

College of Humanities and Social Sciences
North Carolina State University
2005 – 2006 Annual Report

submitted by David Martin, Interim Dean
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In 2005-06, the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHASS) was able to move forward despite continuing budget challenges. One way to gauge this progress is by determining how responsive CHASS has been to the forthcoming NC State University Strategic Plan. We believe the college has been able to respond to a number of identified priorities in the strategic plan while increasing its support of general education for all students in the university. Indeed, while CHASS has continued to increase the number of student credit hours devoted to general education, it has also increased the number of undergraduate majors and its commitment to graduate education and research.

Changes in the Service Environment

One of the strategic plan's major investment priorities is to strengthen the university's commitment to a broader, more comprehensive range of disciplines including those in the liberal arts, social sciences, and fine arts. At the undergraduate level the number of CHASS majors currently demonstrates a sizable college investment in this priority. In 2005-06, CHASS students received the highest number of bachelors degrees awarded by any college, 1271, making up 28% of the graduating class. In terms of number of undergraduate degrees awarded, four CHASS departments were among the top ten.

The strategic initiative to strengthen the comprehensive nature of NC State also requires expanded graduate and research programs. The strategic plan also emphasizes the building of research and graduate programs aggressively in proven and emerging areas. To that end, in addition to the decades-old doctoral programs in sociology and psychology, CHASS has relatively new doctoral programs in Public Administration and in Communication, Rhetoric and Digital Media. The latter program has just completed its first year and nicely illustrates the college's attempt to be responsive to emerging areas. An M.A. program in Anthropology is currently working its way through the approval

process. Two of the emphases in that program were designed to be particularly responsive to emerging areas. Environmental anthropology is concerned with how societies respond to environmental events such as global warming, deforestation, and desertification. Bioarcheology is concerned with classification and identification of bones and other biological entities both in terms of historical archeological sites and modern sites (e.g. after Hurricane Katrina). Several other recently established M.A. programs are helping to expand the comprehensive nature of graduate education in CHASS: MFA in Creative Writing, Master of Social Work, and M.A. in Spanish.

Two additional emphases in the university strategic plan are public policy and global perspectives. To those ends, CHASS is inaugurating a School of Public and International Affairs with a new director coming on board July 1, 2006. This school will provide an intellectual center for promoting and contributing to public policy and international programs across the university. In addition, it will have a major extension function outside the university by providing research and services for those engaged in public affairs across the state and nation, particularly in political arenas.

In sum, CHASS has been expanding and developing programs that will help NC State fulfill its strategic plans, and will continue to do so. CHASS will be a leading college in moving the university toward its future goals.

Compact Plan Initiatives

Although there were many needs in CHASS this past year that might have been addressed, the college did some reallocation and postponement so that it could submit only one initiative in its 2006-07 compact plan request. This initiative asked for \$764,536 continuing dollars in order to bring the salaries of special faculty in the college to competitive levels. Because the current salaries paid to non tenure-track faculty are below those paid at public schools and at tech colleges, it has become increasingly difficult to hire qualified faculty to teach general education courses in English, Foreign Languages, and Communication. The college feels it needs to offer competitive salaries in order to ensure that the quality of its course offerings remains high.

Diversity: Initiatives and Progress

The College has a long-standing commitment to recruitment and retention of students, faculty, and staff of color. The percentage of students of color has remained fairly consistent over the last several years, hovering just under 20%. The percentage of staff of color stands at 21%, up from 17% last year. The percentage of faculty of color remains our greatest challenge. However, through opportunity hires, we were able to identify three outstanding scholars to add to our recruitment class.

Dr. Sheila Smith-McKoy was named director of the CHASS Office of Diversity Programs in January. This office monitors progress towards degree of African-American, Native American, and Hispanic students. Smith-McKoy led efforts this year to recruit two new minority faculty members and to educate the CHASS faculty on diversity issues. She is also working with faculty to develop a Native American Studies minor.

Assistant Dean Monica Leach completed a six-year Success Project, a longitudinal study of the 20% difference in the graduation, retention and persistence rates of African-American students in the college and university. Her research indicates that instituting certain supports—a faculty mentoring program among them—enhances success among African-American students. The program will continue to provide students with exposure to researchers, administrators and faculty who can serve as role models.

Instructional Program Initiatives

CHASS is committed to a number of new interdisciplinary and applied undergraduate and graduate degrees and minors. Highlights include:

- Ph.D. in Communication, Rhetoric and Digital Media: full first class admitted fall 2005.
- MFA in Creative Writing: implemented 2004-05; recruited first full classes.
- Master of Social Work: full first class admitted fall 2005.
- M.A. in Spanish: first students graduated.
- New minors approved in Nonprofit Studies, Middle East Studies, and Hindi-Urdu.

- M.A. in Anthropology: anticipate approval in 2006-07.
- Interdisciplinary Programs (IDS): In accordance with the decision to house interdisciplinary programs in the office of academic affairs in the dean's office, interdisciplinary faculty were assigned either to existing departments or to the Dean's Office. Restructuring the IDS programs will not be completed until the programs are housed in the 1911 Building and Winston Hall in 2007. With four new degrees, IDS has doubled its programs:
 - B.A. in International Studies: became available fall 2005; expect approximately 100 students to be enrolled during 2006-07.
 - B.A. in Africana Studies: became available spring 2006.
 - B.A. in Women's and Gender Studies: became available spring 2006.
 - B.A. in Leadership in the Public Sector: designed to serve the interests of military serving in North Carolina; first CHASS distance education degree-completion program; approved spring 2005; expect to enroll 50 students in fall 2006.

Research

Faculty across CHASS have received 30 extramural funding awards from July 1, 2005, through May 31, 2006, totaling \$3.8 million. This represents an 83% increase over last year, as a comparable figure at this time last year was \$2.1 million.

One important measure of research activity is the amount of facilities and administrative costs generated. In 2004-05, CHASS generated \$514,316 in F&A. This resulted in a return of \$175,983 in fiscal year 2005-06 to the College for CHASS's research programs.

The bulk of grant proposals submitted during the last four years include newly-hired faculty as PIs or co-PIs. An active research portfolio and/or potential for obtaining externally funded research are increasingly important to reappointment, promotion, and tenure decisions in the college.

Extension Initiatives and Public Service Activities

CHASS continued its extension and engagement activities. Highlights include:

- NC Language and Life Project: coordinated by linguist and Interim English Department Head Walt Wolfram; produced documentaries and exhibits to educate the public about NC's unique linguistic and cultural heritage:
 - "The Queen Family," a documentary about life and music in Southern Appalachia, slated for national distribution through PBS;
 - "This Side of the River: Self-Determination and Survival in the Oldest Black Town in America," about Princeville, NC; and
 - "Freedom's Voice," a six-month-long multimedia exhibition at the Outer Banks History Museum chronicling contributions of African Americans to Outer Banks history and culture.
- Fifth Annual ESL Symposium: 375 K-12 teachers, trainers, and other educators attended this popular event.
- NC Program for Forensic Science: a unique new partnership between NC State and the NC Archaeology Research Center, co-chaired by Anthropology Professor Ann Ross; offers technical information, education, and research throughout North Carolina on issues related to medico-legal death investigation.
- Institute for Nonprofits: involved students, faculty, and staff in extension, engagement, and research through support for Raleigh's 10-year plan to end homelessness; a colloquium on community-building; advocacy training; a national experts seminars; and research projects focused on child health and on building evaluation capacity in the state's nonprofits sector.
- Creative Writing Program: hosted public readings by noted authors, including Jill McCorkle, Angela Davis-Gardner, and Michael McFee; sponsored statewide poetry and short story contests.
- Pope Lecture Series: Harvard Professor of Government Harvey Mansfield was the featured speaker; his visit coincided with the publication of his book, "Manliness," which garnered considerable national attention; his lecture attracted a number of people from the community.

- CHASS co-sponsored public lectures: speakers included acclaimed journalist Rami Khouri, speaking about the media's impact on democracy in the Middle East, and veteran political commentator Norm Ornstein on the impact of the War on Terror on the U.S. Government.
- Annual Young Writers' Summer Workshop: for fourth through eighth-grade students; widely acclaimed for its instructional effectiveness.
- Dialect-awareness curriculum: piloted this year for eighth-grade Social Studies and Language Arts students in several Piedmont and coastal school districts.
- Psycho-educational Clinic: continues to provide assessment services to the community while training graduate students in the School Psychology program; studying feasibility of offering expanded services to schools in the community.

Faculty Honors, Awards and Recognitions

Notable accomplishments this year include:

- 19 CHASS faculty were honored with College-wide awards for excellence in teaching, advising, research, and engagement.
- Toby Brody, Foreign Languages and Literatures, and Ann Ross, Sociology and Anthropology, were inducted into the Academy of Outstanding Faculty Engaged in Extension.
- Will Kimler, History, was named Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor.
- Doug Jesseph, Philosophy and Religion; Maria Pramaggiore, English; and Cheryl Waites, Social Work were inducted into the NC State Academy of Outstanding Teachers.
- Doug Jesseph also received an Alumni Outstanding Teacher Award.
- Anthony LaVopa, History, won a Guggenheim Fellowship for 2006-07.
- Carolyn R. Miller, English, was named inaugural SAS Institute Distinguished Professor of Rhetoric and Technical Communication.
- David Martin, Psychology, was named a Fellow of the American Psychological Association.
- Walter A. Wolfram, English, was named a Fellow in the inaugural class of the Linguistic Society of America.

- Oliver Williams, Political Science, was awarded a Fulbright Research fellowship for work in Hong Kong.
- James Svara, Political Science, was Distinguished Visiting Scholar, School of Public Affairs, Arizona State University and Visiting Research Professor, University of Southern Denmark (Odense).

CHASS Student Honors

- Close to 1,100 students earned Dean's List honors in each semester of 2005-06.
- Five CHASS freshmen were Park Scholars in 2005-06.
- Seven of the 27 incoming Caldwell Scholars are CHASS majors.

Private Sector Fund-Raising and Advancement Activities

The CHASS Achieve! campaign goal is \$12 million. To date, the college is credited with \$8,550,000, or 71% of our campaign goal. CHASS expects to meet the FY 2005-06 goal of \$1.2 million.

A major achievement for Advancement was the redesign and implementation of a new College web site. Lauren Kirkpatrick became CHASS's new director of communication in September.

Administration

Dean Linda Brady stepped down from her post at the end of the academic year to become provost at the University of Oregon. Dr. David Martin, head of the Psychology Department since 1992, became interim dean. Provost Larry Nielsen identified a search committee, and in early June named Dr. Toby L. Parcel of Purdue University as CHASS dean. Dr. Parcel will assume her duties on August 1, 2006.

During the 2005-06 academic year, Dr. Edward Kick began his role as head of the Department of Sociology and Anthropology. CHASS hired three new department leaders:

- Head of Psychology: Dr. Douglas Gillan
- Head of English: Dr. Antony Harrison

- Director of School of Public and International Affairs: Dr. Richard Kearney
- CHASS also hired 19 assistant and associate professors.

The Dean's Office moved twice during the year to accommodate renovations to offices in Caldwell Hall. Campus construction affected numerous other CHASS departments.

Recommendations and Concerns for the Future

During 2006-07 CHASS will focus on a number of issues, including:

- Adjusting to new leadership with a new dean and three new department heads/director.
- Participating in intensive strategic planning, which will lead up to submission of a new three-year compact plan.
- Considering ways to improve the research infrastructure so that principal investigators can more easily apply for and carry out externally funded research.
- Trying to make smooth transitions as renovated buildings move online and swing spaces are utilized during construction.
- Beginning initial planning with the University Architect's Office and the College of Design to convey the needs of Psychology within the proposed Psychology/Design building.
- Reviewing academic advising in the college, with consideration of a professional advising model.

This has been a challenging year for the college, but a year with considerable progress. With the likelihood that the coming year will be one with no budget cuts and a major increase in faculty and staff salaries, we believe that CHASS will be able to increase its rate of progress. With the continued support of the Provost's Office and the contributions of a dedicated faculty and staff, CHASS expects to make a major contribution toward the realization of the NC State Strategic Plan.