20 temporary electrical poles with meter boxes and wiring to restore temporary electricity to homes. "We had it down to a science," said Kirton. "We were like a NASCAR pit crew."

Kirton took another group of students back to Bay St. Louis in May to re-wire a home. "The enormity of street after street of people still living in tents is mind-boggling," he said.

H. Martin Lancaster, system president, is still receiving thank you letters from students who

received donations sent to the North Carolina Community Colleges Foundation. (See "Donations pour in for hurricane victims," Fall 2005 *The Open Door*) The donations were sent to the community college systems in Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama. Recently, Kevin Brady, an automotive technology student at Delgado Community College, wrote Lancaster that he used the money he received to replace the tools he lost during the hurricane. Brady summed up the feelings of many.

"I hope that others never have to experience devastation like Katrina, but I will never hesitate to donate to another community college in time of need."



L to R: Connie Boudoin, resource development and alumni specialist at Delgado; Pamela Little, formerly with System Office and now with Edgecombe Community College; Steve Johnson, former president, North Carolina Comprehensive Community College Student Government Association; Micheale Royce, SGA president, Delgado West Bank Campus; Nita Hutter, director of resource development and Michele Greco, director of student life, West Bank Campus.

money for the tuition of computer programming student Jacob Silvia. Silvia attended Pearl River Community College in Waveland, Mississippi and was called to active duty in the National Guard right after the storm. He eventually moved to Massachusetts to be near his father and enrolled in Bristol Community College.

Pearl River Community College was also on the minds of students, faculty and staff at **Western Piedmont Community College**. The college raised \$2,500 for the American Red Cross right after the hurricane. However, six months later, many on the campus felt the need to do more. With the help of her students, Mary Charlotte Safford,

Campus Highlights

Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College Asheville, North Carolina

- ◆ The college opened a new site at the Asheville Mall in September, making both credit and non-credit classes available for the 11 million people who visit the mall each year.
- ◆ The Hot Food Team received a gold medal in the American Culinary Federation Student Team Championship July 16 in Philadelphia. The team was named national runner-up, finishing one-tenth of a point behind the winner and scoring high enough to earn gold. The students made it to nationals after winning first place in state and regional competition.
- ◆ The college chapter of Phi Beta Lambda won nine team and individual awards and two chapter awards during the National Leadership Conference in June in Nashville, Tennessee.

Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute Hudson, North Carolina

- ◆ The college dedicated and opened the Faye A. Broyhill Building in July that will house the Appalachian State University Center. The university's first off-campus, full-time daytime program will offer bachelor's degrees in elementary education beginning in spring 2007. The corporate and continuing education department at Caldwell and a number of multi-purpose classrooms occupy the remainder of the facility.
- ◆ The Caldwell County JobLink Center relocated to the college campus in August, offering a one-stop center that addresses employment and training needs for local residents.
- ◆ The college welcomed its first class of 75 Caldwell County students to campus for the new Caldwell Early College program. Funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Learn and Earn Initiative, the program will allow students to earn both their high school diplomas and associate's degrees in five years at no cost.

Central Carolina Community College Sanford, North Carolina

- ◆ Nancy Blackman, the college's director of the Small Business Center in Harnett County, was

named Incubator Manager of the Year by the North Carolina Business Incubation Association. Blackmon has been director of the Dunn incubator for 15 years. She was also recently named "Woman of the Year" by the Dunn Area Chamber of Commerce.

- ◆ Construction on the college's three campuses continues. The college is preparing to break ground on a new West Harnett Center to be located in the West Harnett Industrial Park and is also preparing for the construction of a new educational center in Chatham County in the Siler City Industrial Park. The college also renamed three buildings on the Lee County Campus in honor of Dr. Marvin Joyner, former president; Doug Wilkinson, Sr., former trustee; and Gilbert W. Lett, Sanford businessman and college foundation benefactor.
- ◆ Bobby Ellison, a student in welding and fabrication program, received the 2005 Silver Award in the national competition sponsored by the James F. Lincoln Arc Welding Foundation. Ellison designed and built a pig cooker to win the award. The cooker was later sold at a benefit auction for the college's foundation.

Central Piedmont Community College Charlotte, North Carolina

- ◆ In July, U.S. Senator Richard Burr (R-NC) co-sponsored a North Carolina economic development summit on the West Campus. The summit focused on health care information technology and healthcare workforce issues. U.S. Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao was the keynote speaker.
- ◆ In early October, the college announced a new training program for certified bank tellers at the newly developed Financial Services Institute. The institute also conducts training for mortgage officers, real estate appraisers, insurance adjusters, notary publics, securities, and accountants.
- ◆ Central Piedmont and Montreat College co-sponsored a business ethics forum in October on Central Piedmont's West Campus. Dr. Albert C. Pierce, professor of ethics and national security at the National Defense University in Washington, D.C. was the keynote speaker.

Craven Community College New Bern, North Carolina

- ◆ The first group of 50 ninth-graders at Craven Early College in New Bern began school in August. The new Learn and Earn high school, a joint project of the college and the Craven County Schools, is designed to appeal to students who are capable of doing focused, college-level coursework but who may not be thriving in traditional school settings. Those who remain enrolled will, after five years, be able to graduate with both their high school diploma and their two-year associate's degrees or two years of transferable college credit.
- ◆ The college in July entered into an affiliation agreement with Warwickshire College in the United Kingdom. The non-binding compact calls for the two institutions to encourage possible student, faculty and staff exchanges. It also calls for the two to encourage economic ties between the two colleges' respective regions.
- ◆ Bambi Edwards, an information technology instructor at Craven, toured China in June. Edwards' trip was part of World View, a joint venture between the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the college. Back home, classes at Craven followed Edwards' blog, used Google Earth to pinpoint her location and participated in discussions about how the Internet was erasing the divide between North Carolina and China.

Durham Technical Community College Durham, North Carolina

- ◆ Officials and dignitaries gathered in September on the Durham campus to dedicate the Phail Wynn Jr. Student Services Center. The \$9 million 58,500-square-foot facility will serve as a central campus hub. The three-story building houses admissions, registration, financial aid, along with advising, counseling, and student development, a cafeteria, bookstore, study areas, computer labs, and student government and club activity rooms. The center is named in honor of the college president.
- ◆ The college is part of a national initiative to help adults in low-paying jobs better their lives through training at community colleges.

Campus Highlights continued

Durham Tech has been tapped as a "leadership college" in the program and will receive \$250,000 in the Breaking Through program. The GlaxoSmithKline Foundation sponsors the program.

- ♦ Construction began in September on Durham Tech's new 20-acre Orange County campus in Hillsborough. The centerpiece is a 40,000-square-foot two-story building that will contain three science labs, two computer labs and five classrooms. The total cost of the project will be \$8.7 million, including the \$1.2 million Orange County paid for the land. Another \$4 million comes from funds approved as part of the 2000 Higher Education Bond Referendum.
- ♦ *The Journal of Dental Technology*, the publication of the National Association of Dental Laboratories, named Durham Tech's dental laboratory technology program as one of the top three laboratory technology educational programs. The programs were featured in the June/July issue.

Johnston Community College Smithfield, North Carolina

- ♦ Five students received \$1,000 scholarship as part of a grant received from the Hospira Foundation. The students are Antonio Javier Martinez, a pre-biology student from Benson; Susan Hales, a nursing student and Andrea Lee, a radiography student, both of Clayton; Elizabeth "Liz" Jones, a radiography student from Goldsboro; and William Perry, of Wendell, who is studying bioprocess technology. Hospira, which operates a manufacturing facility in Clayton, is a specialty pharmaceutical and medication delivery company. The Hospira Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the company.
- ♦ The North Carolina Transportation Hall of Fame will present the 2006 Earl E. Congdon Jr. Award for Excellence in Highway Freight Transportation to the college's North Carolina Truck Driver Training School during a ceremony on October 31 in Spencer.
- ♦ The college mourns the loss of Rudolph Ashworth Howell, a benefactor and former college trustee. A Smithfield native, Howell died August 18. In 1993, Howell and his wife, Nell, gave 2,850 acres of forest land in the Bentonville community to the college. Named the Rudolph Howell & Son Environmental Learning Center, the prop-

erty is now the site of a college-operated nature preserve and outdoor classroom that is managed for the benefit of wildlife, educational opportunities and low-impact outdoor recreation. Monies generated from the sale of timber on the land have provided scholarships for many college students.

Mitchell Community College Statesville, North Carolina

- ♦ Fall Convocation celebrating 150 years of classes at Mitchell was held August 31. William Moose, history instructor and author of *A History of Mitchell Community College*, described student life in 1856. A college-wide lunch, sponsored by the Student Government Association, followed in the Montgomery Student Center.
- ♦ Annette Moore's first novel, *Stained Glass*, was published this summer. Moore is a literature and writing instructor at the college. She also writes short stories and poetry based on themes such as love, nature, and the African-American experience.
- ♦ Sandra Cox's novel, *The Crystal* y a contemporary romance with paranormal overtones y will be published by Cerridwen Press. Sandra is the administrative assistant in the office of the vice president for instruction. The release date for the book has not yet been announced by the E-book publisher (<http://www.cerridwenpress.com>).

Piedmont Community College Roxboro, North Carolina

- ♦ The college continued its growth during the 2005-2006 academic year with increases of more than six percent in headcount and more than five percent in FTE.
- ♦ New facilities are also open on campus. These include a new student services area to house admissions, financial aid, counseling, adult basic skills and human resource development services as well as a renovated student center on the Person County Campus in Roxboro. The college's Caswell County campus in Yanceyville added a new custom-designed classroom building housing its film and video production technology and digital effects and animation programs. Both projects were funded primarily by the 2000 Higher Education Bond Referendum.
- ♦ The college has provided numerous programs and activities aimed at developing its workforce. More than 600 dislocated workers from Dan

River Fabrics and Collins and Aikman Corporation received on-site workshops, counseling and referral services. A total of 171 individuals have met requirements for the North Carolina Career Readiness Certificate (NCCRC) as a result of the college's NCCRC Initiative. Piedmont also offers the Career Start program to address the needs of unemployed individuals referred by the Person County Department of Social Services. To date, 415 persons have successfully completed the required workshop; 272 persons have elected to participate in further workforce training prior to being referred to the Employment Security Commission for job search assistance; and 234 participants have obtained employment.

Robeson Community College Lumberton, North Carolina

- ♦ The college trustees approved an articulation agreement with the University of North Dakota for an air traffic control one-plus-three program. The agreement will allow students to take one year of coursework at Robeson during which they will earn their private pilot's license. After year one, students transfer to the University of North Dakota to complete the four-year program in air traffic control.
- ♦ The National Science Foundation awarded Robeson and its business partners a three-year biotechnology grant of \$867,154. The grant was developed in partnership with the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Public Schools of Robeson County, and Alamance Community College. The grant funds a new Robeson Regional Biotech Education Consortium and broadens the work of the college based BioAg Center and University of North Carolina-Pembroke's work in biotechnology.
- ♦ Robeson has completed the construction of a new two-story health science building. The 39,013 square foot facility is now fully operational and is home to the associate degree nursing, certified nursing assistant, surgical technology, respiratory therapy, radiography, and emergency medical services programs. The facility has a valued of about \$7.3 million.
- ♦ Beginning with the 2006 fall term, Robeson offered the first of several courses that lead to the lateral entry teacher certification that has been developed to assist local school districts with lateral entry teacher certification.

Education Center, located on the Centennial Campus of North Carolina State University. The biotech industry is growing by an estimated 3,000 jobs annually, of which 2,000 require education and training at the community college level.

"Many of these people training for the biotech industry are in mostly rural parts of North Carolina and have depended on tobacco or the tobacco industry for their livelihood," said Lancaster. "They are in critical need of new opportunities... We thank Golden LEAF for having the confidence in us to make an investment whose benefits will be felt all over North Carolina."

Golden LEAF has proven to be a boon for other community college projects as well.

One of the foundation's earliest grants was to **Surry Community College** for \$130,000 for programs in viticulture and enology, the essentials in wine-making. Now a few years later, the region that includes Yadkin, Surry, Forsyth, Davie and Davidson counties is becoming nationally known as the Yadkin Valley Wine Region. The region has 20 wineries that employ hundreds of people and draw thousands of tourists each year.

Johnston Community College received a \$75,000 grant and a \$100,000 grant to help develop its landscape gardening program. Lin Frye, director of the landscape design program and the arboretum at Johnston Community College, said the grants enabled the program to help more students.

"Oh, it's a godsend," she said. "Before we had six or eight students and now we have 29 students."

Frye said the college was able to purchase updated equipment and materials for the program. "The soil we had at the arboretum was terrible," she said. "With the grants from Golden LEAF, we were able to get consumable materials for grading and soil so that the students could plant crops. We were also able to repair the drainage at the arboretum."

As part of the grant, students in the program have also had the opportunity to meet with the "Green Industry Panel," a group of industry representatives from all over North Carolina. "The panel members talk to the students about trends in the industry," said Frye. "Students have learned what their degree can actually be used for

and how their interests can apply." Frye said that students who work in the "green industry" can work at a number of places including golf courses, garden centers, zoos, greenhouses, nurseries, malls, flower shops, and arboretums. Workers in the "green industry" can also be sod producers, estate gardeners, fruit and vegetable growers and groundskeepers.

College of The Albemarle received \$300,000 from Golden LEAF for a boat building professional training program. "We have built a training facility and we are holding training classes," said Lynne Bunch, president of the college.

Bunch said that some of the area boat builders have laid off employees in the last year. However, the college is working with the Northeastern North Carolina Regional Economic Development Commission to attract more boat builders to the region. "Boat building is an important industry here, and our training facility will help bring more builders here," she said. The college's service area includes the counties of Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Pasquotank, and Perquimans.

Rob Holsten, dean of continuing education and sustainability at **Wilson Technical Community College**, said a \$210,000 grant from Golden LEAF is enabling the college to train workers at the Bridgestone Firestone in Wilson County.

"The company has invested in new computerized equipment," said Holsten. "All the employees both old and new have to be trained on the new equipment." Holsten said that eventually 1,000 employees will receive safety training as well as computer training.

"The program is working very well so far," he said. "We have enjoyed working with Golden LEAF and with Bridgestone Firestone."

Western Piedmont Community College received a Golden LEAF grant of \$157,500 to develop an injection molding training program for Leviton Manufacturing, a plastics company with a plant in Burke County.

"Leviton makes all kinds of plastic items including wall switches and receptacles," said Melissa Garrett, director of grant development at the college and administrator of the grant.

Garrett said that the bulk of the grant went to purchase equipment including a water cooler and tower. "We have started teaching classes in plastics safety and we are developing other classes as well," she said. Students in the classes include new and existing

employees of Leviton, said Garrett.

Golden LEAF grants have also spurred private and other public organizations to fund many worthwhile projects at their local community colleges.

Claudia Ward-Eller, director of the Homegrown Teaching Scholars program at **Catawba Valley Community College**, said that a number of organizations came forth to sponsor the program after the Golden LEAF planning and implementation grants ran out. "The Unifour Foundation and several of the local Rotary Clubs are big supporters of us," she said. "Also all three school systems in Catawba County and the Alexander County Schools are on board."

Students in the program, who are residents of either Catawba or Alexander County, study at Catawba Valley and then finish their four-year teaching degree at a four-year institution of their choice. Ward-Eller said the program has been very successful and now has 65 candidates. The first students will graduate in May 2007 and begin their teaching careers in either Catawba or Alexander County. "They have to teach four out of the first seven years of their career in one of the counties," said Ward-Eller. The students, whose average age is 35, have a grade point average of 3.48. "They are only required to have a 2.75, so we have very good students in this program," she said.

Ward-Eller is effusive in her praise for Golden LEAF. "Without Golden LEAF, this program could not have gotten off the ground," she said.

Students at many community colleges have been able to continue their education because of Golden LEAF scholarships, administered by the System Office.

Karen Yerby, associate director of student development services, System Office, said that each community college gets money for 15 students. "The colleges select the students," she said. "Curriculum students can get up to \$750 and continuing education students can get \$250."

Yerby said that the money is unrestricted. Students use it for books, gas, uniforms, and more. "I get cards from students all the time who say that they were able to stay in school because of the money," she said. "It is a good program. We are grateful to Golden LEAF. This scholarship money has been a lifesaver for many of our students."

Duke from page 1

and employees train, in part, on company time. Companies have advised the college in many areas including hiring instructors, curriculum, and renovation of a new facility and have donated \$270,000 in equipment. With the Duke Energy grant as seed money, the college secured more than \$850,000 in grants to hire Paul Worley as project director; develop instruction, deliver the training, and renovate training facilities. Other funders to date include Golden LEAF; the North Carolina Rural Center; the New and Expanding Industry Training Program (NEIT) of the North Carolina Community College System; and Advantage West, the economic development partnership serving western North Carolina. Other community colleges who have received Duke grants so far are: **Alamance; Catawba Valley; Cleveland;**

Davidson County; Forsyth Technical; Gaston; Guilford Technical; Isothermal; and Western Piedmont. Grants top out at \$250,000 per project, and projects must address training, retraining and other efforts to strengthen manufacturing. Also, they must fall within Duke Energy's service area, which is concentrated in the Piedmont manufacturing corridor and in the mountains. Colleges may collaborate, and individual colleges may receive multiple grants. Applications are accepted quarterly at the end of September, December, March and June, and the selection committee makes its decisions about six weeks later. Representatives from Duke Energy, led by Paige Sheehan, serve on the grant selection committee with Lancaster and Roger Shackelford, director of workforce development for the North Carolina Department of Commerce. Dr. Larry Keen, vice president for economic and workforce development for the North

Carolina Community College System, represents Lancaster when he cannot attend. The Foundation for the Carolinas (FFTC), a large community foundation based in Charlotte, manages the funds.

Chancy M. Kapp, assistant to the president for external affairs in the North Carolina Community College System, serves as an observer in the Duke Energy grant meetings. "Perhaps once or twice in a career, people have the opportunity to be involved in something that works perfectly. Duke Energy grants are large enough to make a difference, the colleges do an excellent job on the applications, committee members are prepared and tough, the results are tangible and immediate, and the Duke Energy investment encourages others to follow suit," said Kapp.

For details about the program, see the Duke Energy's website at: http://www.duke-energy.com/community/education/college_grants/

Project at Carteret Community College Increases Oyster Population

By Kathryn Reed, Summer Intern, System Office, Public Affairs

Oysters may not be the largest part of North Carolina's economy, but drastically decreased harvests of recent years signal a serious problem for the state—one that Skip Kemp's unusual project helps resolve.

Kemp runs an oyster hatchery as part of the aquaculture program that he coordinates at **Carteret Community College**. The hatchery, the only one of its kind in North Carolina, produces larvae to replenish the oyster population in over-harvested areas and create sanctuaries where oysters can thrive in the future.

"The oyster population is down so far," Kemp said. "They're 97 percent down. So there are not enough oysters spawning to put babies out there. The hatcheries are a way to jump-start those areas that are recruitment limited, meaning they can't attract oysters to live there."

Kemp said the hatchery is meant for environmental and educational aims rather than market purposes. Oyster reefs attract other marine animals and plants, and one oyster can filter about 30 to 50 gallons of water a day. But Kemp said that dredging and over-harvesting have significantly curtailed oysters' environmental benefits.

"The intention is to help educate about that," he said.

Carteret's aquaculture program originated in 2000 and operates in collaboration with **Brunswick Community College**. Morgan Smith, Carteret's public information officer, said the number of students in the program has doubled since its creation. There are currently 16 students taking aquaculture



Students in the Carteret Community College aquaculture technology program make air pump adjustments to one of the tanks in the oyster hatchery section.

courses.

"Everything we do we involve students every step of the way," Kemp said.

Kemp began the hatchery project in 2003 and now has about 15 million

oyster larvae in culture. While the hatchery is not the program's only project, Kemp said it is the most developed.

"It's probably our keystone project," he said. "We kind of hang our hat on that because we do a really good job on it."

Such a good job, in fact, that the North Carolina Aquariums recently announced a plan to use the hatchery for demonstrations to state lawmakers. The collaboration is part of the planning for three state aquarium hatcheries that the General Assembly funded last summer.

"We've got the procedure down so now we are training the future folks who will be working on hatcheries in Pine Knoll Shores, Manteo and Fort Fisher," Morgan said.

Kemp has also established the Citizens' Oyster Gardening Program in conjunction with the hatchery. He said the program teaches community members to use legal means to grow oysters on the sound bottom to clean the water and improve the habitat around their docks.

"It's really an amazing success story," Morgan said of the hatchery. "It's got a great deal of potential."

More Community College News

As *The Open Door* went to press, a number of stories came across the editor's desk.

Community colleges work with SAS on pilot program

In Charlotte, on October 23, SAS and the North Carolina Community College System announced an online learning pilot program at the Conference for Information Technology, held by the League of Innovation for Community Colleges. The pilot will provide "Curriculum Pathways for Higher Education," a newly released array of digital learning content for e-learners in colleges and universities, to the state's 58 public community colleges. Curriculum Pathways provides web-based educational content that adult learners can access from any place with an Internet connection.

H. Martin Lancaster, president, North Carolina Community College System said this program will vastly improve the learning potential of students. "The SAS in School Curriculum Pathways higher education resources are ideal for community colleges. They are a good fit for developmental, basic skills and GED courses - areas that are a current focus for online course development and support," he said. "Our curriculum instructors are excited about the ease of use and ability to quickly integrate Curriculum Pathways resources into online and hybrid courses." Community colleges will use these online resources in developmental classes and in traditional courses in core subject areas. In September, to support the rollout of the program, SAS began a series of training workshops for community college staff developers across the state.

Curriculum Pathways covers the core disciplines of English, mathematics, history, science and Spanish. Key features include integration of technology and curriculum; instructional techniques; and development of critical thinking skills. Curriculum Pathways is now in use in K-12 education, universities, and community and technical colleges in 33 states.

SAS, based in the Research Triangle Park, is a leader in business software and services.

Lancaster and Bowles in Greenville

Two weeks after their joint appearance at the North Carolina Community College System Conference in Greens-

boro, H. Martin Lancaster, president, North Carolina Community College System and Erskine Bowles, president, University of North Carolina, appeared together at a leadership forum at East Carolina University in Greenville.

According to the East Carolina



Erskine Bowles (left), president, University of North Carolina and H. Martin Lancaster, president, North Carolina Community College System, discuss ways for the community colleges and universities to work together during a workshop at East Carolina University.

University website, Lancaster and Bowles each said it was imperative that partnerships among the state's educational institutions be fostered.

"In today's world, the taxpayers of North Carolina should have a seamless educational system; someone should be able to move easily from high school to community college to the university," said Bowles.

Bowles noted that the global economy demands a more knowledgeable and educated workforce, and that educational systems must work together to address that need for North Carolinians. Both Lancaster and Bowles cited examples of existing community college and UNC partnerships, particularly in the fields of nursing, teacher training and biotechnology.

"In the past few years we've been working to remove barriers," Lancaster said. "With the kind of leadership Erskine has brought to the university system, those barriers will fall quickly."

According to the *Greenville Daily Reflector*, Lancaster and Bowles highlighted a number of existing community college and university partnerships including:

- ♦ The Wachovia Partnership East takes East Carolina University instruction to would-be teachers throughout eastern North Carolina. Students do

the first two years of coursework at one of 17 eastern community colleges. They finish their last two years at one of five community college partnership hubs in the region.

- ♦ At Camp Lejeune, Coastal Carolina Community College and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington offer remedial instruction in reading and math to Marines who score poorly in those areas.

- ♦ The Appalachian Learning Alliance unites Appalachian State University and 10 western North Carolina community colleges. The partnership offers a range of ASU programs at community college sites.

The two leaders' comments were part of a daylong leadership forum, "Connecting Community Colleges and the Four-Year Institutions of North Carolina," sponsored by the East Carolina University chapter of Phi Kappa

Phi.

Steve Ballard, chancellor, East Carolina University, welcomed the speakers and the more than 400 attendees to Bowles and Lancaster's discussion.

Also speaking at the event were Dr. Dennis Massey, president, Pitt Community College, Dr. Kenneth Boham, president, Caldwell Community College and Technical Institute, Dr. Scott Ralls, president, Craven Community College, Dr. Deborah Lamm, president, Edgecombe Community College and Dr. Tony Zeiss, president, Central Piedmont Community College.



The forum brought out many community college and university leaders. L to R: Dr. G. Dennis Massey, president, Pitt Community College; Steven Ballard, chancellor, East Carolina University; H. Martin Lancaster, president, North Carolina Community College System and Rod Risley, executive director, Phi Theta Kappa.