

Winter 2005-2006



# TODAY

NORTH CAROLINA AGRICULTURAL AND TECHNICAL STATE UNIVERSITY

## Jag Sankar

HAS FORMULA FOR SUCCESS

PLUS

**Alumni-Foundation  
Event Center opens**

**Ventured & Gained —  
Successful Aggies**

**Destined to Lead —  
First Alumna Chairs Trustees Board**



# TODAY

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University Winter 2005-2006

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# explore. discover. become.

**A&T TODAY**  
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University  
Winter 2005-2006

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# INSIDE AGGIELAND

## EVENT CENTER OPENS

The new Alumni-Foundation Event Center is open and ready to host your next event.

With more than 15,000 square feet of flexible space, the event center is a great venue for meetings, conferences and special events. The facility can accommodate an 800-seat dinner, it is equipped with the latest in lighting and audiovisual components, the meeting spaces and ballrooms can be arranged in a variety of configurations, and a catering service provides a full complement of food and beverages. In addition, over 600 parking spaces are available for meeting and event participants.

The Alumni-Foundation Center officially opened Dec. 16, 2005. North Carolina A&T University Foundation, Inc. provided funds for the building, which also houses the offices of the Foundation, Alumni Affairs and Advancement Services.

Since opening, several high volume events have been held in the center including The Gathering: A Conference for HBCU Institutionally Related Foundations and the Sixth Annual HBCU Think Tank with guest lecturer Cornel West.

The Alumni-Foundation Event Center is located at 200 N. Benbow Rd. on the N.C. A&T campus. For information about using the facility, call (336) 433-5566.



## A&T IS NEW HOME OF THE NEGRO EDUCATIONAL REVIEW

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and representatives of *The Negro Educational Review* announced the relocation of the 55-year-old academic journal to the Greensboro campus Feb. 8.

Mac A. Stewart, editor-in-chief, and members of the journal's national editorial board joined university officials for the announcement at a reception held in the Dudley Building Multipurpose Room.

"We are excited about the relocation of the journal to North Carolina A&T," said Lelia Vickers, dean of the School of Education and chair of the A&T Advisory Board for *The Negro Educational Review*. "*The Negro Educational Review* has been

the premier refereed journal for faculty in this country's historically black universities, colleges and public schools. As we transfer the physical location of the journal to Greensboro, we will work with the national editorial board to build upon its longstanding and well respected record of publication."

The publication, previously located at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, is a scholarly journal of African American issues that is published quarterly and has both national and international readership.

"This move," said Chancellor James C. Renick, "is positive for both entities. It is a collaborative effort that allows the journal and North Carolina A&T to strengthen their influence on scholarly materials about

the African American community while simultaneously engaging the broader community of higher education. Having the journal on this campus also reaffirms A&T's role as a national leader as we address issues affecting African Americans and minority populations.

"With ties to the Underground Railroad and the sit-ins of the Civil Rights Movement, our community's history uniquely positions North Carolina A&T as an environment where *The Negro Educational Review* can maintain its heritage while further expanding and developing intellectual capital," Renick added. "We believe Greensboro is a great location for the home of *The Negro Educational Review*."

## ENTERPRISE TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OFFERED

The Interdisciplinary Center for Entrepreneurship and E-Business (ICEEB) in the School of Business and Economics has joined with the Department of Construction Management and Occupational Safety and Health, Office of Sponsored Programs, to offer the Minority Enterprise Training and Development Program (METAD).

METAD is designed for aspiring entrepreneurs who have a solid business idea and a strong desire to start a business. The program consists of:

- **Entrepreneurship Training.** Twenty-five hours of training in nuts and bolts of starting a business, business plans, loan application packages, licenses and permits, etcetera.
- **Counseling and Technical Assistance.** One-on-one counseling to help participants evaluate their business concepts and develop their business plans.
- **Business Skills Training.** Twenty-five hours of management training, e-commerce training, and technical assistance.

Each session will be taught by experienced entrepreneurs and educators. In addition, guest entrepreneurs and local business experts will share their experiences with the class.

The program is planned so that participants will leave the class with a completed business plan, a business license, and access to follow-up assistance to help with the challenges young entrepreneurs face.

To receive an application or more information, contact the Department of Construction Management, Office of Sponsored Programs, at (336) 256-0344, ext. 2272, or [tndix@ncat.edu](mailto:tndix@ncat.edu). Enrollment is limited.

Funding for this program is made possible by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

## NEW PARKING DECK UNDERWAY



Construction of a three-story, 514-car parking deck began Jan. 5. The parking deck is being built over half of the existing Obermeyer Street surface parking lot.

Donley Construction Company of Richmond, Va., is building the parking deck at a cost of \$6.3 million.

The Obermeyer parking area directly behind Curtis Hall and Bluford Library will not be available through the end of the spring 2006 semester. Alternate parking is available in the Benbow Road parking area that is adjacent to the new Alumni-Foundation Event Center. Temporary parking is available in the area off Daniel Street directly behind Webb Hall and adjacent to the Webb Hall parking area facing Benbow Road.

Access to the Obermeyer Parking area directly behind Holland Hall will be available for parking throughout the construction project.

The new parking deck will open in the fall. For more information about A&T construction projects, visit <http://fac.ncat.edu/engineer>.

## MICHAEL ERIC DYSON SPEAKS AT MLK JR. CELEBRATION

Author, scholar and critic Michael Eric Dyson was the keynote speaker for the University's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Commemorative Celebration.

According to *Essence* magazine, Dyson is one of the 50 most inspiring African Americans and one of the nation's most renowned controversial intellectuals. He is the author of 10 books, including *Is Bill Cosby Right? Or Has the Black Middle Class Lost Its Mind?* and *Come Hell or High Water: Hurricane Katrina and the Color of Disaster*.

Dyson's literary efforts earned him the 2004 NAACP Image Award for outstanding nonfiction literary work for his national bestseller, *Why I Love Black Women*, and the 2005 BET/General Motors Black History Makers award. Nearly all of his books have landed on bestsellers lists, including *Mercy, Mercy Me: The Art, Loves and Demons of Marvin Gaye*, which was recently selected for review as a major motion picture.



# CAMPUS BRIEFS



**Banks**



**Andresen**



**Singh**

## STUDENTS

**Shannon Banks**, a senior chemistry major from Goldsboro, N.C., and a member of the University's Honda Campus All-Star team, is featured in Honda's "The Power of Dreams" ad campaign. The print ad featuring Banks will run for one year. She appears in the February 2006 editions of *Black Enterprise*, *Ebony*, *Essence* and *Forbes* magazines.

**Shayla Savage**, graduate assistant and North Carolina Principal Fellow, and five undergraduate education majors – **Dequetta Chapman**, **Schnavia DeGourville**, **Luke Neal**, **Elisha Williams** and **Roger Williams** – served as volunteers during the opening night festivities of the North Carolina Department

of Public Instruction-Division of Exceptional Children's 55<sup>th</sup> Conference on Exceptional Children that was held Nov. 7-9 at Koury Convention Center in Greensboro. Lorry Floyd, an assistant professor in the School of Education, provided assistance to conference organizers.

In December, **Niels Erik Andresen** and **Jasmeet Singh** graduated with perfect grade point averages. Oregon native Andresen received a B.S. in architectural engineering. He currently is working on a master's degree in civil engineering at A&T. India native Singh received a B.S. in computer science. He is working at IBM in Rochester, Minn., and he plans to attend graduate school.

## STUDENT PARKING POLICY AMENDED

The University Parking Review Committee has amended the student parking policy to prohibit incoming freshmen from bringing their automobiles to campus their first semester of enrollment at North Carolina A&T State University.

Freshmen will be eligible to bring vehicles in the second semester if they have achieved a 3.2 grade point average at the end of the first term. All students will be eligible to bring vehicles in the second year of enrollment.

The amendment was approved Dec. 14, 2005.

"We believe that this change will foster academic achievement and a sense of community among first-year students," said Akua Matherson, committee chair.

## FACULTY & STAFF



**Bolick**



**Kelkar**

Composite program manager **Ron Bolick** and mechanical engineering professor **Ajit D. Kelkar** presented a paper titled "Interlaminar Shear Strength Comparison of Stitched, Unstitched and Braided Composites" at the Society for the Advancement of Materials and Process Engineering Technical Conference in Seattle, Wash. Over the past four years, Bolick and Kelkar have conducted joint research with NASA Langley Research Center and the United States Air Force Research Laboratory Materials and Manufacturing Directorate (AFRL/ML) in the areas of polymer and ceramic and polymer composites.



The event was held in Memphis, Tenn., and her topic was "Advancing Your Career through Mentoring and Networking."

**Etta Gravely**, an associate professor in the chemistry department, presented at the "Thriving in the Workplace: Road Show" sponsored by the American Chemical Society.



The editors of *US Black Engineer & Information Technology* featured **Rodney E. Harrigan**, vice chancellor for information technology and telecommunications/chief information officer, as one of the "100 Most Important Blacks in Technology" for 2006 in the November/December 2005 edition of the magazine. On Feb. 17, Harrigan and the other honorees were recognized at the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Black Engineer of the Year Awards Conference. Harrigan has been an innovative leader in the field of information technology and telecommunications for nearly 30 years, including more than 23 years at IBM.



**C. Marlow Hinton**, director of research computing, campus labs and student technology services in the Division of Information Technology and Telecommunications, is the 2005 North Carolina A&T State University Employee of the Year. Hinton has received numerous awards for his work in the field of information technology; however, the Employee of the Year honor recognizes his public service to the community. As a volunteer for Greensboro Urban Ministry for over 15 years, Hinton has served meals, built homes and counseled those in need. For the past three years, Hinton has served as chair of Greensboro Urban Ministry. He is also an active volunteer at Pathways, Weaver House, Potters Soup Kitchen and the chaplaincy program.



**Cathy Kea**, a professor in the department of curriculum and instruction, has been invited to serve as a member of the professional advisory council of the National Association for the Education of African American Children with Learning Disabilities. NAEAACLD's mission is to link information and resources provided by an established network of individuals and organizations experienced in minority research and special education with parents, educators and others responsible for providing a quality education for all children. The Professional Advisory Council will be made up of educators and researchers whose work the NAEAACLD will rely on for accuracy and documentation in representing African American families nationwide in the public policy arena and providing these same individuals with the tools and information necessary for their children to be successful in school.



**Rita Lamb**, director of The Center for Student Success, and chair of the academic advising team at A&T, presented a workshop, "Academic Advising for Student and Institutional Success," at Southern University in Baton Rouge, La., Nov. 18. Lamb also met with the Southern University Retention Committee as a follow-up to her two-year retention consulting with the university.

*continued, page 6*

# CAMPUS BRIEFS

## FACULTY & STAFF *continued from page 5*



**Shona Morgan** is featured as an "Emerging Scholar" in the Jan. 12 edition of *Diverse* magazine, formerly *Black Issues in Higher Education*. Morgan is an assistant professor who teaches operations management in the School of Business and Economics.



**Sharon Neal**, director of EPA salary administration and personnel, has been selected as a fellow for National African-American Women's Leadership Institute, Inc. Class

of 2006. On campus, Neal chairs the Student Residency Classification Appeals Board and co-leads the Human Resources Banner Implementation Team while also serving on the Retiree Recognition and Aggie Family Remembrance Committee, Staff Senate, and Human Resources System Task Force. She is also an active member of the Browns Summit, N.C., community.

Launched in 2000, NAAWLI seeks emerging women leaders committed to bringing about constructive change in their communities. NAAWLI Fellows envision how they can improve their communities and implement that vision in ways that will result in positive outcomes such as educational excellence, youth development, social action, and improved health and wellness. Fellows are selected from corporations, non-profit organizations and represent a wide diversity of women.



"Public Opinion Polls, Chicken Soup and Sample Size," an article by political science professor **Phung Nguyen**, has won the 2005 C. Oswald George Prize. The cover article appears in *Teaching Statistics* (Vol. 27, No. 3, Autumn 2005, pp. 89-91), a journal published by the Royal Statistical Society in London, Great Britain. It can be read at [www.blackwell-synergy.com/toc/test/27/3](http://www.blackwell-synergy.com/toc/test/27/3).



Last November, **Samuel Owusu-Ofori**, a professor in the mechanical engineering department, received an honorary doctorate from Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Ghana's premier university. This is the highest honor in Ghana recognizing distinguished individuals for service to the country and university. An earlier recipient includes United Nations Secretary General Kofi Annan.



Wagner



Turner Whittaker

**Miriam L. Wagner**, associate professor and director of GEAR UP, and **Tyra Turner Whittaker**, associate professor and program coordinator of the M.S. degree in human resources (rehabilitation counseling) program, have been awarded a five-year \$1.1 million dollar Rehabilitation Services Administration Capacity Building

Grant by the U.S. Department of Education. The grant will be used to develop a certificate program in the rehabilitation of racial and ethnic minorities with behavioral addictions (REMBA).

Wagner is also one of 17 GEAR UP directors nationwide who has been selected by the National Council for Community and Educational Partnerships to serve on the newly restructured GEAR UP Advisory Commission. The purpose of the commission and the role of the commissioners will be to advise NCCEP on programmatic and public policy strategies to better serve the GEAR UP community, to adopt and disseminate programmatic and policy positions within the GEAR UP community and to external constituents, to serve as ambassadors by communicating GEAR UP's mission, goals, programs, and successes to the external community, and to engage in other activities developed and coordinated by the commission and NCCEP.

# RESEARCH

## REYES AWARDED \$1.2 MILLION GRANT

By Laurie Gengenbach



The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and Virginia Polytechnic and State University have awarded a \$1.2 million grant to Manuel Reyes for an agroforestry and sustainable vegetable production research project in Southeast Asia.

Reyes, associate professor of bioenvironmental engineering in the School of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, will lead a team of scientists from several prestigious U.S. and Southeast Asian universities as well as from the World Agroforestry Center headquartered in Kenya, the World Vegetable Center based in Taiwan and Mars Inc., a U.S. candy and food company.

Their aim is to alleviate poverty, address food scarcity, and reduce environmental degradation by combining economically viable, resource conserving farming techniques with socioeconomic policies that will benefit small-scale farmers. The project will continue through September 2009, with research sites located in Vietnam, Indonesia and the Philippines.

Many of the men and women who stand to benefit are desperately poor, living on less than one dollar a day, Reyes said.

In addition to agroforestry – which is the planting of income producing trees – other techniques that will be presented are improved and indigenous vegetables, conservation tillage, integrated pest management and drip irrigation. The economic viability and environmental impacts of these technologies will be studied.

Another goal is to study mechanisms to improve the socioeconomic well-being of women in small-scale farms, because while both genders participate in agricultural production the role of women has largely remained invisible, underestimated or under reported, said Reyes.

To achieve its goals, Reyes added, the project will take a ground up versus top down approach.

"We will not dictate," Reyes said. "We will ask, listen and then present a menu of technical options that have been requested. We know these technologies work here, but they are unproven there. So we have a lot to learn from the farmers, and we hope they will learn from us as well."

"... WE HAVE A LOT TO LEARN FROM THE FARMERS, AND WE HOPE THEY WILL LEARN FROM US AS WELL."

— Manuel Reyes



Photo: James Parker/SAES

# AGGIE SPORTS

By Brian M. Holloway '97

## FOBBS NAMED HEAD FOOTBALL COACH



A&M had three different runners rush for more than 550 yards. Two of those runners – Courtney Lewis and Jorvorski Lane – were among the top rushers in the Big 12 conference. Each of the runners averaged more than 5.0 yards per carry, while combining for 19 rushing touchdowns.

The University of Alabama's running game also benefited from

football. He has coached defensive tackles, outside linebackers, offensive tackles, tight ends, defensive ends and wide receivers.

Fobbs' experience coaching a variety of positions has led to many different players achieving NFL success once leaving the leadership he exhibited. Among those players are former San Francisco wide receiver Odessa Turner, former Arizona Cardinals tight end Terry Hardy and former Indianapolis Colts running back Roosevelt Potts. Fobbs has helped five other players enjoy NFL success including Kenny Mixon, Dwight Johnson, Gabe Northern, Santonio Beard and Ahmad Galloway.

Fobbs is a 1973 graduate of Grambling University. He played for the Tigers under Robinson from 1968-72. He was an All-SWAC performer his junior and senior seasons, and was drafted in the eighth round by the Buffalo Bills in 1973.

Fobbs also played professionally with the Canadian Football League's Ottawa Rough Riders and Winnipeg Jets, and the NFL's Detroit Wheels and Birmingham Stallions.

Fobbs is a Monroe, La., native. He and his wife Sheila have three children – Broderick, Jamaal and Chelsea.

Lee Fobbs Jr. was appointed head football coach at North Carolina A&T State University Dec. 2 during a press conference at the Bryan Fitness and Wellness Center.

The appointment ended Fobbs' three-year stint as the Texas A&M Aggies' running back coach to become the 16<sup>th</sup> head football coach at N.C. A&T.

Fobbs, 55, has played a vital role on eight different Division I-A staffs as an assistant coach. He began his coaching career in 1975 as a graduate assistant under legendary Grambling coach Eddie Robinson.

After leaving Grambling, Fobbs eventually became the head football coach and athletics director for his high school alma mater, Carroll High School, from 1985-1988. In his final two seasons there, he led Carroll to the Louisiana State Class 2AA semifinals and Class 2AAA quarterfinals, respectively.

Fobbs has coached running backs at three different Division I-A schools over the last nine seasons, and the running backs under his tutelage have enjoyed great success. This past season, Texas

Fobbs' presence. Alabama's offense ranked second in the SEC in total offense in 2002 on its way to the best record in the SEC West. A year earlier, the Crimson Tide led the SEC in rushing.

In 1997, Fobbs' first year as the running back coach at Baylor, running back Darrell Bush averaged a school record 6.73 yards per carry.

The running back position is not the only position Fobbs has coached. He has extensive experience on both sides of the



## STITH CHOSEN FOR HULA BOWL *Western Michigan transfer becomes third Aggie to play in contest*

Three seasons ago, Walter Stith began his collegiate career as a 265-pound tight end at Western Michigan University. Now, he stands as a 6-foot-8, 320-pound National Football League prospect at N.C. A&T. Stith played in the 60<sup>th</sup> annual Hula Bowl Jan. 21.

The Hula Bowl, played at Aloha Stadium in Honolulu, is an environment that showcases talent in front of scouts

## IRVIN, CORBETT HONORED *The two coaches combined to win 14 conference titles*

When anyone thinks of N.C. A&T basketball, two names come to mind – former head men's basketball coaches Calvin "Cal" Irvin and Don Corbett.

For their success and tremendous accomplishments, Irvin and Corbett were honored before the Aggies' nationally televised (ESPN2) game Jan. 30 against Bethune-Cookman at Ellis F. Corbett Sports Center by having the court named in their honor, Cal Irvin-Don Corbett Court.

Among the former players in attendance was Al Attles, vice president of the Golden State Warriors, and a player under Irvin.

"It's so great to be back here and see these men honored," said Attles. "They made it an honor to put on a North Carolina A&T jersey. Guys are still proud today to say they played basketball at North Carolina A&T State University. Coach Irvin not only helped you as a basketball player, but he made you a better person."

Irvin came to A&T in 1954, and in 18 seasons his teams never finished below .500. His success would carry the Aggies over into the Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference where he won the school's first league championship in 1972. His name is listed on the A&T, MEAC (Mid-Eastern Athletic Conference), CIAA (Central Intercollegiate Athletic Conference) and NACDA (National Association of College Directors of Athletics) Hall of Fames.

Eighteen players under his tenure played professionally, including Al Attles, the only HBCU graduate to coach a NBA championship team. Hugh Evans, another star in the Irvin system, has served in the NBA as an official for 35 years.

Irvin finished with a career record of 401-132, including a 308-105 record at A&T. His first CIAA championship came in 1958. Irvin's teams also won CIAA titles in 1959, 1962, 1964, and 1967. The 26 wins the Aggies totaled in 1958 would still be a record today had it not been for Corbett.

Corbett quickly rebuilt the program after an 8-19 first season in 1979-80. His recruiting class began a run that has been unparalleled in MEAC history.

In that class was the first of three All-MEAC players to come out of Rochester, N.Y. Joe Binion would go on to finish his career as the all-time leading scorer and rebounder in school history, leading the Aggies to four MEAC championships.

Corbett's eight consecutive MEAC tournament titles and seven consecutive NCAA tournament appearances are just the tip of the iceberg on Corbett's résumé. Corbett finished with a 249-133 record to rank second on the all-time victories list behind Irvin. He won 20 or more games in six different seasons, including a school best winning percentage of .897 thanks to a 26-3 record in 1986-87.

Also under Corbett's direction, the Aggies ran off a 37-game winning streak in Corbett Sports Center that lasted nearly four years. Corbett has been named MEAC Coach of the Year six times and has had a player win MEAC Player of the Year six times.

When Aggie fans enter the Corbett Sports Center – named for Corbett's great-great uncle Ellis F. Corbett – and look toward the rafters for the score, they will see the legacies of Irvin and Corbett among the many banners hanging down. On the floor, fans also see the Cal Irvin-Don Corbett decal.



# AGGIE SPORTS

continued from page 9

## JONES EARNS PRESEASON BASEBALL HONORS

Jones led the Aggies to their first NCAA Regional last season

Junior outfielder **Jeremy Jones** has been named a candidate for the 2006 Brook Wallace National Player of the Year Award. Jones is one of 120 players across the country named to initial watch list.

Jones also has been named to the 2006 preseason National College Baseball Writers Association of America (NCBWA) All-America Third Team.

Jones batted .402 last season and broke the school's single-season record for hits, when he became the first Aggie ever to compile more than 80 hits, finishing the season with 82. He led the MEAC in batting average, hits, doubles (20), runs scored (53) and was second in RBI (46) on his way to winning MEAC Player of the Year honors in 2005.

Jones also was named *blackcollegebaseball.com*'s Player of the Year as he led the Aggies to the site's No. 1 ranking on three different occasions during the season. He also led the Aggies to their first MEAC Championship since 1993.

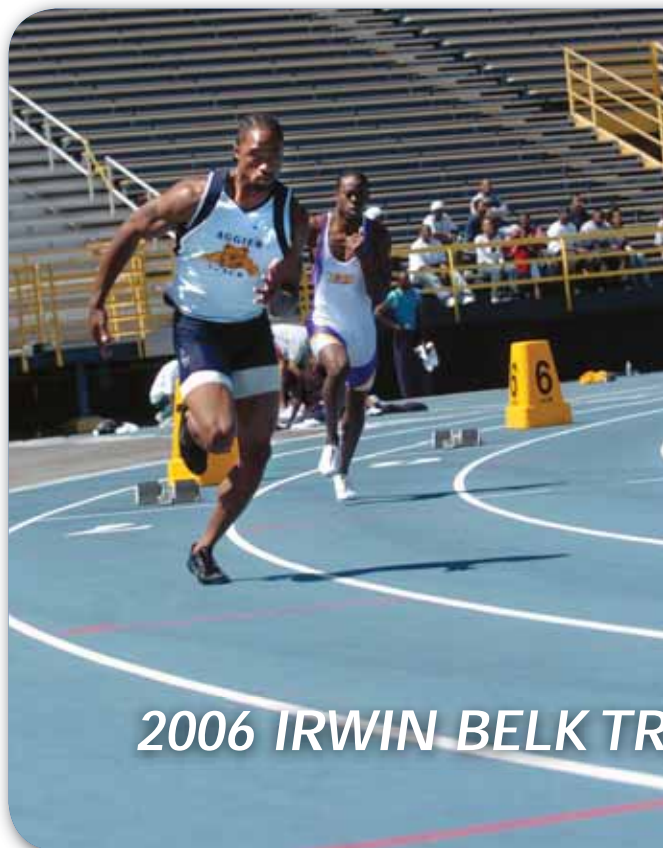
"I think these are great honors for not only Jeremy but for our baseball program, the A&T athletics department and the University as a whole," said Aggie baseball coach Keith Shumate. "We're lucky to have a young man like Jeremy playing in an Aggies uniform. He has done nothing but represent the name



on the jersey with honor."

The Wallace Watch will be trimmed to 12 semifinalists by late May. Then the selection committee will narrow the list to three finalists following the NCAA Super Regionals at a press conference in Omaha, Neb. The award is dedicated to the memory of

former Texas Tech shortstop and assistant coach Brook Wallace, who played shortstop for the Red Raiders (1977-1980) and was a four-year starter. After a two-year career with Texas Rangers organization, he was diagnosed with cancer and fought it courageously until his death in 1985.



## 2006 IRWIN BELK TRACK EVENTS

### APRIL 21-22

Murray Neely Alumni Invitational

### MAY 4-6

MEAC Outdoor Track and Field Championships

### MAY 12-13

Aggie Last Chance Meet

### MAY 19-20

North Carolina High School Athletic Association 1A, 2A, 3A and 4A Outdoor Track and Field Championships

### MAY 26-27

NCAA East Regional Meet

### JUNE 16-17

Nike High School Outdoor Track and Field Championships

### JUNE 28-JULY 2

USATF National Age Group Championships

### JULY 21-23

Russell E. Blunt East Coast Invitational

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# GLOBAL LEARNING

By Colleen P. Grotzky, Ph.D.

EAST MEETS WEST IN RESEARCH PARTNERSHIP EXCHANGE



Left to right: Chancellor Renick, Lakshmi Sankar, Subodh Sankar and Peggy Renick in Bangalore, India. S. Sankar received his master's in mechanical engineering at N.C. A&T.

REPRESENTATIVES FROM NORTH CAROLINA A&T RECENTLY TRAVELED TO INDIA TO FORM EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS AND TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES. These activities are more examples of the University's commitment to forming global strategic partnerships, thus enhancing international service learning programs and experiences for faculty and students.

The delegation led by Chancellor James C. Renick visited in late November through early December, 2005. Accompanied by First Lady Peggy Renick, the chancellor's delegation included Carolyn W. Meyers, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs; N. Radhakrishnan, vice chancellor for research and economic development, and Colleen P. Grotzky, executive assistant to the chancellor. While in India, the delegation was joined by several A&T professors – Jagannathan “Jag” Sankar, Ajit Kelkar, G.B. Reddy, Devdas Pai, Kunigal Shivakumar and Mannur Sundaresan – at various campuses where they were presenting papers and participating in international conferences.

Provost Meyers led the first group visiting Bharati Vidyapeeth Engineering School in Pune, RMK Engineering College in Chennai, the National Aerospace Laboratories in Bangalore and the Bharati Vidyapeeth University in Delhi. Meyers gave presentations on A&T's academic programs with emphasis on implementing the University's interdisciplinary vision. She also signed memoranda of understanding (MOUs) in Pune and Chennai.

Chancellor Renick signed MOUs with six Indian universities and centers including the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay in Mumbai; National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore; Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore; Bharati Vidyapeeth University System, Mumbai, and RMK Engineering College, Chennai.

He also began negotiations for additional agreements with the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras in Chennai and the Composite Material Center, Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore.

The purpose of these agreements is to facilitate the exchange of faculty between the institutions, to attract to A&T's programs faculty who have not completed their doctorates, to recruit graduate students to A&T and to provide opportunities to share research and write joint research proposals.

North Carolina A&T co-sponsored two international conferences during the time of the delegation's visit including the International Conference on Advances in Materials, Product Design and Manufacturing Systems, where Renick gave the opening keynote welcome at Bannari Amman Institute of

Technology in Coimbatore. Meyers represented North Carolina A&T at

the International Conference on Computational and Experimental Engineering and Sciences. A&T faculty presented 17 papers at the two conferences.

Other highlights of the trip included a meeting between Renick, Radhakrishnan and the Honorable Elangovan, the Indian Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, at the capital in Delhi where they discussed globalization and economic development; dinner with A&T master's alumnus Subodh Sankar and his wife Lakshmi; and

visits to the Sankara Eye Clinic where doctors perform almost 1,000 eye surgeries a week on patients that otherwise could not receive this care and to a village adopted by physicians where the school children performed for the delegates. The group also attended a reception for conference attendees at the International Conference on Advances in Materials, Product Design, and Manufacturing Systems where a program of traditional Indian dance was performed.

This spring A&T anticipates hosting several delegations from the universities and centers with whom MOUs have been signed. ♦



Left to right: S.V. Balasubramaniam, chairman of the Bannari Amman Group; James C. Renick, chancellor of N.C. A&T; Peggy Renick, first lady of N.C. A&T, and N. Radhakrishnan (fifth from left), vice chancellor for research and economic development at N.C. A&T, observe as D. Viswanathan, vice chancellor at Anna University, lights a torch to open the International Conference on Advances in Materials, Product Design and Manufacturing Systems. The conference was held at the Bannari Amman Institute of Technology in Sathymangalam.

# one team

## CAMSS director Jag Sankar has a formula for success

Jagannathan "Jag" Sankar has had only one job since receiving his doctorate from Lehigh University more than two decades ago. That one job has kept him so busy, he hasn't had time or inclination to look farther than the Engineering School at N.C. A&T.

As director of the Center for Advanced Materials and Smart Structures (CAMSS), Sankar feels he is at the top of what many educators would consider to be career-achieving status. He also considers that level to be just a beginning for what he wants to achieve.

"I think we are at the stage where I have created a true nucleus of success at CAMSS. Not success itself, but a nucleus from which great things are about to happen," Sankar said.

And many of them could begin happening very quickly.

"People understand the team we have built here," he added. "They understand how the team can go to a level of giving and taking from each other with the end result being much greater than individuals can accomplish. We may need a little more polish, but I believe we are right at the cusp of breaking out and achieving enormous strides in new technology."

Sankar said that his goal is to achieve globalization of the system at A&T. For him, the ultimate success would be to have top researchers take sabbaticals and come to A&T to work.

"I used to ask if I could join with big universities on projects. Now they are asking if they can come here. In the real world there are a lot of small labs working independently,

often on the same concepts. Here we have a place where all want to come and work together," he said.

Sankar is confident in his vision of a global attraction of scientists to A&T and that his team has taken CAMSS to an international level.

"We have something that is not an educational institution so much as it is a place for education. We are fourth in the nation in research, but (we need to gain momentum) in research and development. That is because research is not being converted to development. However, we are about to change that."

The entire mechanical engineering department had one materials research contract and a small laboratory when Sankar came to A&T in 1983 after earning his doctorate in materials engineering. Since joining the small facility, he has been routinely involved in organizing nine major international conferences (including a recent one with NATO) and four major symposia, producing two special journal issues and authoring more than 360 articles and three book chapters.

One of A&T's first two Distinguished Professors, Sankar received the 2004 American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Mentor Award from the editors of Science magazine. He also received the White House Millennium Researcher Award and is a multiple winner of the University's Teacher of the Year Award.

Sankar has been an active participant in the North Carolina Nanotechnology Initiative of the Office of Governor Mike Easley, with a focus on nanoscience research and education for the entire state of North

Carolina. He has secured more than \$23 million in research funding as a principal investigator, and he has established a strong cutting edge interdisciplinary materials research facility under one umbrella.

One of the top projects on the CAMSS wish list is to secure a place for its 25 faculty researchers and graduate assistants in the new Greensboro research park that is designed to target high-tech companies, and they are part of the way there. With more than \$4 million in new federal research money secured and experience at working with private sector end users of their research, they are poised to enter a new phase of education, one Sankar believes will be ideally suited to the mission of the industrial park.

The CAMSS staff at A&T was one of the primary reasons Bodycote Metallurgical Coatings moved to Greensboro two years ago. Based on their joint project, CAMSS scientists and Bodycote developed and patented a technology for coating metals that makes them more durable and heat resistant. The Center specializes in development of products composed of ceramics, composites and human body part replacement materials, for use in replacement of bone.

With proven experience in working with both government and private sector partners on developing practical applications for their research, Sankar says his staff of scientists and engineers already has a primary project designed for the new research park.

Among the current projects that will have practical applications are studies to create tiny smart technology sensors that can be imbedded in cattle to provide early detection of Mad Cow disease and other

# one dream

By James Singleton

illnesses. This project involves a cooperative effort between CAMSS and the nanotechnology center at Wake Forest University.

Sankar also wants to establish a blast center to test how new metals, textiles and plastics can withstand explosions. This would lead to spin-off technology that would encourage creation of new companies, perhaps as many as 15 or 20 developing out of one technological advance.

CAMSS has a separate project to create bioengineering sensors to detect anthrax and other biochemical weapons, a project that could lead to application products within three years or less. The Center also is researching methods to use nanotechnology devices on the metal or ceramic surfaces of jets, ships and buildings to repair cracks and with scientists in the Ukraine to create fuel cells that could be powered with zirconium rather than fossil fuels.

All of this is exciting, but to Jag Sankar the greatest achievement in his professional life is the students he teaches, guides, molds and inspires to success of all kinds. His philosophy of education is – like everything about Jag Sankar – unique.

"I like to teach the seniors because they are going out into real life. I try to teach them with humor, because it sends a message. When a person is laughing, he or she is opening the mind and relaxing to accept information. This lowers the barriers to learning.



Jagannathan "Jag" Sankar  
Director, Center for Advanced Materials and Smart Structures

"I do not teach my students to be an engineer," he says. "I teach them to be a person who is an engineer and a leader. I prepare them to be a person everyone wants to emulate. I teach them how to be a true leader. I have only two conditions for my colleagues: they must pass the baton by encouraging their students to reach for success, and everyone must produce quality work."

Sankar's view to the future is exciting, both for him and for his colleagues. They are on a course to lead the way in creating new sciences and new products through interdisciplinary programs that will link engineering and biosciences. This will happen, partly because Jag Sankar will inspire the cooperation among scientists, educational institutions, the private sector and government to make it happen.

Sankar began the process more than a year ago, traveling to universities and manufacturing companies in his native India, and to China, South Korea and Italy to form new alliances for A&T.

He willingly shares his view of the future with his colleagues, subtly ensnaring them into a web of excitement that seems to embrace virtually everyone he meets. He does it through a singularly unique personality and his personal view of what can happen if all who work with him adopt his view of success.

"It is important to me that people recognize A&T and what we can accomplish together. That drives my life," he says. "My motto is one team, one dream."

It all seems so simple when he says it. Simple and believable.



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# DESTINED *to* LEAD

*Velma Speight-Buford is the first alumna elected chair of the N.C. A&T Board of Trustees*

By Darlene F. East '04

Meet Velma Speight-Buford '53, the industrious, influential and insightful new chairman of North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University Board of Trustees.

There was no irony or coincidence to Speight-Buford's election as chairman on Sept. 21, 2005. The 71-year-old was simply fulfilling the prediction made in 1979 by one of her mentors, William "Bill" Friday, president emeritus of the University System who said, "The day will come ..."

During that time, she spent many hours working with Friday and Lewis C. Dowdy, the sixth chancellor of A&T (1964-1980), on projects or discussing policies concerning higher education that would prepare her for the inevitable future.

Her retirement as director of A&T's Alumni Affairs Office on Dec. 31, 1997, and appointment to the trustee board in Jan. 1998 by the Board of Governors and subsequent reappointments in 2001 and 2005 were a part of that inevitability.

Dowdy and Friday sensed it even then: her sharpness in discerning elements of legislation not visible to the eye, the tenacity she exhibited concerning civil rights and her constant concern for ensuring that black children receive quality education.

Others sensed it too.

When Deloris C. Chisley '73 talks about Speight-Buford, it is obvious that she understands what her mentors meant. Chisley, who met her in the mid 1970s at a regional alumni meeting in Cincinnati, Ohio, and serves on one of the University's Futures committees said, "Her ascension to chairman of the board has been inevitable."

She went on to say that over her 50 years as an alumna, Speight-Buford has worked with many board members using her gift to assimilate facts and data to figure out the best course of action to insure A&T's viability and a sound future.

Her comments represent the first cord in the ecclesiastical principle, "A cord of three strands is not quickly broken."

Powerful testimonies from Teresa M. Davis '89 and Albert S. "Al" Lineberry Jr. are the second and third strands.

Lineberry, a freshman member of the board said, "Her capacity to educate others is an evident drive that will make her an outstanding leader for our board."

"She is a visionary ... a forward-thinker," said Davis, former employee of Speight-Buford and now national president of the N.C. A&T Alumni Association, Inc. "What she can provide ... is priceless and unmatched."

The giftedness of the Greene County, N.C., native was immediately recognized by her first-grade teacher who advised the small child to ignore roadblocks and detours when she observed her torn and tattered textbooks. Later, her high school teacher challenged her to pursue excellence.

In 1949, she met the challenge by graduating from high school at 15 as valedictorian of her class, began her freshman year at A&T that fall, and four years later graduated summa cum laude with a B.S. degree in mathematics and French.

Speight-Buford inherited her work ethics from her parents John Thomas Speight, a farmer, and Mable Edwards Speight, a seamstress, and remembers the day she was sent off to college.

"My father put me on the bus, gave me one dollar and told me to work hard, do a good job, be the best and not to come home until Christmas," she said.

Her daughter, Chineta K. Davis, is familiar with her grandfather's standards and her mother's story.

"We often laugh about that story," she said, "but at the same time we are very serious because we know that our character building started a long time ago in this family."

Speight-Buford obeyed her father's instructions. Her vita is impressive, diverse and lengthy. The pages yield over 41 years as a professional educator who has been involved in academia at many levels.

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The Fulbright Scholar has been teacher, administrator, counselor, department chair at two universities and representative for the U.S. at the International Conference on Early Childhood Education in Japan.

Who's Who listings are too numerous to mention, and there is not sufficient space to record her 200 plus plaques, honors and awards, appointments by governors, professional memberships and service on boards and committees.

But these accolades, while meaningful and important, are not the Velma Speight-Buford she wants the world to see, to hear, to know and to follow. The dedicated leader and nurturer wants people to know her as a leader who is challenged to make a difference in people's lives and, by doing so, they are challenged.

It goes without saying that the first challenge is to be passionate about something. She is a passionate and proud Aggie.

Shirley T. Frye '53, retired vice president for community affairs at WFMY-TV/News 2 in Greensboro, has been Speight-Buford's close friend since their college days. Frye knows the depth of her friend's passion for their alma mater.

"Velma is a person who loves A&T, and I spell that l-u-v-s because she feels very passionate about giving back," said Frye. "I have been in her company ... and we have met alumni who have been away for years ... and she tells them, 'and now its time for you to give!'"

Her love is evidenced by the phenomenal manner in which she has given to her alma mater, not only in time and talents but her treasures as well.

The shy little girl who came to A&T with one dollar lives in a modest home, drives a modest car, and has donated nearly \$1.2 million in assets to A&T. Upon her death, the University will receive \$1 million from an insurance policy that is paid in full.

Memories of torn and tattered secondhand textbooks motivate her to constantly fund an account for any A&T student who needs them, and she is known for providing students with individual gifts of tuition, shelter, food and clothing.

For her unselfish giving, she received the prestigious Kresge Philanthropy Award in May 2003 for outstanding philanthropy by African American alumni of historically black colleges and universities.

Her giving extends into her community and beyond.

It took four decades and five presidents to implement the No Child Left Behind program. They "ain't got nothin'" on Speight-Buford. She was modeling it way before it was on our nation's agenda.

When the torrential rains of Hurricane Floyd swelled the rivers in Eastern North Carolina in 1999 and the recent flood waters of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita swept the Gulf Coast, Speight-Buford was among the first to contribute generously.

Speight-Buford the director of the Greensboro area Call for Action, an international network of consumer hotlines affiliated with local TV station WFMY News 2 that has helped thousands of consumers to recover services or money lost in unfair dealings.

The challenge for Speight-Buford, however, is not her title or the network that she has available to accomplish the task, but by driving a client to an appointment to advocate on their behalf.

She is a defensive Aggie who will not allow A&T's integrity to be challenged. An excellent example of this is when the dean of the graduate school at the University of Maryland-College Park told her that A&T had not prepared her for their Ph.D. program. She responded by graduating from their program with a 3.9 GPA.

If you want to know what real love is, ask Melvin C. Swann Jr., who is not an A&T graduate but does know when a woman is in love.

"Velma Speight-Buford has had a love affair with North Carolina A&T over the years," said Swann a former board member and longtime friend. "A&T has been a priority on her agenda since her student days."

Swann is right and she is quick to admit the love affair began when Jean W. Spinner, dean of women, in 1949 showed the scared little girl standing in Holland Hall some love.

Speight-Buford's ability to love, give and prepare others for successes are values she exemplifies as wife and mother. Her daughter and husband, William M. Buford, continue to be amazed by her accomplishments, especially her election as chairman of A&T's trustees.

"My mother is my role model," said Davis. "I think that sometimes when we are growing up we don't realize that we are learning our parent's behavior. I am happy that I have learned them."

She and Buford agree that home life with her is hectic but there is always time for them and her granddaughters, Kelli and Lindsay.

Chuckling, Buford said, "It's quite interesting, to say the least, but we enjoy the time we share together whether it's at home or in conjunction with her outside activities."

How can one person achieve so much?

John A. Petty '70, immediate past national alumni president, says, "Velma's leadership values are reflected in her character."

What does Speight-Buford say?

"I know about time management," she said. "My mother taught me all about it. She would get up at 4 a.m., clean our house, cook three meals, wash clothes, get her three children off to school and was out in the field helping my father by 7 a.m."

Twenty-six years after Bill Friday's prediction, Speight-Buford's day has come and the avid historian is also making history.

"I am particularly honored to lead this board at this time, for it has the greatest number of women members in its history – four of us," said Speight-Buford. "In this board's existence of 114 years, only 11 women (including the four) have served on the board."

In her official speech, Speight-Buford challenged the members to become knowledgeable about Futures, the strategic vision plan for A&T and to fulfill the University's mission by staying abreast of emerging trends, changing cultures, and engaging in all aspects of policy-making that affects it.

Her final challenge for them will be the same one that she has impeccably demonstrated for over five decades, giving generously to A&T.



*Speight-Buford is simply fulfilling the prediction made in 1979 by one of her mentors, William "Bill" Friday, who said, "The day will come ..."*

# VENTURED & GAINED

By Darlene F. East '04



## Good study habits and hard work pay off for Sentel president and co-founder James F. Garrett

*Above: Sentel president and co-founder James F. Garrett credits many of his experiences at A&T to his accomplishments in life.*

Entrepreneur James F. Garrett's journey to success is a powerful example of an A&T graduate who possesses the acumen to turn a vision into reality and the faith to pledge \$250,000 to his alma mater's \$100 million capital campaign.

The 1964 graduate is president and co-founder of Sentel Corp. (No. 82 on *Black Enterprise's* Industrial/Service 100 list), an engineering and computer software company founded in 1987 with three employees and one \$33,000 subcontract for the Navy.

Sentel, recently acquired by Dimensions International, Inc. operating as a wholly owned subsidiary, is located in Alexandria, Va. It has more than 350 employees, 49 million in annual revenues and has won numerous awards for its innovative technology, ability to find solutions to highly complex problems, client-driven commitment and team concept for getting the job done.

In April 2005, the BIO IT (Bioscience Information Technology) Coalition awarded Sentel the Innovation of the Year Prize at its first awards for best practices in BIO IT. The company is also a finalist for the 2005 Alexandria Technology Achievement Award.

Under Garrett's leadership, it provides engineering services in software development, electromagnetic environmental effects, test and evaluation, and chemical/biological agent detect for the Department of Defense, NASA, FAA, the Department of Homeland Security and the cellular wireless industry.

One of eight siblings, Garrett was born in Reidsville, N.C. He learned about the "real world" working beside his mother and stepfather in tobacco and cotton fields.

Young Garrett's journey to entrepreneurship began on those fields and continued in

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## Acumen is key element to Elijah and Marilyn Thorne's success

A&T alumni Elijah W. Thorne '64 and his wife Marilyn '63 are excellent models of good will and thoughtful reflection, innate sensitivities that are the roots of philanthropy.

"We believe it is the responsibility of our generation to lead and educate the next generation in giving," said Mrs. Thorne, the daughter of Mack and Hilda Wilder, sharecroppers.

In 2004, the couple lived up to what they believe is their responsibility. They gave the University an outright gift of \$100,000. Along with James F. Garrett '64, the three represent the first time in A&T's history that living alumni made an outright gift of cash at this level.

The Thorne's gift is not from inherited money but profits from their company, Grayhound Trash Removal, Inc. (named after the fleet dog and fleet of buses known for speed), started in 1968 by Elijah.

Headquartered in Upper Marlboro, Md., it employs about 19 people and provides refuse

collection/recycling, street sweeping, and equipment leasing (rental/leasing of portable toilets) services for universities, governmental agencies and private enterprises.

As a lad, Thorne began to dream about owning his business as he worked side by side with his uncle in the building trade and observed how hard his father and mother worked to support their three offspring.

"I liked the building trade with my uncle, so when I entered high school, I enrolled in bricklaying," said Thorne. "I soon found out that I had great talent in that area."

While in high school, he attended vocational competitions held at A&T and liked the warm atmosphere of the campus. Adept in bricklaying and other skills related to construction management, he enrolled in the School of Technology.

*Above: Elijah and Marilyn Thorne's \$100,000 gift to N. C. A&T.*

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Sedalia Public High School where he was at the top of his class, having a keen interest and high aptitude in math and science.

It was at A&T, however, where the electrical engineering major received a firm, solid background in the benefits of studying and working hard.

"I learned that if you study and work hard, you can see the results," he said.

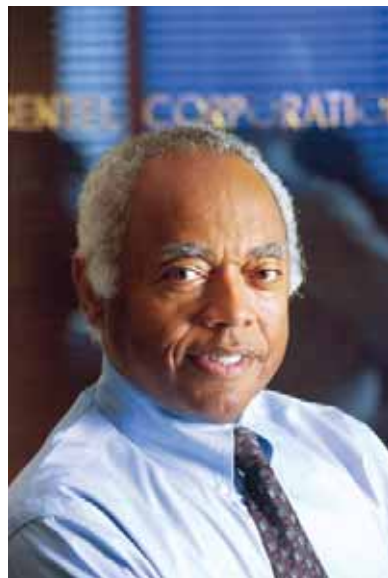
While he studied hard and worked to support himself at A&T, Garrett also found time to learn leadership skills. He was involved in fraternities, served as head of the Pan-Hellenic Council, elected vice president of his senior class and commissioned an officer in the Army ROTC.

Garrett's good study habits, work ethics, sound teaching from his professors and leadership skills have paid off for him over and over again since his graduation 41 years ago.

In the 1960s, very few blacks supervised whites. But, the fruits of his labor and his preparation at A&T became apparent when he was assigned by the Army to an environment where he supervised 20 officers and 3,000 civilians.

"All of them were white but I was the only black officer," Garrett said. "I was 23 years old and placed in charge of other engineers because of my engineering degree and I was military."

After he retired from the military and began working for the Navy with engineers from Georgia Tech, Ohio State and MIT, Garrett learned for the second time that not only had A&T prepared him to compete but to excel. His professors had taught him to think analytically but also insisted that his writing, presentation and oratorical skills be top notch, too.



Those skills and working as a civilian director of the Systems Electromagnetics Division at the Naval Sea Systems Command, where he was responsible for topside design of all Navy ships, set the stage for Garrett's climb to a successful 21<sup>st</sup> century award winning entrepreneur.

Garrett is often called upon to share the secrets of his success.

While employed with the Navy, Garrett was U.S. representative to NATO as chief technical spokesman on electromagnetic interference in Navy ships. And on Sept.19, 2005, he was interviewed on Tomorrow's Business, an acclaimed radio show in Washington, D.C., that invites guests who are leaders in their fields.

Garrett is a family man, and his wife Joyce and their two children – Rodney and Melanie – support and understand the sharecropper's son's vision. As a deacon in his church, he is developing an entrepreneurship program for young people who want to start their own business. Along with Sentel, he has given more than \$100,000 in scholarships to help inner-city youth, mainly African Americans, desiring to attend college.

His penchant for entrepreneurship and community involvement, however, does not transcend the vision he embraces for giving back to his alma maters, A&T and Southeastern University (M.B.A.), especially A&T.

The 2000 A&T Alumni Excellence Award recipient believes that it takes vision and faith to give and that ultimately good comes out of your giving.

"A lot of my giving is wrapped up in the future as well as the past," he said. "I credit a lot of my experiences at A&T to my accomplishments in life."

In 2005, Garrett's vision and faith in A&T's future inspired him to make an outright gift of \$100,000 toward his pledge of \$250,000 to support the students and academic programs in the College of Engineering.

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Thorne's dream of owning a business was nurtured at A&T, and the training he received in the School of Technology helped him focus on the idea.

"My professors not only taught me the trade but gave me jobs in their building and construction companies," said Thorne.

After graduation Thorne worked as a bricklayer for several construction companies and for two years, taught industrial arts and bricklaying/masonry at an Opportunities Industrial Center.

He continued to be restless; the dream of owning a business always lurking in his mind.

Then one day Thorne started listening to an elderly neighbor who worked for the government but picked up trash part time. It turned out that the neighbor's income from the part time job was five times greater than his government job.

Thorne started thinking and began to put his A&T training to work. He rode the truck with his neighbor in order to learn more about the trash removal business.

Drawing from his education at A&T, his experience in construction and fueled with the confidence of a born entrepreneur, building technology changed to solid waste technology.

"I felt that I could do well, so I quit my teaching position, withdrew my retirement, purchased a used truck and immediately began bidding on trash contracts," he said.

However, his wife Marilyn was not excited about her husband's decision.

"When Elijah decided to start his business, I was employed full time as a nurse, pregnant with our third child and frightened," she said. "Elijah grew up in a family that owned businesses, but I had not! Besides, my dream was to attend A&T and become a professional."

**GIVING BACK  
TO A&T IS NOT  
A DIFFICULT TASK  
BECAUSE THEY  
WANT THEIR  
UNIVERSITY TO HAVE A  
PREDICTABLE INCOME  
FROM GENERATION  
TO GENERATION.**

Her dream began when an older brother brought home A&T's yearbooks. After she attended Senior Day and 4-H Club camps, M. Thorne said, "I was hooked!"

She chose nursing because a family acquaintance loved nursing and spoke highly of the profession. "Since I excelled in math and science, it seemed like a good choice," she said.

Over the years, both Thornes worked hard to build their company and when Elijah retired November 30, 2001, the once "frightened" wife, mother and nurse took over as president/CEO of the family business.

E. Thorne has received several awards for recycling, recognized for significant service to A&T's School of Technology and in 1994 received the Outstanding Alumnus Award.

For her courage, philanthropic and career achievements, community and ABWA involvement and professional development, M. Thorne has the distinction of being one of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) 2005 Top Ten Business Women.

The Thornes believe in "causes" and A&T. They are always involved in some type of activity with the Washington D.C. Alumni Association to support the University and, consequently, were quick to respond to Chancellor James C. Renick's request to co-chair the February One Monument Campaign with James F. Garrett '64.

Moreover, they protested with the A&T Four and believed that because of their vision and courage, they changed the face of civil rights, paving the way for their (Thornes) success as business owners.

"Working on the project and seeing it through to completion was very humbling and rewarding," said M. Thorne. Elijah agreed.

Giving back to A&T is not a difficult task or sacrifice because they want their University to have a predictable income from generation to generation.

*continued, page 27*

continued from page 24

His gift is historic. Garrett, along with Elijah and Marilyn Thorne, are the first living alumni to make outright gifts of \$100,000 to the University.

“Jim Garrett represents what is best about A&T alumni,” Chancellor James C. Renick said. “He is an entrepreneur, a leader, a thoughtful citizen and his generosity to A&T is indeed historic!”

Garrett also gives of his time and talent.

He co-chaired the University’s February One Monument campaign with the Thornes. Using

“IF A&T HAD 100 PERCENT IN GIVING IT WOULD DEMONSTRATE TO PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS THAT WE ARE PEOPLE WHO CARE ABOUT EDUCATION, WE CARE ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE, WE CARE ABOUT KNOWLEDGE, AND WE CARE ABOUT OURSELVES.” — James F. Garrett '64

traditional and innovative fund raising ideas, they gained the support of alumni and business sources, raising \$200,000. The money helped sponsor the sculpture in honor of the four A&T freshmen who dared to sit down at the whites-only lunch counter at the F.W. Woolworth’s and asked to be served.

Garrett feels good about that campaign and would do it again.

“I thought it was a good effort and that it brought a lot of people together,” he said.

He has a very aggressive belief regarding giving to A&T. It should not be confined to just alumni but administration, faculty, staff and students.

Garrett said, “If A&T had 100 percent in giving it would demonstrate to prospective students that we are people who care about education, we care about other people, we care about knowledge and we care about ourselves.

“When you give, you can not just look at the money. You must look at the whole experience of what your giving means. It means that you have given of yourself and when you do that, you encourage and help other people. That’s what giving is about.”

continued from page 25

To accomplish this, they have diversified their giving to support three endowed scholarships.

A gift of \$25,000 was given to the School of Technology and another \$25,000 to the School of Nursing because they are grateful for the nurturing and sound education that they received as students which prepared them to become successful entrepreneurs and citizens. They also have established the Thorne Emergency Fund with a gift of \$25,000 to assist students during difficult times, an area familiar to both.

“When we were in school, we had periods of great need and there was no place for us to go for help other than family, friends or self,” said the couple.

Five years ago, Marilyn convinced her oldest sister Annie Henderson, she was 79 at the time, to participate in A&T’s Financed Philanthropy Fund. In order to pay for the cost of Annie’s life insurance – A&T is the beneficiary – the Thornes have given \$25,000.

Many people might feel that \$100,000 is enough. Not the Thornes.

In 2004 when the Thornes set up their endowments, an additional \$20,000 scholarship was established in the

name of Hilda Wilder to honor Marilyn’s mother who had a second-grade education but encouraged her 10 children to reach for the sky.

A&T students will benefit from this gift, too. The scholarship is held by the Education Advancement Fund, the non-for profit arm of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. In 2009, members of A&T’s Alpha Phi Chapter will be eligible to receive scholarships.

Chancellor Renick is very pleased with their gifts.

“The Thornes are deeply loyal Aggies who have placed A&T at the center of their philanthropy, as a result of their business success,” he said.

The Thornes are in remembrance; they know that without their college experiences at A&T they would not be successful entrepreneurs today. So it is conceivable that 46 years later, like the A&T Four, they too want to change a face, the face of giving to their alma mater.

“So, to whom much is given, much is expected in return,” said Marilyn Thorne.



## 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 endowment 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 endowment 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.

### AMOUNTS REQUIRED

<b>Endowed Scholarship (minimum)</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>
<b>Fully Endowed Scholarship</b>	<b>\$200,000</b>
<i>North Carolina or Washington, D.C. Student</i>	
<b>Fully Endowed Scholarship</b>	<b>\$400,000</b>
<i>Out of State Student</i>	

The minimum amount to establish an endowed scholarship is \$25,000 and may be donated over a period of up to five years (\$5,000 gifts annually for five years). One year after the principal reaches \$25,000, the first scholarship award may be made. (One year is needed after the minimum is reached to earn interest.)

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 from North Carolina (or 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.

IAJS PLANS

# FORUM, TRAVEL



*in 2006*

The **INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED JOURNALISM STUDIES** at North Carolina A&T State University will host a **PUBLIC FORUM**, a **GOLF TOURNAMENT** and a **CRUISE** this year.

**PUBLIC FORUM** Beyond Rosa Parks: Civil Rights in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century will bring leaders from four of the nation's Big Five civil rights organizations together on stage for the first time ever to discuss the future of the Civil Rights Movement. This historic event will be held Friday, April 21, 7-9 p.m., in the Alumni-Foundation Event Center.

The confirmed participants are Marc Morial, president, National Urban League; Wade Henderson, executive director, Leadership Conference on Civil Rights; Ted Shaw, director-counsel and president, NAACP Legal Defense Fund, and Barbara Arnwine, executive director, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law.

**GOLF TOURNAMENT** Join *USA Today* columnist and Institute director DeWayne Wickham for IAJS' first golf tournament Friday, July 28, at Eagle Creek Golf Club in Orlando, Fla. Proceeds will benefit IAJS and the campus' student chapter of the National Association of Black Journalists.

The cost of the 8 a.m. shotgun start tourney is \$150, which includes a continental breakfast, greens fees, range balls, cart fees and lunch. The awards luncheon will be hosted by a surprise celebrity.

**CARIBBEAN CRUISE** Set sail with IAJS on Royal Caribbean's Freedom of the Seas, the world's newest and largest cruise ship. The cruise departs Miami Sunday, July 30, and returns Sunday, Aug. 6.

The ship has extensive WiFi capabilities and connectivity for cell phones as well as flat-screen televisions in every stateroom. For booking information, contact Millennium Travel Group at (410) 356-0800.

*For more information about these activities and the Institute for Advanced Journalism Studies, contact*

**TERRI LONG at (336) 256-2261.**

# PEOPLE BEHIND *the* SCHOLARSHIPS

CHARLES "CHUCK" BURCH '82

## WHY I ESTABLISHED A SCHOLARSHIP AT A&T

When he entered A&T in the late 1970s, Detroit native Chuck Burch wasn't sure if he wanted to study accounting or journalism. Thanks to the nurturing environment he found at A&T, Burch ditched journalism and concentrated on accounting – a move that has served him well since he graduated in 1982.

Burch eventually settled in Dallas, Texas, where the CPA and certified financial planner owns a firm, The Burch Financial Group.

Five years ago, he decided the time had come to repay A&T for all it has given him. He established the Charles Burch Scholarship that is given to Texas students heading to A&T.

"I was the recipient of a scholarship when I came to A&T," Burch says. "Someone or a group of people helped me get from Detroit to North Carolina, and I want to do the same because I know how valuable it is to

receive funding when you need money to fulfill your dream."

Burch believes his scholarship gives recipients the chance to attend a school that encourages them to find their life's calling.

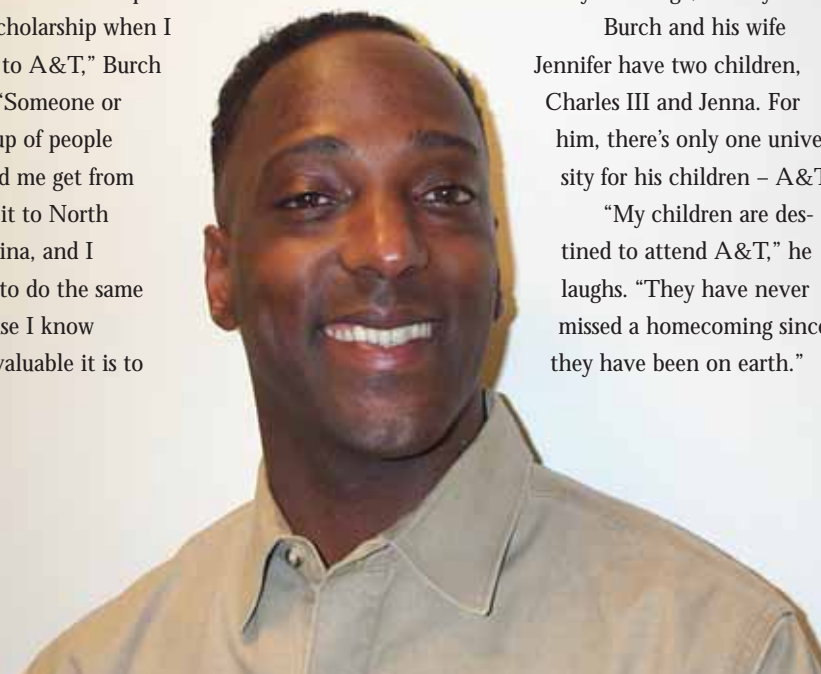
"I run into a lot of students who don't know what they want to do but want to be in an environment that nurtures them and encourages them to find out what they want to do," Burch explains. "That's why I'm so big on A&T."

The financial planner sees the scholarship as a top-notch investment in the future.

"I'm investing in children so that someone will look out for my children when they are of age," he says.

Burch and his wife Jennifer have two children, Charles III and Jenna. For him, there's only one university for his children – A&T.

"My children are destined to attend A&T," he laughs. "They have never missed a homecoming since they have been on earth."



# ALUMNI NEWS

## AGGIES ON THE MOVE



**Donna A. James '79**, president of Nationwide Strategic Investments, a division of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company, received the Alumni Excellence Award during North Carolina A&T State University's fall commencement ceremony. James recently was named one of the 75 Most Powerful African Americans in Corporate America by *Black Enterprise* magazine.

### 1960s

The American Legacy Foundation® has named a scholarship in honor of its board member **Alma S. Adams '68** as an expression of gratitude for six years of dedicated service and leadership. The Alma Adams Scholarship for Outreach and Health Communications to Reduce Tobacco Use among Priority Populations will award a total of \$10,000 annually for up to two candidates to pursue undergraduate or graduate studies at an accredited institution of higher education in the United States. A professional artist and educator, Adams is a professor at Bennett College for Women in Greensboro, N.C. In addition, she has been a member of the North Carolina House of Representatives since 1994, representing District 58.

### 1970s



Greenville, S.C., attorney and entrepreneur **Merl F. Code '70** has joined Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart, P.C. (Ogletree Deakins) as Of

Counsel. Code will concentrate his practice in the areas of positive employee relations and diversity. In addition to his legal practice with Ogletree Deakins, Code serves on a number of boards of directors including Blue Cross/Blue Shield of South Carolina, BB&T, The

Urban League, The Phyllis Wheatley Center, The United Way, The South Carolina Independent Colleges and Universities, the Hollingsworth Fund, and The Board of Advisors of Furman University. He is also a principal in several business ventures.

A painting by **Kenneth Rodgers '71** hangs on the grounds of the State Capitol in Raleigh, N.C. The commissioned portrait is of the first African American member of the Council of State and the first African American state auditor for North Carolina, Ralph Campbell. It is also the first official portrait to hang in any state office by an African American artist. The formal oil portrait, like all portraits in state government buildings, was presented to the North Carolina Museum of History, which owns it. The portrait will hang permanently in the State Auditor's Building alongside portraits of previous state auditors dating to the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Rodgers is director of the North Carolina Central University Art Museum.

### 1980s

**Wayne Turnage '80** has been appointed deputy chief of staff for Virginia Governor Tim Kaine. Turnage previously served in a dual capacity as advisor to the governor for special projects and director of policy and research at the Virginia Department of Medical Assistance Services.

**Michael R. Shaw '83** was recently promoted to lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Air Force. Shaw is director of financial management at Eglin Air Force



Base in Florida. He serves as the chief financial officer for the Air Armament Center and he is responsible for all center-wide financial operations with an annual \$4 billion budget supporting munitions acquisition, test evaluation and support operations.

**David Harrison '85**, director of the Office of Minority Student Services at the Fisher College of Business at The Ohio State University, has been named 2005 MBA of the Year by the National Black MBA Association. Harrison is the immediate past president of the Columbus chapter of NMBBAA. Under his leadership, the chapter doubled its membership and established the Leaders of Tomorrow mentorship program.



**Dmitri Stockton '86** has been appointed president and CEO of GE Consumer Finance for Central and Eastern Europe.

Stockton joined GE Consumer Finance in 2001 from GE Mortgage Insurance, a

component of GE Commercial Finance, where he was senior vice president for business development. From 1999 to 2001, he was senior vice president, marketing, for GE Mortgage Insurance. Stockton joined GE in 1987 from Arthur Anderson.

### 1990s

**Lee E. White '93** is president of Technology Specialists, Inc. (TSI) in Annapolis, Md. The company is a technology solutions provider to state and federal government agencies in the United States. In November 2005, the Baltimore Business Journal ranked TSI 18<sup>th</sup> among its top 20 minority owned firms (based on 2004 revenue) and 11<sup>th</sup> among the top 25 IT/computer resellers.

Richmond, Va., Councilwoman **Jackie Jackson '94** (District 8) was elected a regional director for the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials at the 2005 National League of Cities Conference that was held in Charlotte, N.C., in December. Representing Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, the District of Columbia, Maryland and Delaware, Jackson will be responsible for communicating and advancing the issues, policy changes and legislative agendas of the cities and towns within the region.



Goldsboro, N.C., native **Tyrone Stanley '95** recently performed in "The Color of Our Music," a concert held at Loyola College. Stanley is a musician, dancer and actor who has been seen in musicals such as "Once on this Island," "Ain't Misbehavin'" and "God's Trombones." He also has made appearances on "The Dave Chappelle Show," "Sex and the City" and "All My Children." Stanley presently performs in New York City and in May he will appear as Marvin Gaye in the story of Gaye's life and music.

AGGIES ON THE MOVE continued, page 32

# ALUMNI NEWS

## AGGIES ON THE MOVE

continued from page 31

**John Williams Jr. '95** has been the director of strength and conditioning at Baylor University since 2002. Prior to joining the staff at BU, Williams was an assistant strength coach at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



**Stefanie B. Lomax '96** 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 Largo, Md. Lomax has a M.S. degree in human resource management from the University of Maryland.

**Tameka Vance '99** has completed the requirements for the M.B.A. degree at High Point University and she plans to graduate in May. In April, Vance will present her paper, "Will Wal-Mart's Use of RFID Technology Sustain Their Supply Chain Dominance," at the 2006 Society for Advancement of Management International Business Conference in Orlando, Fla.

**Aaron N. Taylor**, an admissions officer at Harvard Graduate School of Education, has been chosen as a Harvard University Administrative Fellow for 2005-06. The fellowship program is targeted at those committed to addressing the under-representation of people of color in higher education administration. Fellows are assigned to an academic administration position within the university for one year. Another Aggie, **Jabbar R. Bennett**, was a fellow during academic year 2004-05.

## In Memoriam

### Alumni

- Rose Mary Allen**, Nov. 13, 2005
- Andrew A. Best '47**, Dec. 7, 2005
- Evelyn M. Butler '40**, Aug. 26, 2005
- Yohanze Noel Alexander Daise '05**
- Charlsie Runnels Atwood '78 M.A.**, Nov. 16, 2005
- Samuel B. Ford Jr.**, Feb. 23, 2005
- Robert L. Hannon Sr., Ph.D. '37 M.A.**, Oct. 14, 2005
- Clarence Harper '58**, Oct. 26, 2005
- Robert V. "Bob" Harris '49**, Oct. 22, 2005
- Alfred H. Jones '80**, Sept. 18, 2005
- James D. Morgan '41**, Aug. 1, 2005
- Lindell P. Parr '49**, Sept. 22, 2005
- Clara Brown Pridgen**, Aug. 15, 2005
- Helen M. Spears Shankle '02**, Oct. 8, 2005
- John Southerland '50**, Sept. 1, 2005
- Robert A. Williamson Jr.**, Sept. 28, 2005

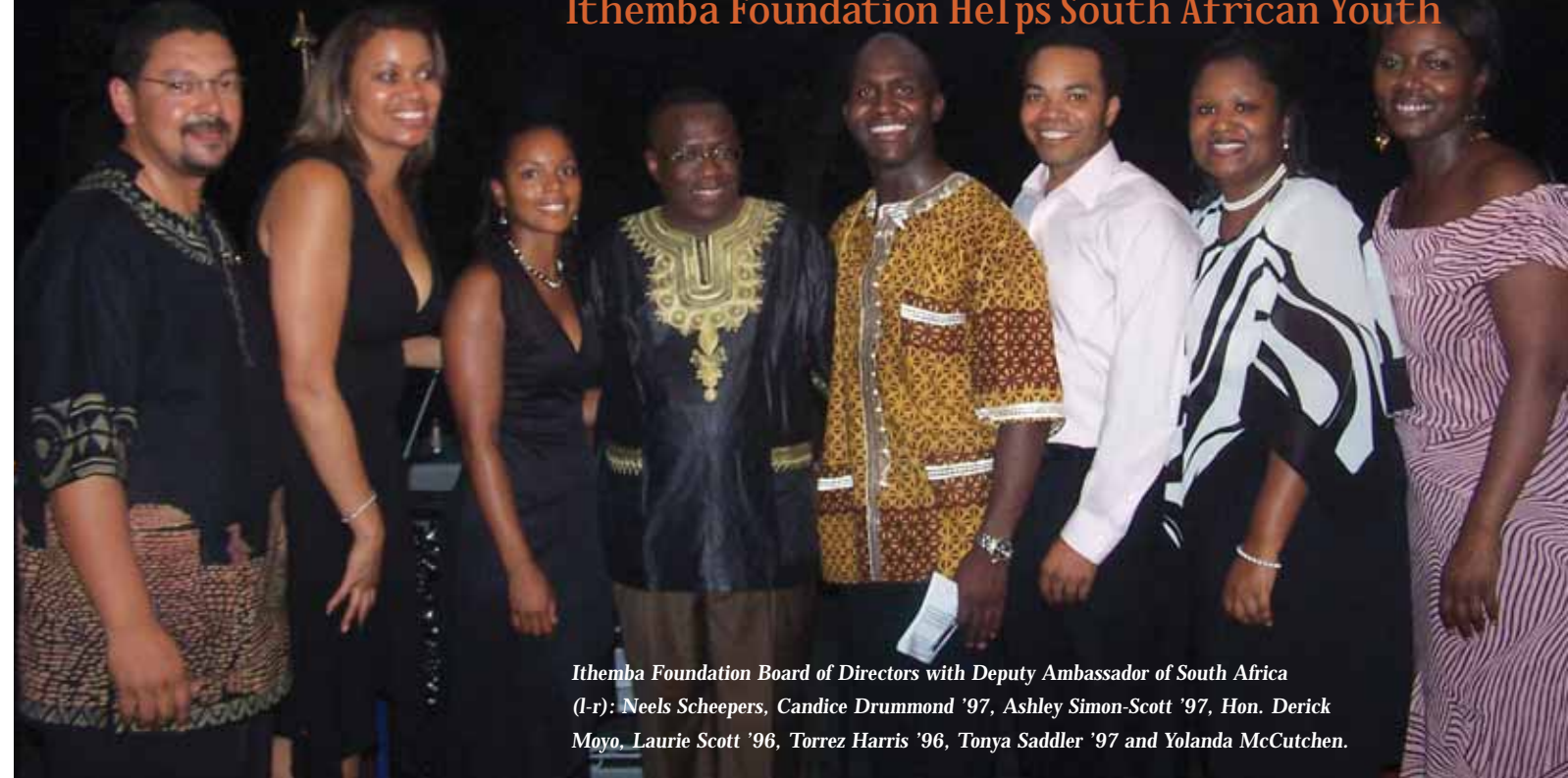
### Others

- Alberta Jones Dalton**, former director of staff development, Jan. 3
- Sandra M. Hicks**, retired assistant professor, Sept. 3, 2005
- Richard A. Jackson, Ph.D.**, adjunct assistant professor, Dec. 14, 2005
- Tiffany H. Kittrell**, student, Nov. 15, 2005
- Carla M. Marshall**, student, Nov. 15, 2005
- Joseph R. Sidlowski**, Ph.D. candidate
- Jabari Stewart**, student, Jan. 8
- Lynai B. Thorne**, student, Nov. 15, 2005

Photos are compliments of Ithemba Foundation.

# ALUMNI NEWS

## Ithemba Foundation Helps South African Youth



*Ithemba Foundation Board of Directors with Deputy Ambassador of South Africa (l-r): Neels Scheepers, Candice Drummond '97, Ashley Simon-Scott '97, Hon. Derick Moyo, Laurie Scott '96, Torrez Harris '96, Tonya Saddler '97 and Yolanda McCutchen.*

**Aggie Pride** and achievement were evident at the Ithemba Foundation's premiere charity event, "A Taste of South Africa," which was held last fall Aug. 20, 2005, in Washington, D.C., at the residence of the deputy ambassador of South Africa, the Hon. Derick Moyo.

Attendees included South African Ambassador to the United States, Her Excellency Barbara J. Masakela; former U.S. Ambassador to Botswana, the Hon. Horace G. Dawson, and a wide array of international, national and local politicians. Judy Rashid '74, dean of students at N.C. A&T, addressed the audience highlighting the importance of Ithemba's efforts and her very own experiences in South Africa.

The Ithemba Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization that was chartered in 2002 by A&T graduates who personally saw the ravaging effects of apartheid. The name Ithemba was chosen because it means "hope" in Xhosa and Zulu, two of South Africa's official languages. Thus, the foundation serves to instill

hope by exposing under-privileged youth to empowering educational and social programs, which all proceeds from the charity event served to support.

Five A&T alumni are members on the current board of directors: Laurie Scott '96, executive director; Torrez Harris '96, director of operations; Ashley Simon-Scott '97, information officer; Candice Drummond '97, financial officer, and Tonya Saddler '97, internal correspondence secretary.



In its short existence, Ithemba has under-written four core programs in South Africa:

- **Leadership Camps** – Biannual camps expose youth to challenging outdoor activities that reinforce team building, conflict resolution, effective communication and problem solving skills
- **School Meals** – Provide supplemental meals to impoverished school aged children who may not receive adequate nutritional meals due to home conditions
- **Computer Training** – Annual six-week computer training course exposes youth in grades 4-12 to Microsoft applications, enhancing their opportunities for advanced education and/or professional employment
- **Psychologist** – Employment of a psychologist to help youth cope with poverty derived issues

Visit Ithemba Foundation's website to learn more about its mission and to view post-event photographs: [www.ithembafoundation.org](http://www.ithembafoundation.org).

*Judy Rashid '74 (left), dean of students at N.C. A&T, greets Hon. Barbara J. Masakela, South African Ambassador to the United States. Laurie Scott '96 is in the background.*

# ALUMNI NEWS

## 2006 CLASS REUNION COORDINATORS — CLASSES ENDING IN 1 AND 6

**1946 Hattie Ambrose**  
436 Southgate Ave.  
Virginia Beach, VA 23462-2015  
(757) 499-2116

**1956 Ruth Carter Wallace**  
5529 30th St., NW  
Washington, DC 20015 2020  
(202) 363-2913  
wracwall@aol.com

**1961 Agnes E. Maske**  
8601 Stacked Stone Trail  
Wake Forest, NC 27587  
(919) 761-9253  
amaska@nc.rr.com

**Vallie Guthrie**  
P.O. Box 21502  
Greensboro, NC 27420  
(336) 312-2664  
gamsec@ncat.edu

**1966 Carolyn Yancy Harper**  
Forester Pine Ct.  
Sarasota, FL 34243  
(941) 355-4385  
(941) 376-4385  
yancy30@netzero.net

**LaMaris Mack**  
125 McCrae St.  
Columbia, SC 29203  
(803) 252-3546  
Lsm30@bellsouth.net

**1971 Diane B. Piggott**  
3855 Northampton Dr.  
Winston-Salem, NC 27105  
(336) 725-9611  
Dianepiggott@triad.rr.com

**Thomas Conway Jr.**  
5505 Centepede Trail  
Raleigh, NC 27610  
Thomas\_conway@ncsu.edu

**1976 Mary Tyson McCray**  
8924 Milton Morris Dr.  
Charlotte, NC 28227-1877  
(704) 545-2647  
marymccray@msn.com

**Gladys Outlaw-Gallop**  
P.O. Box 1088  
Haw River, NC 27258  
(336) 578-0644  
glady\_gallop@abss.k12.nc.us

**1981 Jacquelyn Dobson**  
80 Beresford Rd.  
Rochester, NY 14610  
Terri\_baskin@hotmail.com

**Anthony Jackson**  
506 Jennings Mill Dr.  
Bowie, MD 20721  
(301) 390-0599  
bigtj@yahoo.com

**Cheryl Via**  
3911 Preston Rd.  
Martinsville, VA 24112  
(276) 957-1215  
cakeladymcvia@yahoo.com

**1986 Phyllis J. Thompson Flowers**  
6111 Richmanor Ter.  
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772  
(301) 599-8116  
(301) 503-174  
Floweph@yahoo.com

**Thurman Ross Jr.**  
19907 Burton Lane  
Cornelius, NC 28031  
(704) 394-6221  
Thurman@Teamnewport.com

**1991 Juan Tillman**  
15815 Erwin Ct.  
Bowie, MD 20716  
(301) 860-0364  
juant@erols.com

**Eva Thorne**  
5801 San Juan Dr.  
Clinton, MD 20735  
(301) 877-6172  
cocoref@verizon.net

**1996 Taril Gravely**  
5328 W. Market St. #6-E  
Greensboro, NC 27409  
(336) 297-4224  
tmgravely10@yahoo.com

**2001 Ed Moore**  
2903 Erie St., SE #89  
Washington, DC 20020  
(202) 584-7948  
ee\_moore@yahoo.com



# Save the Dates

## 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](http://www.ncat.edu/~alumni).

Activities planned for the weekend include the following:

- Graduates Breakfast - All candidates who have completed requirements for spring 2006
- Alumni Association Annual Meeting
- Society of Golden Aggies Luncheon - 50+ years as a graduate
- Chancellor's Recognition Reception - Invited and special guests
- Alumni Association Reception
- Alumni Awards Gala

## October 20-22, 2006

Return to Aggieland for the Greatest Homecoming on Earth. In addition, the School of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences will host its Alumni Reunion.

For more information about these events and more, visit the Alumni Affairs website, [www.ncat.edu/~alumni](http://www.ncat.edu/~alumni), or call 877-2AT-ALUM (877-228-2586).



# MIXED BAG

By Roger Gagnon, Ph.D

## TRANSPORTATION/SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

North Carolina A&T has a new graduate certificate concentration in transportation/supply chain management, and the School of Business and Economics invites individuals who need training or have responsibilities in this area to consider this option.

With the increase in global sourcing, manufacturing and distribution, there is an increasing demand for trained professionals in transportation and supply chain management. The U.S. Department of Transportation has noted that in the next five years, 50 percent of the transportation workforce will be eligible to retire. Thus, this country faces a looming shortage of transportation professionals.

Locally, with the added presence of Federal Express and Dell Computers, the Triad area will become a major North Carolina transportation hub and will be in particular need for more professionals in the transportation and supply chain management arena.

The graduate certificate concentration in transportation/supply chain management program empowers professionals to integrate suppliers, supply management, transportation or logistics and operations to efficiently serve their domestic or global customers with the appropriate goods and services. Professionals enrolled in the Graduate Certificate Program in the N.C. A&T School of Business and Economics are prepared to enhance their career opportunities and options both economically and personally. The program has been designed to add substantial value to its participants, as they continue their professional employment and enhance their career prospects.

The graduate certificate can be particularly useful in the following situations:

- Mid-level employees who are being asked to assume responsibilities in logistics/supply chain who have little or no experience or training in the field
- Employees who have a low level of responsibility in the transportation/logistics field who need additional training to broaden their understanding and managerial perspective of the logistics/supply chain
- Employees who feel that a better understanding of logistics/supply chain will prepare them for advancement as they gain more responsibilities within their function
- Managers who are responsible for improving the company's response to customer demands, competitive challenges, and the need for business continuity in case of unforeseen interruptions such as security breaches, natural disasters, etcetera.

The School of Business and Economics is fully accredited by the AACSB – International, the primary accrediting agency for business schools. In addition, N.C. A&T is the only four-year university in North Carolina that offers a graduate certificate in transportation and supply chain management – a program that is unique nationally.

The graduate certificate requires only five graduate courses or 15 credit hours. Courses are offered Monday through Thursday evenings, 6-9 p.m., to accommodate working professionals. Class sizes are kept small to assure learning progress and individual attention.

The School of Business and Economics also houses The Transportation Institute. Founded in 1970, this institute provides a source of job information opportunities (particularly with federal, state and municipal governments), interdisciplinary education and funding for research in transportation.

Certificate graduates can apply for the M.S. in Management degree program, which has a concentration in transportation/supply chain management. With 15 credits hours already completed, these graduates have satisfied a substantial portion of the course work needed for the master's degree. Work on both the certificate and master's program can be accomplished simultaneously.

Career opportunities are available in transportation planning, purchasing, merchandising, quality control, materials management, warehousing, inventory management, distribution, e-commerce, operations and traffic management in manufacturing and service companies and in the private and government sectors.

Graduates also may become certified in transportation and logistics through the American Society of Transportation and Logistics, and in supply chain management through the Institute for Supply Chain Management (ISM).

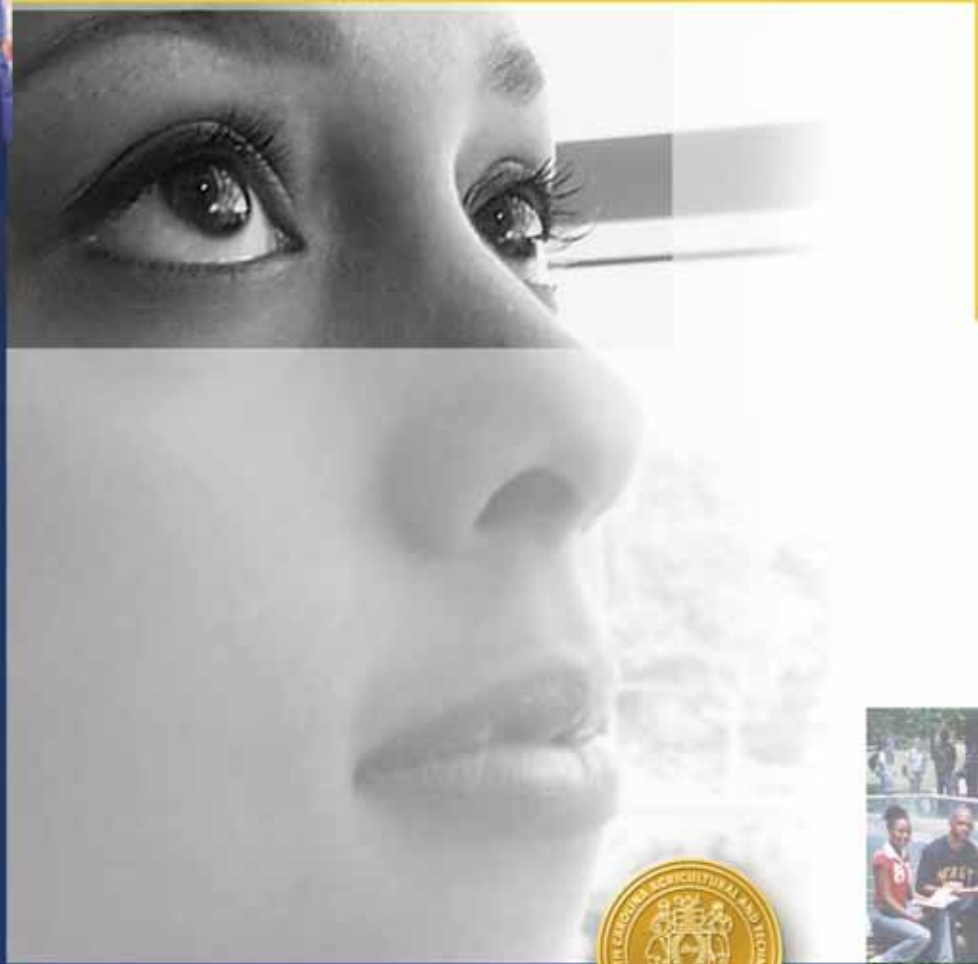
Individuals who are interested in entering this certificate program must have an undergraduate degree and one year of professional experience. To graduate, all requirements must be completed in six semesters. For more information, contact Roger Gagnon at (336) 256-2277 or [gagnonr@ncat.edu](mailto:gagnonr@ncat.edu).



*Roger Gagnon, Ph.D. is an associate professor and director of the master of science in management program at N.C. A&T.*



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 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_  
 State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

# REMEMBERING THE PAST

## *Ronald E. McNair, Ph.D. '71*



On Jan. 28, 2006, North Carolina A&T State University and the nation observed the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Space Shuttle Challenger explosion that claimed the lives of seven crew members, including A&T alumnus Ronald E. McNair.

McNair graduated from A&T in 1971 with a bachelor's degree in physics. He went on to receive a doctorate in physics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

In 1978, McNair was selected by NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) for astronaut training. He had flown in one other mission before the Challenger mission.

This year, the University hosted its 20th Annual Ronald E. McNair Commemorative Celebration and Fifth Annual Research Symposium, Jan. 26-28. McNair's brother Carl, also an alumnus of A&T, was among the special guests and presenters.



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