ARF Encourages Development of Departmental Histories

Association of Retired Faculty (ARF) President Ernie Burniston has recently written to all Departmental Heads encouraging the development of departmental histories and making them available on the web. In his letter President Burniston points out that: 1) There are few departmental histories that are current and accessible; 2) The individuals who hold knowledge related to major milestones in departments are disappearing; 3) Departmental histories are integral to the development of NCSU and should be preserved; and 4) The recently updated archival abilities of D.H. Hill Library have significantly improved the feasibility of making these materials available over the Internet.

Tom Elleman, Chair of ARF’s Special Projects Committee recently surveyed the state of available histories and developed a spreadsheet summarizing his findings. This spreadsheet is available by clicking the link on the ARF web site (www.ncsu.edu/retired/). Of the 72 listed academic departments, only 17 have departmental histories that are available through the web. They are typically listed on the departmental home page or on a linked page located through “About Us” or “Administration”. A check of each of these histories shows that they vary widely in currency, completeness and format. Only four of the histories are current through 2000. There is a wide disparity in available material, ranging from books on the department to several page timelines marked by bullets. There are 29 additional documents that might loosely be called “histories” that exist in unbound departmental boxes. Roughly one-half of these documents predate 1970.

Development of a departmental history is a significant endeavor. Retired faculty are strongly encouraged to become involved. Contact the head of the department you were with and volunteer your services to the history project or contact Tom Elleman, ARF Special Projects Committee Chair (782-6685). Preparation of a document that identifies the pivotal events in a department’s history and the individuals who played major roles in these developments can be an interesting and rewarding activity. Larry Monteith and Tom Elleman, emeriti professors of Electrical Engineering and Nuclear Engineering have recently prepared chronological histories for these two departments. You can access these through the ARF Website or at www.ncsu.edu/retired/briefhistories.html and they provide an example of a format for a departmental history.

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North Carolina State University
Association of Retired Faculty

President        Ernest Burniston
Vice President   Harold Swaisgood
Secretary        Walter Heck
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ARF Members Serving on University Boards and Committees
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Harrelson Fund Committee: Kerry Havner
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Officers Nominated for 2006-2007
Nominations Committee Chair, I.T. Littleton has announced the following nominations for ARF Officers and Board members in 2006-2007. Dorine Saxe is nominated to serve a full term on the Board of Directors. She is currently filling an unexpired term on the Board. Chester Black and Charles Livengood are nominated as new members of the Board. All of the officers; Ernest Burniston-President, Harold Swaisgood-Vice President, Walter Heck-Secretary, Ann Elleman-Treasurer are nominated to serve an additional year. Murray Downs will remain as Past President. The nominations were announced at the March luncheon meeting and the election will take place at the business meeting at the April luncheon.

In Case You Missed a Program
Chancellor James Oblinger and Biomanufacturing Training and Education Center Director Peter Kilpatrick spoke at the March luncheon meeting.

Chancellor James Oblinger started by thanking the ARF for our recent donation of $1,500 to the NCSU Library. He noted that interest and support of the retired faculty is exemplary and highly valued.

Dr. Oblinger presented an upbeat assessment of the state of things at NC State. A strategic planning effort is underway. This will be the first strategic planning since 1996. Federal research funds have increased by 19% and are up 35% in five years. The six-year graduation rate has increased from 65% to 70%. More students than ever are being admitted to NCSU. Typically 3,600 to 3,800 students are admitted each year, but last year there were 4,400 Freshmen. Chancellor Oblinger lauded NC State students for participating in ‘Alternative Spring Break
Several hundred students participated in trips offered by the University’s Center for Student Leadership, Ethics & Public Service. Students spent the week of March 3-11 on service projects such as helping Habitat for Humanity build houses in Ecuador and the Dominican Republic and also in St. Bernard’s Parish Louisiana as part of Hurricane Katrina relief.

Chancellor Oblinger noted that the Princeton Review named NC State as one of the Nation’s ‘most connected’ campuses (see following story). The ACHIEVE campaign to raise one billion dollars ($1,000,000,000) for NC State University is now six months into a three-year public phase. Thus far $910,000,000 has been raised. MeadWestvaco, a global packaging company with products such as AT-A-GLANCE, Five-Star and Cambridge will open a new packaging innovation center on the Centennial Campus. The Center will bring 200 additional jobs to the campus and an investment of $14 million over the next four years.

Chancellor Oblinger and University of North Carolina system President Erskine Bowles had a productive tour of four eastern North Carolina cities in January. The Chancellor and President toured the Cherry Point Marine Corps Air Station, the Center for Marine Science and Technology (CMAST) in Morehead City, the Cunningham Agriculture Research Station in Kinston and the Duplin County Agriculture Center in Kenansville. During the visit, Bowles learned more about various research projects in a number of disciplines, extension efforts in the area, and how NC State promotes economic development statewide.

Dr. Peter Kilpatrick, Head of the NC State Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering and founding Director of the Biomanufacturing Training and Education Center (BTEC) spoke about the programs of the Center. He pointed out that while North Carolina ranks among the top three-biotechnical regions in the United States, a lack of well-trained workers could threaten the state’s place among national leaders in the emerging biomanufacturing industry. The mission of BTEC is to fill the gap between training and the demands of the biomanufacturing industry and to prepare for the future to compete in biotechnology. Biomanufacturing companies create new end products from living cells or their components. These products include medicines, vaccines, diagnostics, enzymes, amino acids, veterinary medicines and related products.

BTEC will simulate a biomanufacturing pilot facility capable of producing biopharmaceutical products and packaging them in a sterile environment. It will also include support training and education classrooms, laboratories, building and process utilities. The facility will be outfitted so that students will gain experience using the same large-scale equipment they would use on the job.

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NC State Named One of the Nation’s ‘Most Connected’ Campuses

North Carolina State University is among the 25 ‘Most Connected Campuses’ in the nation, according to The Princeton Review. The list, featuring the results of a survey to find colleges and universities offering the most cutting-edge technology, is available on the web at www.forbes.com/connected.

To identify schools on the list, The Princeton Review collected responses to a survey on campus technology from colleges included in its best-selling college guidebook, “The Best 361 Colleges”. Criteria included the breath of the computer
science curriculum; the sophistication of campus technology, including streaming media of classes and extracurricular offerings; availability of school-owned digital cameras and equipment for student use; wireless Internet access on campus; and support for handheld computing.

“It is fitting that the state’s flagship university for science and technology be among the nation’s elite when it comes to support for computer connections,” Chancellor James L. Oblinger added. “NC State has sought to use technology in thoughtful and creative ways that promote success in the classroom. We’ve ensured that goal collaboratively, by engaging faculty, students and staff.”

“All of the 25 campuses on this elite list are impressively well-connected, and they are all using technology in innovative, thought-provoking ways,” said Michael Noer, executive editor for news at Forbes.com. “Since the top schools all excel, we decided not to rank them this year.”

Continuing Care Retirement Community Update

Your retiree Association has worked for many years to build University support for construction of a Continuing Care Retirement Community (CCRC) on the Centennial Campus that would serve University retirees and friends of the University. Progress has been slow. Now Provost Larry Nielsen has appointed three individuals to work with the ARF on this initiative. They are Charlie Leffler, Vice Chancellor for Finance and Business, David Winwood, Associate Vice Chancellor for Technology Development and Innovation, and Bob Fraser, Associate Vice Chancellor for Centennial Campus Development.

ARF Donates to the D.H. Hill Library

In keeping with long-standing tradition of support for the NCSU Library the Association of Retired Faculty Board of Directors recently voted unanimously to donate $1,500 to the Library. This gift has been acknowledged and graciously thanked for by Library Director Susan Nutter and Chancellor James Oblinger.

Treasurer’s Report

On Hand January 10, 2006………. $7,794.17

Income
Dues………………………………$180.00
Luncheon income………………..1,484.00
Interest…………………………….28.48
TOTAL…. $1,692.48

Expenses
Luncheon expense……………… $1402.50
Supplies and fees………………….14.59
TOTAL…. $1,417.09

On Hand March 8, 2006………..$8,069.56

Five Young NCSU Science and Engineering Faculty Receive Awards from NSF

Five assistant professors at NC State have received Faculty Early Career Development Awards from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The award is one of the highest honors given by NSF to young university faculty in science and engineering. As part of the awards NSF will provide $400,000 in funding over the next five years for the research of each of the recipients.

The five awardees are: Dr. Do Young Eun, assistant professor of electrical and
computer engineering; Dr. Jon-Paul Maria, assistant professor of materials science and engineering; Dr. Wenye Wang, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering; Dr. Xiaosong Ma, assistant professor of computer science; and Dr. Douglas Barlage, assistant professor of electrical and computer engineering.

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Recent Deaths of Retired Faculty and Spouses
We have learned of the recent deaths of these retired faculty members or spouses. We extend sympathy and condolences to family and friends.

Dr. Raul Edwardo Alverez, Engineering, d. 1-3-2006
Prof. Robert Stuart Boal, Ext. Economics, d. 12-18-2005
Dr. William G. Franklin, Communication Department, d. 3-9-2006
Dr. James F. Kauffman, Computer & Electrical Engineering, d. 12-12-2005
Prof. Hubert Lowell Owen, Physics Department, d. 1-12-2006
Dr. Hubert Vern Park, Mathematics Department, d. 12-28-2005
Dr. James A. Seagraves, Agricultural Economics, d. 2-25-2006
Dr. Neil B. Webb, Food Science Department, d. 2-17-2006
Dr. Mary Elizabeth Wheeler, History Department, d. 2-19-2006

Spouses
Ruby J. Bennecke, wife of Dr. Cornelius Bennecke, d. 2-20-2006
Jane M. Lucas, wife of Dr. Henry L. “Curly” Lucas Jr., Statistics, d. 2-25-2006
Yvonne McCullough, wife of Dr. William Smith, Jr., Industrial Eng., d. 3-11-2006

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Dr. Robert Sowell Retires
Dr. Robert Sowell will retire as Dean of the Graduate School effective in July of 2006. Dr. Sowell has served the University for 36 years. He has been Dean of the Graduate School since July 2000. During his tenure in the Graduate School he led the development of implementation of the Graduate Student Support Plan, which provides about $20 million in tuition and health insurance aid for qualified graduate students on teaching and research assistantships and fellowships.

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James Zuiches Named NC State Vice Chancellor for Extension, Engagement and Economic Development
James Zuiches, formerly professor in the Department of Community and Rural Sociology and project leader for the National Coalition for Rural Entrepreneurship at Washington State University, was named as Vice Chancellor for Extension, Engagement, and Economic Development at North Carolina State University effective March 15, 2006. In his new role Zuiches (pronounced Zy-ches) will help lead and coordinate far-reaching extension, engagement and economic development programs at the University. At Washington State, Zuiches served as Dean of the College of Agriculture and Home Economics for eight years, Director of Cooperative Extension and the Agricultural Research Center for four years.

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ARF Plans for 2006-2007
ARF Officers and Board members are at work planning for the 2006-2007 year. Luncheon meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month September through April except for December. So mark your calendars and plan to attend. The ARF membership year runs with the academic year. Fill out the membership application form and join now for 2006-2007 or better yet sign up for Life Membership.

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Association of Retired Faculty Membership Application and Dues Form
2006-2007

Complete and return to: Ann Elleman, 5207-101 Creedmoor Road, Raleigh, NC, 27612-6303

Date submitted__________________

Title____ First Name_____________ Middle Initial_____ Last Name___________________________

Address___________________________________________Apt/Box#__________________________

City______________________ State_______ Zip Code________________________

Is this a change of address? Yes_____________No_____________

Telephone (10 digits)______________ Fax_____________ E-mail__________________________

NCSU college/departmental affiliation______________________________

_________Annual enrollment 2006-2007--$15.00__________New Life Member--$75.00

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: Association of Retired Faculty and mail to Ann Elleman,
ARF Treasurer, 5207-101 Creedmore Road, Raleigh, NC 27612.

_____Add_______Continue my name on the monthly luncheon notification list
by_____e-mail or _______post card.
State Health Plan Announces
New Preferred Provider Organization

The North Carolina State Health Plan announced on February 28, 2006 that a new Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) will be available as a choice for state employees, teachers and other eligible members effective October 1, 2006. This includes retirees.

The Plan’s Board of Trustees approved a PPO contract with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina to provide the physician and hospital network to the State Health Plan.

Open Enrollment will take place from May 22 to June 30, 2006.

The PPO will have three options and will be offered along with the current Comprehensive Major Medical plan (indemnity plan) during the 2006 Open Enrollment. Features include:

- Network availability in all 100 North Carolina counties
- No deductibles or co-insurance for physician visits; only co-pays apply
- Reduced premiums for dependent coverage
- A new Employee-Spouse tier, in addition to existing tiers
- Affordable dependent coverage

The PPO will enable the State Health Plan to deliver on its promise of improved affordability and choice for members.

By April 15, a Benefits Calculator will be available on the State Health Plan Web site (http://statehealthplan.nc.us/) to help compare the indemnity plan and PPO options—and calculate cost savings.

For more information:
- Talk to your Health Plan Benefits Representative
- Call Customer Service at 1-800-422-4658.

NC State Ranked No. 2 in Value
NC State University is considered the second best value in the nation among public colleges according to The Princeton Review’s 2007 edition of “American’s Best Value Colleges”. The Princeton Review choose 150 best-value schools from among 646 colleges it considers as “academically excellent”. The list is based on institutional data and student opinion surveys collected from the fall of 2004 through the summer of 2005. The factors weighed include undergraduate academics, costs, and financial aid.

ARF Supports the Encore Program
(adapted from the November 2005 “In Brief”) Encore is the NCSU Adult-Education program for adults over fifty. The Association of Retired Faculty has had a long association with the Encore Program. ARF members were instrumental in Encore’s start in the 1980’s and members currently attend classes, serve on committees and teach courses presented through Encore. In addition the Encore program and ARF have shared office space.
Encore has initiated a fund raising program to build its endowment and provide some funds for immediate program needs. Encore receives partial support from the University for its programs, but it is required to pay for classroom space, a major portion of staff salaries and operating costs from program receipts. As the University budget has tightened this has produced greater pressures on Encore to increase the portion of costs they cover. The ARF Board voted to support the fund-raising effort by contributing $1,000 to Encore. ARF members may wish to add their personal support to this organization now that the public and member portion of the campaign are underway.

Thanks to Alumni Association
Again this spring the NC State University Alumni Association has supported the copying and mailing of the ARF Newsletter. THANK YOU!

North Carolina State University
Association of Retired Faculty
Emeriti Center, Box 7923
Raleigh, NC 27695-7923

Return Service Requested