LIFE'S WORK
Anisah Rasheed's beauty is more than skin deep

ADIÓS MIS AMIGOS
Migael S. Penix offers his final Student's Perspective

ONE FOR ALL
SGA President Justin Ramey is a man for the people.
explore. discover. become.
GROUND BROKEN FOR RENICK SCHOOL OF EDUCATION BUILDING

On a lot framed by trees in their fall splendor, hundreds gathered Nov. 8 to witness the ground breaking for the new James Carmichael Renick School of Education Building. Renick has served as ninth chancellor of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University since July 1999. The N.C. A&T Board of Trustees has named the building after Renick because the faculty, staff and students have benefited greatly from his “limitless vision and strong leadership” and “the many enhancements to the quality of intellectual studies, the work environment and student life.”

The new building will be located on the corner of Benbow Rd. and Bluford St. It is scheduled to open in 2007.

NURSING SCHOOL BRIDGES FIRST-YEAR EXPERIENCE THROUGH LEARNING COMMUNITIES

In response to the challenge of retaining students, the School of Nursing has developed a proactive and innovative strategy to help students make the transition from high school to college through its new learning communities program, which was launched this semester.

The goal of this program is to determine if students who participate in the learning community will be more involved with their peers — in and out of the classroom — as well as in other activities related to learning.

Named the Wynn-Vines House, the learning community examines the effectiveness of these communities by comparing the academic achievement outcomes of 30 nursing students’ mid-term and final grade point averages for 2005-2006. One group will live in academic advising and monitoring. The second group will follow the same academic curriculum, live on or off campus, be offered tutoring and receive academic advising and monitoring.

In addition, the School of Nursing will host a series of academic enhancement workshops for all students to further enhance and strengthen their research and evaluation skills.

The learning communities program is conducted by Dawn McPherson, assistant director for the School of Nursing. For more information, call (336) 334-7750.

16 SELECTED FOR PH.D. IN LEADERSHIP STUDIES

The graduate program at N.C. A&T now offers a unique, cutting-edge doctoral degree in leadership studies that is designed to prepare the next generation of world leaders and researchers.

Participants in the inaugural class include Dian Carr, instructor for Guilford County (N.C.) Schools and part-time instructor at N.C. A&T; Anthony Chandler, assistant director of development, High Point Housing Authority; David Clark Jr., sales manager and market development manager, Antronix Distribution and Supply Inc.; Manuel Dudley, division chair of general education, Mitchell Community College; Jacqueline Greenline, director of organization development, Guilford Technical Community College; Tonya Hargrett, training coordinator, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill; Frederick Hill, assistant principal, Guilford County Schools; Marjorie Jenkins, registered nurse, Moses Cone Health System; Harvey Lineberry, assistant dean for personnel, North Carolina State University; Amanda McPherson; assistant dean, N.C. A&T College of Engineering; Willetta Nash, instructional specialist, Winston-Salem Forsyth County Schools/adjunct professor, Winston-Salem State University; Cheryl Nicholas, chief executive officer and director, Intervention Inc.; Gladys Robinson, executive director, Sickle Cell Disease Association of Piedmont, N.C.; Marcia Williams, coordinator of sponsored programs, N.C. A&T College of Engineering/statewide coordinator, N.C. Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation; Charles Wilson, instructor, and Vanessa Duren-Winfield, research associate and assistant director of research and evaluation, Maya Angelou Research Center on Minority Health, Wake Forest University School of Medicine.

Members of the first class for the doctoral program in leadership studies are (front row, l-r) Dariel Clark Jr., Harvey Lineberry, Amanda McPherson, Jacqueline Greenline, Tonya Hargrett, Frederick Hill, Gladys Robinson, Manuel Dudley, Willetta Nash, and (back row) Anthony Chandler, Dian Carr, Charles Wilson, Vanessa Duren-Winfield, Marjorie Jenkins, Marcia Williams and Cheryl Nicholas.
Darius Hale, an undergraduate student in the department of agribusiness, applied economics and agriculture education at A&T, was elected student representative for the Association of Social and Behavior Scientists Board of Directors at ASBS’s annual national meeting that was held in Nashville in March.

The School of Education, in collaboration with the Western Carolina University College of Education, has completed its fourth annual Rural Urban Exchange Program. Teacher candidates from both campuses visit the partner campus for a week to observe local schools, participate in cultural events and engage in dialogue on meeting the needs of diverse learners in classrooms. A&T’s exchange students in 2004-2005 were Jessica Buie, Crystal Covington, Tedra Embry, Kelley Gadsden, Chye Kornegay and Candace Scott.

Last spring, two teams of industrial and systems engineering students participated in the 2005 Institute of Industrial Engineers Region II Student Technical Paper Competition that was hosted by the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. Jarrett Chapman and his senior project team placed first, and the team of Darius Guy, Michael Ray and Leonard Washington placed third in the competition. Chapman was invited to compete at the 2005 IE Annual International Conference. The name of his project was “A Case Study in the Application of Industrial Engineering Models to Operational Improvement at Greensboro Welfare Reform Liaison.”

Senior Melanie Duncan and sophomore Sadondria Richardson are better prepared for a career in science after spending the summer as two of 12 students selected to participate in the Partnership for Minority Advancement in the Biomolecular Sciences (PMABS) Summer Research Program at UNC-Chapel Hill. Duncan worked with Jennifer Webster-Cyriaque in the department of dental ecology at UNC-Chapel Hill investigating genetic variations of Kaposi’s Sarcoma-associated Herpes virus and Epstein-Barr virus. Richardson, worked with Kristen Walton and James Moran in the department of cell and molecular physiology studying signaling pathways potentially involved in inflammatory bowel disease. Both students presented their research at the PMABS Summer Research Program Symposium.

Vernon Edwards, a master’s level student in the field of microbiology, was selected to participate in the summer intern program at the USDA-ARS Eastern Regional Research Center in Wyndmoor, Pa. Ipek Coltepe, associate professor in the food science and nutrition program at A&T, collaborates in a partnership with ERRC scientists formulating the internship program. This connection enables A&T students to have access to state of the art research programs at USDA-ARS labs and gives the USDA access to qualified minority graduates.

Six A&T students were selected to participate in the UNC Washington Program, a statewide initiative conducted by the University of North Carolina Office of the President. Maxine Bynum, Oliver Thomas and Ansen Jones were selected for summer 2005 internships with the Australian Embassy, NAACP Washington Bureau and POW/MIA National Office, respectively. Fall interns are Sallie Yvette McGill, Alexander Jamison Jr. and Julian Summers. The goals of UNC Washington are to provide an opportunity for upper-level students from 14 UNC constituent institutions to expand teaching and learning using Washington, D.C., as the classroom, to expand research opportunities for students and faculty in the nation’s capital, to expand UNC’s mission of outreach and engagement, and to complement each student’s academic interests through experiential learning.
Mohamed Ahmedna, associate professor of human environment and family sciences, has been selected for the U.S. Agency for International Development George Washington Carver Agricultural Excellence Award. The award recognizes an agricultural scientist or researcher at a Minority Serving Institution whose work has made a significant, positive impact on international agriculture. As this year’s awardee, Ahmedna will receive an honorarium and a nickel medallion.

Solomon Billilign, professor and chair of the department of physics, was one of 75 participants from around the world participating in the NATO Advanced Study Institute International School of Atomic and Molecular Spectroscopy at the Ettore Majorana Center for Scientific Culture in Erice, Sicily, June 6-21.

Cynthia Gillispie-Johnson, chair of the department of graphic communication systems and technological studies in the School of Technology, has been named Print and Graphics Scholarship Foundation 2005 Educator of the Year. The award recognizes excellence in educational instructors, and candidates are nominated by students currently receiving a scholarship through PGSF.

James J. Gooch has been named director of the Institute for Public Health at N.C. A&T. Gooch is a business consultant and a retired DuPont executive. His last position was director of business and bi-electronics for DuPont Technologies in Research Triangle Park, N.C. Gooch is an alumnus of A&T, and he has a master’s and doctorate from the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.

Anthony Graham, assistant professor in the department of curriculum and instruction, co-presented a 10-hour institute titled “Journey to the PhB: How to Navigate the Process as African Americans” at the National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in New York City May 31-June 4. The purpose of the institute was to unpack the hidden curriculum of the doctoral process for approximately 40 ethnic minority graduate students interested in pursuing a doctoral degree. The other presenters were Carolyn Hopp, Central Florida University; Wanda Costen, University of Nevada-Las Vegas; and Anna Green and LeKita Scott Florida A&M University.

Joseph L. Graves Jr. is a professor and dean of the new Division of University Studies. Graves most recently served as university core director and professor of biological sciences at Fairleigh Dickinson University. His extensive background includes teaching and administrative appointments at the University of California-Irvine, Arizona State University-West, Midwestern Osteopathic Medical College and Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University. In addition, Graves has authored nearly 50 book reviews, articles, letters and peer reviewed publications. His books include: The Race Myth: Why We Pretend Race Exists in America and The Emperor’s New Clothes: Biological Theories of Race at the Millennium. He received his Ph.D., M.S. and A.B. degrees from Wayne State, University of Lowell and Oberlin, respectively.

David W. Hoard, vice chancellor for development and university relations, was a panelist at the 2005 CASE (Council for Advancement and Support of Education) Summit for Senior University System Executives that was held July 15-17 in Miami Beach. His topic, “The Value of Speaking with One Voice,” concentrated on the Focused Growth Initiative.

Michael A. Plater is a professor and dean of the College of Arts and sciences. Before his appointment at A&T, Plater was associate dean of the graduate school at Brown University. Prior to his tenure at Brown, Plater served on the graduate faculty and as executive director of the Center of Entrepreneurship and Innovation at the University of Florida. Plater has written two books and eight articles for refereed publications. He has a Ph.D. in American studies from the College of William and Mary, an M.B.A. from The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, and an A.B. in economics from Harvard College, Harvard University. He is an alumnus of The Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire.

Claudette Smith, family resource management specialist for The Cooperative Extension Program at North Carolina A&T, was part of a 19-member Extension contingent that made a leadership development foray to New Zealand and American Samoa last spring. The trip was part of the National Extension Leadership Development (NELD) program. Smith and the other 18 members of Class IX of NELD represent a cross-section of Extension geographic scope (from Washington to Florida) and organizational structure (county directors as well as state-level administrators and subject matter specialists).

Former CBS and NPR producer Teresa Styles, chair of the department of journalism and mass communications, presented a media management paper at a conference hosted by Jonkoping International School, Jonkoping University, Sweden, Sept. 10-Oct. 1. The conference, “Challenges at the Top: Leadership in Media Organizations,” was sponsored by the Media Management and Transformation Centre at Jonkoping, Europe’s premiere center for media business studies.

Ereka Williams, elementary education undergraduate coordinator, along with teacher education candidate Hiawatha Smith and Junior Achievement program manager Aubree R. Martin, presented at the 35th Annual North Carolina Council for Social Studies Conference. The paper, titled “Great Achievements: Preparing Candidates to Explore Economics in the Elementary Classroom,” highlighted the service learning project that is a collaborative effort between Junior Achievement of the Piedmont and the Elementary Education Unit of the School of Education.

In the spring 2005 edition of A&T Today, Michael Roberto, an assistant professor in the history department, was incorrectly identified as a 2005 Carnegie Scholar. Roberto was selected to receive a fellowship funded by the ExxonMobil Foundation to participate in the Council on International Educational Exchange (CIEE) 2005 International Faculty Development Seminar in Belgium, June 5-13. He was awarded the fellowship for demonstrating a strong interest in and commitment to internationalizing N.C. A&T and its curriculum.
In retrospect, my journey to and from Mexico seems long and short. As I reminisce about my five months there, I think about all of my accomplishments, and I am amazed by all that has happened to me.

Since my last column, I have had a fun-filled spring vacation that began with eight people in a seven-passenger van and ended with two friends from the university that I met up with along the journey. The van left Guadalajara and headed to Mexico City, where the eight of us lodged with a woman who was so poor that she could not afford to feed us, nor could she afford electricity and hot water. It took only one evening with the group before I realized that I didn’t see eye to eye with the people that were leading the expedition, so I left them and took a bus by myself through the mountains of Mexico into the jungles of Veracruz. Unexpectedly, I met two friends from Tec de Monterrey, so we spent the rest of our spring break together. We only visited Mexican tourist spots — such as Catemaco and an island of monkeys — where no English was spoken.

After spring break I resumed my “volunteer” teaching job. The children were always well behaved; and if they had a problem with each other, whatever I said was always accepted without argument. Sadly, my time as a teacher came to an abrupt halt when I caught conjunctivitis — better known as pink eye — from one of the children. The doctor told me not to return to the school because of the outbreak.

When my exams were over and it was time to say goodbye to my group of friends, I experienced the same bittersweet feelings I felt when I left my family in North Carolina. My new friends from Mexico and around the world had become like family to me. The only thing that made the departure easier was my roommate who had a date that night, so he rushed everyone along and dropped me off at the airport. He later told me that he was not good at goodbyes and that was his way of coping. All of us plan to meet very soon in the future. Instead of coming directly back to the U.S., I attended a Teaching Fellows event in Puebla, Mexico, where I had the opportunity to spend one week with a family and observe a private K-12 school. The family I stayed with was great, and they graciously took me in like a family member.

The school was very different from the school where I taught in Guadalajara. There were so many classrooms and advanced technology that I was blown away by how different two schools actually could be. This experience also came with a bittersweet ending. Upon returning to the States, I spent one week at home and then left for an internship at Hewlett-Packard in California.

I cannot express the importance of studying abroad. It will change your life forever. It has changed mine so much that I have already looked into studying abroad another semester. I pray that my writings have inspired and motivated others to seek similar experiences.
**AGGIE SPORTS**

By Brian Holloway

**BRUCE EARN ALL-AMERICAN HONORS**

Senior has great finishes to his career

In spring 2005, Everett Bruce ’05 made a great case for the N.C. A&T men's track and field team having one of the best triple jump tandems in the nation.

Bruce earned All-American status by the NCAA for his strong finish in the triple jump event in which he finished fourth at the East Regional in New York and ninth at the National Championship Meet in Sacramento, Calif. He finished behind two foreigners at the national event, having the seventh best showing among American competitors.

Bruce is the sixth men’s All-American under 24-year head coach Roy “Spaceman” Thompson and the eighth overall.

“The one thing I admire the most about Everett is that he is a true student of the game,” Thompson said. “I love the way he carries himself on and off the track, I love the way he composes himself before meets, I love the way he goes about his routine in warm-ups and I love the way he competes. We need more athletes to mimic what he does.”

What Bruce has done is make himself one of the best leapers in the country. When he arrived at N.C. A&T, he was jumping close to 47 feet. As his career comes to an end, his best jump at Nationals was nearly 52 and one-half feet.

“He’s made tremendous strides since he’s been here,” Thompson said. “He wanted to get better and he did.”

Bruce becomes the first Aggie under Thompson to earn All-American status in an outdoor field event. Sheron White earned All-American honors in indoor long jump.

The other Aggie All-Americans were Tim Walls, Gerald Wright, Titus Hagood and Montay Wilds — the 2001 400-meter relay team.

**SPORTS MEDICINE ROOM DEDICATED TO “MR. B”**

Thomas Bynum served 30 years as athletic trainer at A&T

A host of school administrators, faculty, staff, alumni and friends attended the Sept. 9 dedication of the Thomas “Mr. B” Sports Medicine Room that was named after longtime athletic trainer Thomas Bynum in a ceremony at Cobbett Sports Center.

“In light of the growth that the University has experienced recently, we must recognize the contributions of those who have meant so much for such a long period of time,” said Chancellor James C. Renick, who gave opening remarks at the event. “(Bynum) is responsible for some of the benefits that the athletics department enjoys.”

“I’m delighted that ‘Mr. B’ is receiving this honor,” said Athletics Director DeLores Todd. “Many of us feel that he has deserved it for many years. Bynum is highly respected not only by his peers, but in the community as well. He loved N.C. A&T and dedicated his life to the growth of student-athletes.”

Legendary A&T men’s basketball coach Don Corbett gave remarks at the occasion.

“Mr. B never had a door closed in the 25 years that I worked with him. He endured several eras in N.C. A&T sports history. He touched many lives, even those who are here on staff now.”

**AGGIES, RAMS RENEW RIVALRY TEAMS TO PLAY FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1999**

North Carolina A&T and Winston-Salem State will renew their football rivalry on Sept. 2, 2006, when the Rams travel to Aggie Stadium for next season's opener. A formal announcement was made Oct. 5 at a press conference in the Bryan Fitness and Wellness Center Multipurpose Room.

The teams have met 42 times over a span of 60 years, with the Aggies holding a 33-9 edge in the series. Six seasons have passed since the last time the teams met, when the Aggies took a 20-7 victory en route to the MEAC Championship.

“It is time we bring back a rival that has meant so much to this community,” said Aggie athletics director Dee Todd, a WSSU alum. “For many years, this game was a staple on our schedule, and with WSSU joining the MEAC, the teams will play again.”

Before the series ended in 1999, the Aggies and the Rams played each other 23 straight times from 1977 until 1999.
By Scott Simkins, Ph.D.

Karen Hornsby, assistant professor of philosophy in the department of history and interim director of the liberal studies program, is a Carnegie Scholar for academic year 2005-2006. She is the first member of the North Carolina A&T faculty to receive this honor.

The Carnegie Scholars Program brings together outstanding faculty from around the world committed to investigating and documenting significant teaching and learning issues in their respective fields. Carnegie Scholars work on campus-based scholarly investigations of teaching and learning issues, contributing to the thought and practice of scholarly teaching.

Carnegie Scholars work with the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (CASTL) for a full year, participating in two extended summer residencies and one winter residency. This year’s cohort of 21 Scholars will be in residence at the Carnegie Foundation in Stanford, Calif., June 16-27, 2005, and Jan. 12-15 and June 17-26, 2006.

The topic of Hornsby’s project is Developing and Assessing Ethical Reasoning Processes. Initially, she conceived the project as something Pat Hutchings characterizes as a “what works” type of question. (Hutchings, vice president of The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, works closely with a wide range of programs and research initiatives including CASTL.)

The original focus of Hornsby’s proj-
TRADING PLACES

ENGINEERING STUDENTS FROM A&T AND TWO BRAZILIAN UNIVERSITIES
LEARN LESSONS ABOUT LIFE AND ACADEMICS AT HOME AND ABROAD.

Encountering the intricacies of the Toyota production system for the first time as an undergrad-uate engineering student is hard enough. Now, imagine the encounter happening in a country thousands of miles from your homeland, where different technical and social cultures exist, in a very foreign language!

Sound both difficult and challenging? Then you are just beginning to grasp the richness and complexity of the American-Brazilian Engineering Exchange Program.

Since 2003, students from North Carolina A&T State University and N.C. State University have participated in the program, along with students from two Brazilian universities: Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) and Universidade Federal Juiz de Fora (UFJJ).

The objectives of the program are to enable the universities involved to promote an interna-tional exchange of engineering students, to enhance the foreign language skills and ability of students to understand different social and technical cultures and to enable students to work in multi-national engineering design teams.

The program begins with training in the language and culture of the host country. Despite their immersion in another language, students quickly discover that there are serious challenges in understanding not only their course work, but the everyday language spoken by natives.

American students find the challenge particularly daunting: they must learn Portuguese, a language not often taught in American schools.

“I took Portuguese for two months and that helped a lot,” explains A&T student Troy Aikins, 22, who studied at Universidade Federal Juiz de Fora in 2005. “Plus, they housed us with Brazilian stu-dents. However, most of the teachers spoke English, so if I didn't understand something, they could explain to me.”

Aikins, a senior studying industrial engineering, took the same classes in Brazil that he would have taken at A&T, including Systems Integration, Production Control and Ergonomics.

“Communication was challenging, but after a while, when I caught on, it made a big difference. I started to network more and used the resources around me,” Aikins says, adding that his time abroad helped him become more independent and had an unexpected affect on his current studies.

“Living and studying in another country takes you away from your comfort zone,” the Durham native explains. “You spend a lot of time by yourself, either studying or exploring the city. I became more focused on my work. I had to study harder because of the language problem.”

Aikins’ newfound study ethic has carried over to his current work load.

“Since I’ve returned home, I have focused on the books more and my midterms are looking a lot better,” he says with a smile.

Rikki Vinson is one of two women industrial engineering students who spent the 2005 spring semester in Brazil under this program.

“My participation in this program enabled me to grow personally, to be seriously challenged academically, to be culturally enriched, to greatly appreciate the work I previously accomplished at A&T, and to have a great deal of fun along with a lot of hard work,” Vinson says.

Some of the challenges the students face occur when they discover that while many of the individual engineering topics they study in their native country carry over to their host country, other con-cepts are particular only to the new country, says Sanjiv Sarin, associ-ate dean of engineering at N.C. A&T and the principal investigator of a FIPSE grant from the U.S. Department of Education that helped establish the program.

For example, American students in Brazil quickly relate to exam-ples using practices and procedures of Wal-Mart and other American firms; however, it is not long before they encounter nationally developed concepts and standards that are employed only in Brazil.

“People like to hire employees who know how America works. This doesn’t always work in Brazil,” says Joyner, who studied at UFRJ.

“The classes tested your wits,” says Joyner, who studied at UFRJ. “You have to be very clever to get by in class. At the end, everyone has to give a presentation, but it all works out fine.”

Joyner learned more than just Portuguese. He says he learned what it means to be an American.

“You learn a lot about another country’s self-image and the self-image of African Americans,” he says. “You learn where we are and where we came from.”

“In Brazil, the culture is more integrated and racially mixed,” Joyner explains. “There are influences from West Africa, Portugal, Italy and Japan, and that’s all part of their self-image. Here, it’s not exactly the same. Their number one identity is their nationality and here in the U.S., our number one identity is ethnicity.”

In Brazil, prejudice is based more on economics than race, Joyner says, adding that he witnessed extreme poverty in Brazil.

“Brazil has a lot of international companies,” Franco says. “People like to hire employees who know how America works. This will make it easier for me to get a job.”

And it doesn’t look bad on his resume, either.

“Brazil has a lot of international companies,” Franco says. “People like to hire employees who know how America works. This will make it easier for me to get a job.”

Students who have participated in the exchange program may come from different backgrounds and cultures, but they agree on one thing: they will recommend the program to others.

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And they will likely view these youthful experiences with even more respect and appreciation as they mature and grow in their personal and professional lives,” Sarin says. “The ability to adapt and thrive in such a different environment than their typical home life affords surely will give all of us the renewed confidence in themselves and in their profession as the future unfolds.”
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University is a land-grant, doctoral-research intensive, interdisciplinary institution. Built on a rich legacy that holds strong academic values as a standard, North Carolina A&T's purpose is to give students the benefits of exemplary undergraduate, graduate and doctoral education and to prepare them for roles of leadership and service.

Through the years, A&T has adapted its curriculum and teaching methodologies to ensure that science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) students – as well as those in agriculture, the arts, business and economics, education and nursing – receive a quality education that allows them to be competitive in a changing world. As the University has evolved, the face of its faculty, researchers and students has changed. Today, more women are studying, teaching and conducting research in the STEM disciplines.
JOURNALISM AND MASS COMM PROGRAM RECEIVES ACCREDITATION

OUT OF 460 JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATION PROGRAMS IN THE COUNTRY, THERE ARE ONLY 107 ACCREDITED PROGRAMS AND ONE INTERNATIONALLY ACCREDITED PROGRAM IN CHILE.

By Darlene F. East '04

During their annual meeting in Portland, Ore., May 6-7, 2005, the Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC) voted unanimously to accredit the department of journalism and mass communication at North Carolina A&T State University.

A&T’s accreditation came with two distinctions: (1) it is the second school in North Carolina (UNC-Chapel Hill is the first) with a journalism and mass communication program accredited by ACEJMC, and (2) it is the first historically black university in the state with an accredited J-school.

Teresa Styles, department chair, attributes their success to the support of the University’s administration, faculty, staff and students. The process is very long and arduous, “it involves a lot of work,” said Styles, “but it did what we needed to do in order to gain accreditation.”

The accreditation process can cover a period of 3-5 years. A&T began the process in 2001 and doing what needed to be done meant requesting a pre-site assessment by Suzanne Shaw, executive director of the Accrediting Council. Shaw travels throughout the country preparing colleges and universities to meet ACEJMC’s 12 standards (now nine).

Currently, there are 107 professional journalism and mass communications programs in colleges and universities in the United States that have been accredited by ACEJMC and one university outside the country.

“I think that it is wonderful that the hard work of the faculty and staff and students was recognized by this committee,” said A&T Chancellor James C. Renick. “It is very good for a university that has a quality program to have a third party validation of its curriculum.”

Renick demonstrated his pride by sending a formal announcement to A&T’s corporate partners and approximately 1,800 members and associates of the American Council of Education (ACE). ACE serves as the voice for higher education as a consensus leader and advocate on key issues in higher education.

Public relations graduate Brooks Newkirk ’03 is proud of the department’s achievement also. “I think the accreditation speaks volumes about the knowledge of the staff and the thoroughness of the program,” said Newkirk, who works as a writer for the Charlotte Area Transit System. “The faculty instilled in me the knowledge and skills to achieve greatness.”

Not only does the institution benefit from this process but the public, the government, students, prospective students and parents, media and mass communications practitioners seeking to hire entry-level and experienced professionals who graduated from accredited programs benefit as well.

Randall Ellington, a sophomore public relations major who knew the program was respected prior to accreditation, learned firsthand what it means to attend a school with a respected program that is recognized by ACEJMC.

What started out as an opportunity for seasonal employment at Best Buy is now a permanent part-time job. “When the gentleman that interviewed me heard that I was in the public relations field, he was very much inclined to talk with me and offered me a job beyond the holidays,” Ellington said. “Even though it did not start out as the major reason for the interview, it did have an impact on the final outcome.”

“One of the main reasons I changed majors,” said the former marketing major, “was because marketing was more product oriented and I love working with people and felt like the (public relations) program was a good fit. “The faculty, Dr. Styles included, down to the secretary, Miss Mary, make me feel at home and it is a place where I can excel,” he said.

An accredited program is also important to recruiting, the ability to offer scholarships, internships and compete in activities that are not available to non-accredited programs.

Lea E. Williams, interim associate vice chancellor for academic affairs, responding on behalf of Provost Carolyn W. Meyers, agrees. Williams said, “This landmark accomplishment gives A&T a strategic advantage in recruiting students with an interest in this hugely popular career field. Now, students in North Carolina and across the country, seeking a fully accredited journalism program, can enroll having knowing that our program meets the high standards of the Accrediting Council.”

Although Styles said she breathed a sigh of relief when it was announced that the department had been fully accredited (it received a provisional in 2004), she also acknowledged that the “real” hard work has just begun.

A&T’s next visit will be during the 2009-2010 academic year. Renick and Styles are making provisions to insure the department’s re-accreditation. New hires must have stronger credentials, especially in journalistic research, and “the curriculum and other activities of the department must meet the needs of the changing times,” said Styles.

To be accredited, a university must participate in three major activities.

1) THE INSTITUTION VOLUNTARILY PREPARES A RIGOROUS SELF ASSESSMENT OF THE PROGRAMS THAT IT OFFERS FOR PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY AND IMPROVEMENT OF ACADEMIC QUALITY.

2) THEY ARE JUDGED BY AN INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF THEIR PEERS COMPRISING OF EDUCATORS AND PRACTITIONERS THAT INCLUDES A RECOMMENDATION TO THE ACCREDITING COUNCIL.

3) THE FULL ACCREDITING COUNCIL DECIDES ON THE INSTITUTION’S ACCREDITATION STATUS USING THE SET OF EXPECTATIONS IT HAS ESTABLISHED.
Converse with A&T's Student Government Association president Justin Ramey for a few minutes, and you immediately recognize the deep compassion he has for his classmates and others. Under his helm this year, the SGA will focus on issues that the students themselves have determined to be significant.

Since his freshman year, the senior electrical engineering major has been very concerned about the lack of student involvement with the SGA election process. “It is impossible for one person to decide the needs and directions of 10,000 people,” he explains. “But typically, that’s what happens. The SGA president runs a campaign based on his or her vision, not the students’ vision.”

Ramey remembers vividly the day that he first considered seeking the office. “It was May 25, 2004, a couple of weeks after the SGA election. I was sitting on my porch (Omega Psi Phi) with my frat brother Melvin Heggie when an inner-voice told me that something had to be done for A&T students—and that there was a bigger picture when it comes to the SGA.”

Ramey talked with Heggie, who would later become his campaign manager, about the position. Heggie said, “Go for it,” and agreed to help. Ramey later received encouragement from other frat brothers and friends. However, making the pivotal decision to run would come later. This was something he needed to ponder over and not be hasty. “We got to know as many students as we could,” said Heggie. “We told them about our merits, but because there is a purpose to be served through me.”

Justin Ramey and his older brother Willie IV Jones Ramey and his older brother Willie IV Jones graduated from A&T in May 2004. Justin was seeking the presidency. “Justin is an awesome leader,” says Megan Brooks, SGA vice president for external affairs. “He is a young leader with a seasoned mentality. He represents our university very well in appearance, articulation and pride.”

Ramey plans to graduate in May 2006. “I was amazed at the students’ reactions,” Ramey said. “They talked freely with me. You will be surprised of how people want you to listen and understand what the challenges are that they face everyday.”

“Justin is an awesome leader,” says Megan Brooks, SGA vice president for external affairs. “He is a young leader with a seasoned mentality. He represents our university very well in appearance, articulation and pride.”

“Winning this election was not by chance,” Ramey concluded. “I prayed this together. I am not here because of my ambitions, but because there is a purpose to be served through me.”

Ramey plans to graduate in May 2006. He wants to pursue a M.B.A. and a law degree.

SPORTS

“Justin is an awesome leader,” says Megan Brooks, SGA vice president for external affairs. “He is a young leader with a seasoned mentality. He represents our university very well in appearance, articulation and pride.”

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Imagine starting your own company at the ripe age of nine and becoming CEO at 10. Hard to imagine!

It wasn’t so hard for Anisah Rasheed, Miss North Carolina A&T State University 2005-2006. Just ask her mother, Valerie Rasheed Dale, who enjoys sharing her daughter’s accomplishments.

“At age nine, Anisah and her sisters Ameenah and Siyisna started Sister Clowns, an entertainment company,” Dale said. “She took it over at age 10.”

Dale explains that her daughter’s innovative entrepreneurship started even earlier than nine.

“Anisah has always been industrious and found ways to earn money,” she said. “When she was eight, she sold hot dogs, oranges and juice at a community carnival and earned $80.”

The young entrepreneur was recognized in the 2003 Essence book, 50 of the Most Inspiring African-Americans, along with Oprah Winfrey, Colin Powell, Maya Angelou, Michael Jordan and Halle Berry. Today, Sister Clowns continues to provide entertainment for children’s birthday parties and other special occasions. Known as “Happy the Clown,” Rasheed’s fame doesn’t end with magazine articles. She has been interviewed by CBS personality Al Roker, and she has appeared on “The Amanada Lewis Show,” “BET Nightly News” and John Walsh’s show on syndicated morning radio show.

A big surprise came for Rasheed when the mayor of Roanoke delivered a proclamation declaring the day of her coronation — Oct. 13 — Anisah Rasheed Day.

Rasheed, who will graduate from A&T at the end of her third year, has found time to be active in the Virginia A&G Club, Verge Modeling Troop, Ladies of Excellence and Student in Free Enterprise (Miss SIFE). She has served as a keynote speaker for the Kellogg School of Management Black Management Association’s 16th Annual Conference.

Clowning is not Rasheed’s only talent. In high school she was a super athlete, playing basketball, volleyball, softball and varsity cheeringleading all in the same year. Rasheed also was named Best All Around Student (2002), and she received the Roanoke City Public Schools Certificate of Recognition for Excellence (1999-2000), Southern Christian Leadership Council Martin Luther King Jr. Youth Leadership Award (2003), YMCA Woman of the Year Outstanding Achievement (1998-99) and NAACP Youth Image Award (1999).

Now when it comes to pageants, Rasheed hasn’t always succeeded. In high school she was nominated for the homecoming court in her freshman and senior years, and she lost both times.

Rasheed was elected Miss Freshman, and by her second semester she decided to run for Miss A&T.

“Anisah has always been industrious and found ways to earn money,” she said. “When she was eight, she sold hot dogs, oranges and juice at a community carnival and earned $80.”

Rasheed says that it’s not important how a student dresses, what they look like or their religion preference when it comes to serving the university.

“When matters is what they stand for and what they can do for the institution,” she said. Most A&T students have the utmost respect for their queen.

“We don’t see Anisah as a Muslim,” said Armin Floyd-Moody, vice president of internal affairs for the N.C. A&T Student Government Association. “We see her as our queen. We see her pure heart and soul, and we see her service and pride for A&T.”

Rasheed is utilizing her Shades of Prestige in using her role as Miss A&T. She is enhancing the Aggie Entrepreneur Series, a program that brings speakers to campus to talk about entrepreneurship, free enterprise and minorities in corporate America.

During her freshman year, she was invited to speak at the conference — the first for a student.

“At age nine, Anisah and her sisters started Sister Clowns, an entertainment company,” Dale said. “She took it over at age 10.”

Rasheed's fame doesn't end with magazine articles. She has been interviewed by CBS personality Al Roker, and she has appeared on “The Amanda Lewis Show,” “BET Nightly News” and John Walsh’s show on syndicated morning radio show.
YAOHANG LI IS ONE OF 26 RECIPIENTS OF OAK RIDGE ASSOCIATED UNIVERSITIES’ 2005-06 RALPH E. POWE JUNIOR FACULTY ENHANCEMENT AWARD

By Bryan Campbell

North Carolina A&T State University faculty member YAOHANG LI is one of 26 recipients of Oak Ridge Associated Universities’ (ORAU) Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Awards for the 2005-2006 academic year.

The grants of $5,000 each are intended to provide “seed money” that will allow these faculty members, each of whom are in the first two years of a tenure track, to enhance their research during the early stages of their careers. Each recipient’s institution matches the ORAU award with an additional $5,200, making the total prize worth $10,200 for each winner.

The awards recognize work in five science and technology disciplines: engineering or applied science, life sciences, mathematics and computer science, physical sciences, and policy, management, or education. Winning faculty members may use the grants to purchase equipment, continue their research or travel to professional meetings and conferences.

Li won the grant in the category of mathematics and computer science for his research project titled “Advanced Global Optimization Approaches for High-Resolution Protein Structure Modeling.”

In the 15 years since the program began, ORAU has awarded 283 grants totaling more than $1.4 million. Including the matching funds from member institutions, ORAU has facilitated grants worth more than $2.8 million.

Ralph E. Powe, for whom the awards are named, served as the ORAU councilor from Mississippi State University for 16 years, participating in numerous committees and special projects during his tenure. His fellow councilors elected him as chair of ORAU’s Council of Sponsoring Institutions prior to his death in 1996.

Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU) is a university consortium leveraging the scientific strength of 91 major research institutions to advance science and education by partnering with national laboratories, government agencies and private industry. ORAU manages the Oak Ridge Institute for Science and Education for the U.S. Department of Energy.

THE TIDWELL FAMILY

WHY WE ESTABLISHED AN ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP AT A&T

For Ponce De Leon Tidwell Sr., his wife and children, education is a family thing. All four Tidwells are A&T graduates, and together they established a family scholarship in the early 1990s.

“We just felt that we wanted to give back to the school because we have had successful careers and we felt it was nothing more than right to try to reach back and help someone else have a successful career and achieve some good things in life,” explains Ponce Sr.

“Also, we wanted to make sure the students who were coming through got a good understanding about what the alumni are all about. And what we are all about is helping each other have a good life and have success and make a good contribution to society.”

Ponce Sr. met his future wife, the former Marva Whitley, at A&T in the early 1960s, an exciting time at the university. Both Ponce and Marva participated in the historic sit-ins at the F.W. Woolworth Co. store in downtown Greensboro.

In 1961, the couple married. The next year, Marva graduated with a degree in applied sociology. Ponce followed a year later with a degree in architectural engineering. They moved to the New York City area, where Ponce began a successful career in construction management and structural design. Marva enjoyed a long career as a social worker for the Passaic County Board of Social Services in Patterson, N.J. Both are retired now, but Ponce still works part-time as a consultant.

The couple’s oldest child, Stephanie, graduated from A&T with a degree in economics in 1987. A former Miss A&T and member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, she has earned two master’s degrees from Montclair State University in New Jersey — the first in economics and the second in art and teaching mathematics. After working in the mortgage and finance industry for 16 years, she now teaches math to seventh — and eighth-graders.

Her brother Ponce Jr. graduated from A&T in 1991 with a degree in business administration. While at the university, he served as student body president his senior year and was a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity. After graduation, Ponce Jr. studied law at Howard University in Washington, D.C., and is currently a corporate lawyer with Eil Lilly and Co. His wife, Regina, is a trial attorney, and they have two children, Kendal and Ponce III.

The Tidwell family hopes their scholarship will help the recipients appreciate education as much as they do.

“We wanted to give back and show how much we appreciate the education that we received and the guidance and the mentoring that steered us in the right direction to help us with what accomplishments we did make,” Marva Tidwell says. “Even to this day, we feel like we stand on the shoulders of those who taught us, as well as the foundation of A&T State University.”
McCann Scholar Dwight Davis Uses Award to Help New Students

By Millicent Rothrock

j ust like thousands of graduates, cardiologist Dwight Davis, M.D. ’70 remembers studying hard at A&T. He also had to work just as hard to make ends meet.

Davis’ parents could not afford to send him to college, so it was up to him to finance his education through a work-study program and a variety of odd jobs.

“My formal job was working in the infirmary,” he remembers. “But I had lots of other part-time jobs. I worked for Mangower and McDonald’s and mowed lawns.”

Davis never forgot his struggle and has made it a point to mentor students throughout his academic and professional career. In recognition of his mentoring efforts, the Joy McCann Foundation selected Davis as one of four McCann Scholars for 2005.

The recognition is a national award presented by the private foundation to acknowledge outstanding mentors in medicine, nursing and science. And at the request of Davis, the foundation contributed $50,000 to A&T to establish the Dwight and Lorna Davis Endowed Scholarship Fund.

“The scholarship will provide recognition and financial assistance to outstanding college applicants with unique backgrounds and talents that will enhance the diversity of the student population at A&T,” Dr. Lorna Davis said.

“The cash award I received from the Joy McCann Foundation provided me and my wife with an opportunity to create something at A&T that we thought would have a lasting impact on those who have the ability to attend A&T — which we think is an outstanding institution — but who might have financial difficulties in being able to attend,” Davis said.

Each scholarship is awarded for one academic year and is renewable.

“We think if we give them the means to get started, they can find other means to continue their education beyond the second year,” Davis added.

A native of Winston-Salem, N.C., Davis used his undergraduate degree in engineering physics to jumpstart a spectacular and rewarding career. Graduating in 1970, he spent a year in Rochester, N.Y., as a research assistant in cardiovascular physiology and then entered medical school in the fall of 1971. He earned his medical degree from the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry in 1975.

After a three-year residency in Boston and a three-year fellowship in cardiology at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, N.C., he accepted a faculty appointment as assistant professor of medicine at the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine in Hershey, Pa. He currently serves as a professor of medicine in the section of cardiology, associate dean for admissions and student affairs, director of the Cardiac Rehabilitation Program, and a member of the Heart Failure/Cardiac Transplantation Service at the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine.

Davis is a Fellow of the American College of Physicians, the American Heart Association and the American College of Cardiology. He is the past president of the physician and professor. Davis was awarded the Excellence in Teaching Award from the College of Medicine’s classes of 1993 through 1998, and he received the Teacher of the Year from the Penn State College of Medicine in 1999.

PENN STATE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

“From the time I was a boy, I wanted to be a doctor,” Davis said. “I knew it was possible by the fact that I was able to get an outstanding education at an institution that was very concerned about preparing its students to be successful.

“I owe my career to A&T and it is nice being able to give back,” he said. “I would have to say that practically all that I have and all that I am able to do with my life, which is very rewarding, was made possible by the fact that I was able to get an outstanding education at an institution that was very concerned about preparing its students to be successful.

“It is important for us as graduates to find ways to give back to the university,” Davis added. “All of us cannot give back because of our individual situations, but those of us who can must not forget how important the opportunity to attend A&T was for us. We should find ways, no matter how big or small, to help others find ways to have the opportunities we had.”

GUIDELINES TO ESTABLISH AN ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP AT NORTH CAROLINA A&T STATE UNIVERSITY

An endowed scholarship strengthens the long-term financial underpinnings of North Carolina A&T State University. Endowed Scholarships provide a base of support for generations of students in perpetuity.

An endowed fund is a permanent fund, often named in honor of an individual, created for the purpose of leaving a legacy to current and future Aggie students. The principal, or corpus, of an endowed fund is never spent. Only annual earnings, or a portion of annual earnings, are awarded for scholarships. In this way an endowed scholarship provides annual income to be awarded to deserving students forever.

Typically, annual awards equal no more than 5 percent of the principal balance (depending on investment performance). Thus, a $25,000 scholarship would pay out $1,250 ($5) each year in the form of a scholarship. Annual earnings above the payout amount are reinvested in the principal of the scholarship fund. This builds the principal of the endowment fund over time, allowing for larger scholarship awards in future years.

Historical evidence proves tuition typically increases! Reinvestment also serves as a hedge against inflation.

A donor (or donors) may suggest a designation and associated criteria for an endowed scholarship. For example, the John Doe Endowed Scholarship Fund may be designated for a student in the College of Engineering who demonstrates financial need and who is a freshman from North Carolina (a specific county or region of North Carolina).

A scholarship donor(s) is required to sign a Deed of Gift (pledge statement) and document the desired scholarship designation and criteria.
1940s

Angela McCoy Brice ’49 is a 2005 recipient of the N.C. A&T Alumni Association’s Howard C. Barnhill Distinguished Service Award. Brice has been a member of the Washington, D.C. Alumni Chapter since 1950. She has held numerous leadership roles within the Association during her 55 years of service.

1950s

On the one-year anniversary of his death (July 17, 2005) John Milton Haile, M.D. ’52 became the first African American to have part of a major highway in East Ocala, Fla., named in his honor. The “Dr. John M. Haile Memorial Boulevard” was dedicated to the City of Ocala on East Silver Springs Blvd., where Haile’s office was located. An Army veteran, Haile graduated 13th in his medical school class at Marquette University. His medical career spanned over 40 years with stints in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Florida, where he opened a practice in 1968. Haile was appointed secretary (1972), vice president (1976) and chief (1977) of the medical staff at Munroe Regional Medical Center in Ocala, where he was the first and only African American to serve as chief of staff. He was also the first African American to practice in Marion County with two specialties: internal medicine and cardiology.

1960s

Daniel Shields ’66 is a 2005 recipient of the N.C. A&T Alumni Association’s Howard C. Barnhill Distinguished Service Award. Shields is a member of the Halifax-North Hampton Alumni Chapter. He has served 30 years as an educator.

1970s

Lawrence E. Clark ’68, deputy chief for science and technology for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service, received the 2005 Alumni Excellence Award during N.C. A&T State University’s spring commencement ceremonies in May.

1980s

John A. Houston ’74 is one of two Aggies honored by the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education (NAFEO) at the 50th National Conference on Blacks in Higher Education where he received the 2005 Distinguished Alumni Award. Houston is a U.S. District Court Judge in the U.S. Courthouse in San Diego.

1990s

Alexander Watson ’52 and Kayte Graham ’52 celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in September. Their relationship survived separation in the early years of the relationship due to educational and employment opportunities in different places and a stint in the military that sent Watson to Germany, where the couple was married. The Watsons have two sons — both Aggies — and one granddaughter.

2000s

Anthony “TJ” Jackson ’81 is the 2005 recipient of the N.C. A&T Alumni Association’s Julius S. Brooks Achievement Award. Jackson is a senior engineer at Johns Hopkins University-Applied Physics Laboratory. In 1990, he established the Anthony “TJ” Jackson Electrical Engineering Scholarship for undergraduate students attending A&T from the Washington, D.C., area.

Baruti Katembo ’87 is an assistant professor of mathematics and technology at Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, Fl., where he is founder and director of the Wokasago Forum, the College’s lecture series.
Food Lion has named Adrian Baker director of retail operations in the company’s western division. In his new position, Baker oversees the operations, performance, staff recruiting and development, merchandising and customer service of more than 70 Food Lion stores in North Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia, including locations in Roanoke, Bristol, Mt. Airy and Wytheville. Baker joined Food Lion in 1990, serving most recently as category manager for dairy products. In 2004, he was selected by Frozen Food and Dairy Age magazine as a top buyer in the dairy product category.

Jessica Garrett ’93 has joined the Mayor’s Office of Communications for the City of Atlanta, where she is responsible for aiding the administration in showcasing Mayor Franklin for speaking engagements, public appearances as well as working with outsiders on City of Atlanta news stories. Garrett also has experience as a news director and on-air talent for radio and television stations across the Southeast. She is vice president of the Atlanta Alumni Chapter of N.C. A&T’s alumni association and chair of the special events committee.

Tiffany Eubanks-Saunders ’93 is one of two Aggies honored by the National Association of Black Accountants 2005 Rising Star Award during the organization’s 34th Annual National Convention that was held June 18 in Detroit. The award gives special recognition to an individual with eight to 15 years of experience since college graduation who has demonstrated outstanding career advancement or achievement. Smith is a manager of inspection with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board in the Atlanta Regional Office. PCAOB is a private-sector, non-profit corporation, created by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, to oversee the auditors of public companies in order to protect the interests of investors and further the public interest in the preparation of informative, fair, and independent audit reports. Smith formerly worked with Deloitte Touche LLP as a Senior manager in Atlanta.

Shandette E. Harper ’96 is the 2005 recipient of the N.C. A&T Alumni Association’s Velma R. Speight Young Alumni Award. Harper is a member of the TideWater Alumni Chapter in Virginia. In 2004, while serving as chair of the Recruitment Committee, she coordinated the first bus trip to A&T’s University Day for prospective students from the Hampton Roads area.

Kecia Williams Smith ’95 received the National Association of Black Accountants 2005 Rising Star Award during the organization’s 34th Annual National Convention that was held June 18 in Detroit. The award gives special recognition to an individual with eight to 15 years of experience since college graduation who has demonstrated outstanding career advancement or achievement. Smith is a manager of inspection with the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board in the Atlanta Regional Office. PCAOB is a private-sector, non-profit corporation, created by the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, to oversee the auditors of public companies in order to protect the interests of investors and further the public interest in the preparation of informative, fair, and independent audit reports. Smith formerly worked with Deloitte Touche LLP as a Senior manager in Atlanta.

Stefanie B. Lomax ’94 has been hired as director of human resources for The W.C. & A.N. Miller Companies, one of the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area’s oldest real estate services companies. Lomax comes to Miller with a high-tech and medical human resources background, most recently serving as the human resources administrator for Quality Technology, Inc. in Lynch, Md. Lomax has a M.S. degree in human resource management from the University of Maryland.

David H. Horton II ’97 has published his first book, Negro Intellect… A Guide for Young Black Males. According to Horton, the humorous yet candid book is directed at urban youth in America, providing help for today and hope for tomorrow. Horton resides in Atlanta where he is pursuing a master’s degree at Georgia Tech.

Watsi M. Sutton ’97 is managing attorney for the New Bern office of Legal Aid of North Carolina, Inc. (LANC), a private nonprofit law firm that provides civil legal assistance to the state’s low income population. A 2000 graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Law, Sutton was admitted to the N.C. State Bar in August 2000.

Previn Taylor ’97 has published the book The Friday Dilemma. Taylor’s first novel is about a teenager who while trying to achieve the life of a typical high school student suddenly finds himself entangled in a haunting moral quandary where the life or death of a fellow student could possibly be held in his hands. Taylor resides in Newport News, Va.

Robert Cobb Jr. ’00 MS, a 1986-89 participant in the Virginia Tech Upward Bound program, was recently named Virginia’s TRIO Achiever for 2004. Federal TRIO programs include Upward Bound and Educational Talent Search. Cobb received his award at the Mid-Eastern Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel Regional Conference in Washington, D.C., in April. Cobb is an assistant professor in the School of Technology at A&T.

Social Studies teacher F. Christopher Goins ’00 is Gaullford County School’s 2005 High School Teacher of the Year. With five years of teaching experience, Goins was selected out of 108 applicants, 12 semi-finalists and five finalists. Goins teaches AP government, U.S. history, civics and economics to ninth through 12th grade students at James B. Dudley High School in Greensboro, N.C. He also coaches UMOSA, Dudley’s step team, helping them secure its third national championship.

Rodney D. Westmoreland Jr. ’03, an office engineer with Hersel Phelps, recently was one of two lead field engineers for a renovation project at the Pentagon, which has over 6 million square feet of floor area. Westmoreland has worked at Hersel Phelps since July 2003. He has managed more than 30 subcontractors and 500 of their employees.

Jamilka Burge ’03 of Rome, Ga., a computer science doctoral student in the Virginia Tech College of Engineering, has been selected to receive an IBM Ph.D. Fellowship for the 2005-2006 academic year. The highly competitive fellowships are awarded worldwide to only 50 scholars in the fields of computer science, computer engineering, electrical engineering, chemistry and physics. Fellows are selected on the basis of research and technical excellence in areas of interest to IBM, and receive tuition fees and a stipend for one academic year. Each fellowship is renewable for up to three years. Burge’s research in the area of human-computer interaction focuses on computer-supported cooperative work and interpersonal theory as they apply to computer-mediated communication. She examines interpersonal communication via instant messaging, telephone and face-to-face communication.
A&T pride

January 16, 2006

Basketball alumni and fans, join us Monday, January 16, 2006, for a noontime game as former coaches Cal Irvin and Don Corbett are honored. The court in Ellis F. Corbett Sports Center will be named The Cal Irvin-Don Corbett Court in recognition of these Aggie greats.

May 12-14, 2006

Alumni Weekend festivities will be held for classes ending in 1 and 6. Contact information for class coordinators is available on the Alumni Affairs website, www.ncat.edu/~alumni.

October 20-22, 2006

Return to Aggieland for the Greatest Homecoming on Earth. For more information about these events and more, visit the Alumni Affairs website, www.ncat.edu/~alumni, or call 877-2AT-ALUM (877-228-2586).

For the past few years, buzz words like convergence and converged networks have circulated throughout the information technology community. Now, many people are asking what network convergence is all about.

Convergence is the ability to send and receive voice, video, images, text and data simultaneously, anywhere and at anytime over a single platform. This technology is appealing to an increased number of faculty, staff and students in both the wired and wireless environment.

Expanding beyond the roots of Internet Protocol (IP), this capability is at the heart of a true renaissance in the next generation of ubiquitous communication. New products from video camera phones, to personal digital assistance (PDA) devices, to new varieties of multimedia content services that feature multimedia messaging or interactive gaming not only require substantially improved quality of transmission, but also facilitate the creation and development of converged solutions for the university environment.

There is a growing interest among the campus community to use mobile devices to capture and exchange data, video, photo, music, and converse with other colleagues on wireless devices. This transformation has come a long way from the plain old telephone service (POTS) to a convergence of rich media-based interactions that are already beginning to influence the way we work and communicate with one another. Users want to access campus resources and entertainment services whenever and wherever they are located on campus. The demand is for easy, reliable 24/7 accessibility to a dependable campus network from any point on campus.

The introduction and rollout of the Aggie Local Area Wireless Network (LAWN) is just the beginning of an innovative communication and converged IP platform that can enhance and reshape our campus activities. This is a major step that allows our campus users the ability to access e-mail services from both the wired and wireless network. In addition, users with mobile devices will have immediate access to internet services.

This is the beginning of campus wireless services with much more to come. The next step is to begin piloting IP telephony or voice over IP (VoIP). The convergence of applications such as voice-mail and e-mail eventually will allow users with mobile devices the ability to access their voice-mail and e-mail services anytime, anywhere on campus.

Calvin Bonaparte is special assistant to the vice chancellor for ITT and director of convergence at N.C. A&T.
REMEMBERING THE PAST
Richard E. Moore, Ed.D. ’54

Richard E. Moore enjoyed a distinguished 37-year career as a journalist, educator and spokesman for North Carolina A&T State University. Moore managed A&T’s Public Relations Office for more than 28 years, from 1967 until his death Oct. 14, 1995. An associate professor in the department of speech communication and theatre arts, Moore organized the University’s mass communications conference that welcomed journalism and mass communication students from across the country for many years.


“It’s an opportunity to honor the life and work of a classmate, a friend, a colleague, a role model, and a dedicated and loyal Aggie to the very end. ... I’m honored to have been asked to lead this effort, and have accepted the role because Richard deserves to be remembered for his numerous contributions to our beloved alma mater and to the communities he touched. Truly, he was a wonderful human being whose life served as a beacon for so many young people struggling to find their way.”


GIFTS MAY BE SENT TO:
The Richard E. Moore Endowed Scholarship Fund
North Carolina A&T State University
Office of Development • 1601 East Market Street • Greensboro, NC 27411
For information contact Patricia Brown, (336) 334-7600 or pbrown@ncat.edu.