

**College of Humanities and Social Sciences
North Carolina State University
2007-2008 Annual Report
Jeffery P. Braden, Interim Dean
June 27, 2008**

The College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHASS) continues to strengthen and expand our university's comprehensive range of disciplines, build research and graduate programs in proven and emerging areas, promote extension and engagement, and integrate global perspectives into its programs. We particularly contribute to **producing world leaders; providing knowledge that impacts energy and the environment; and improving health and well-being.**

Changes in the Service Environment

CHASS trends can be summarized in one word: "growth." Since fall 1999, CHASS majors grew in proportion (49.5%) and number (1,507) more than any other unit on our campus. For the second consecutive year, CHASS led the university in developing **undergraduate student leaders**, awarding more bachelors' degrees than any other college. CHASS continues to provide more student credit hours (SCHs) than any other campus unit (more than 219,000 this year), accounting for 29% of SCHs in the university. CHASS is doing its part to meet NC State's enrollment goal of 40,000 students by 2017 through its growth in undergraduate and graduate majors, and by providing general education courses. The newly adopted General Education Proposal should increase demand for CHASS courses, which feature interdisciplinary content, international proficiency, critical thinking, and written and verbal communication that are key skills for **leaders in the 21st century.**

Growth also dominates our **research and graduate programs.** We celebrate a milestone this year, as we are more than 50% (\$2.2 million) ahead of our best year ever in new research

awards, proposals submitted, and awards received. More importantly, CHASS is on track to meet or exceed increased graduate enrollment targets for fall, 2008 (even though we still await UNC GA's approval of our PhD in Public History). CHASS develops **graduate world leaders** through its well-established (e.g., Psychology, Sociology, Public Administration), newly developed (e.g., Communication, Rhetoric, and Digital Media), and proposed (e.g., Public History, Hispanic Studies, Sociolinguistics) doctoral programs. Reviews of the Departments of Sociology/Anthropology, Public Administration, and History provided strong evidence of remarkable productivity and efficient use of limited resources, as well as identifying staff shortages and opportunities for improvement. Professional masters programs thrive in CHASS; for example, the Department of Social Work admitted its largest cohort of future **health and well-being** service providers for Fall, 2008, and the Administrative Officers Management Program provides graduate certificates to military officers via distance education. CHASS's contributions to **scholarship on the environment** and other areas essential to our university and UNC Tomorrow continue to expand enrollments at a faster pace than space and funds follow. In a play on *Field of Dreams*, one might say of CHASS "They have come—now we must build it."

Compact Plan Initiatives

CHASS used its compact plan resources to raise lecturer salaries, increase faculty in eight departments, support and expand graduate programs, boost student stipends, and open an MA in Anthropology program. A proposal to establish the Center for Family and Community Engagement (C-FACE) is now before the Board of Trustees, and a request to establish the Institute for Nonprofits is imminent. Three more centers (Forensic Science, Aging in Context, and Public Communication on Science and Technology) are well underway and should submit requests to plan this fall. Additional support is needed for new centers; for Social Work

accreditation, PhD in Hispanic Studies, and PhD in Sociolinguistics; for faculty travel and special faculty salaries, for increasing the numbers of professional advisors, and for the ever-expanding demand for additional seats and sections in undergraduate courses.

Diversity: Initiatives and Progress

CHASS continues its strong commitment to diversity and community in the context of academic excellence. The percentage of students of color showed improvement in the past year, from 19.1% to 22.4%. Faculty of color remains our greatest challenge (11% are from under-represented groups), although our hiring this year was successful in recruiting three (nearly 20% of new hires) faculty of color. The levels of female faculty and staff do not show gender disparity. Our Faculty Task Force on Diversity awarded the first annual Barrax-Laryea Diversity Award, named after our first two tenured African American faculty members, to the Department of Social Work. Dr. James Kiwanuka-Tondo won the 2007-2008 University Advocacy Award for Promoting the Presence of African Americans. Dr. Pamela Martin and Dr. Jocelyn Taliaferro were honored at the Extension/Engagement Annual Banquet for their work with pre-college African American populations. We have also moved to recognize American Sign Language (ASL) as a viable alternative for our foreign language proficiency requirement.

Instructional Program Initiatives

CHASS created educational innovation through several new programs including a BS in Philosophy with a concentration in Logic, Representation and Reasoning, and a BA degree in German Studies. Also, the first Master of Social Work class graduated in May, 2007. The newly established **Leadership** in the Public Sector degree program for non-traditional students enrolled 11 students in spring 2007, and is expected to have 40 students enrolled this fall.

Research

Faculty in CHASS produced more than 44 books, 102 book chapters, 200 refereed articles, 600 papers at conferences, and 62 book reviews this year. They also received more than \$6.2 million dollars in external funding from July 1, 2007 through May 31, 2008, representing 48 awards from 29 different CHASS faculty members. The sharp increase in number and amount of new awards was due in nearly equal measures to the success of three different constituencies: our consistently productive faculty, new mid- and senior-level faculty, and newly active (i.e., first activity in three years or more) faculty. The overhead generated by grants was up about 23% this year. As noted earlier, we are more than 50% ahead of our previous historic high, indicating that the Compact Plan initiatives aimed at enhancing our research have been remarkably successful. Aggressive recruitment, start-up packages for new faculty that include lab facilities, research equipment, and dedicated graduate assistantships signify CHASS's investment in research productivity, and are already paying dividends.

Extension and Engagement

Dean Toby Parcel convened a task force to study CHASS's extension and engagement activities; the following examples are selected from that report:

- **Producing leaders for the state, nation and world.** Global Foundation for Democracy and Development (Psychology), BRIDGES Academic Leadership for Women, Governor's Task Force: North Carolina in the World (Prof. Stewart), Triangle Institute for Security Studies (Prof. Boettcher).
- **Educational innovation and access,** Psychoeducational Clinic (serves more than 150 at-risk students annually; on-going services to bilingual charter school), Social Studies Textbook Project, Young Writers' Workshop, Teacher training workshop on Middle East (Prof. Khater), NC Quest Voices of North Carolina Institute (Prof. Wolfram with College

of Education), evaluation of Department of Public Instruction initiatives (Profs Braden, Pennell).

- **Economic Transformation.** North Carolina Work First Institute (Prof. Pennell), “Freedom’s Voice: Celebrating the Black Experience on the Outer Banks” Outer Banks History Center Museum (Profs. Wolfram), Industrial/Organizational internship program (Psychology), rural economic development and international cultural & ecological tourism (Sociology/Anthropology), “The Queen Family: Appalachian Tradition and Back Porch Music” on PBS (Profs. Hutcheson/Grimes)
- **Health and well-being.** Children and Families of the NC National Guard Symposium (Social Work), Forensic analyses and victim identification services (Prof. Ross), Strengthening the Black Family on HIV/AIDS Adolescent Outreach (Prof. Martin), development, training, and evaluation for every NC county Social Services program (Center for Family and Community Engagement /Prof. Pennell).
- **Energy and the environment.** NSF-funded Sustainability, Energy, and Engineering Research Experiences for Undergraduates (Prof. Martin), Environmental Film Festival, Neuse River Foundation (Prof. Orgeron), Nano@NCState (Profs. Berube/Faber), CHASS Environmental Group (interdisciplinary), responses to natural disasters (Prof. Birkland).

Furthermore, three different proposals led by CHASS faculty members were selected for funding this year through the Extension/Engagement Seed Grant competition.

Faculty Honors, Awards and Recognitions

Notable accomplishments this year include:

- 9 CHASS faculty (Profs. Allaire, Bennett, Brewer, Daemon, Hinton, Mertz, Neupert, Pullen, Wallace) were honored with College-wide awards for excellence in teaching,

advising, research, and engagement.

- 3 CHASS faculty (Profs. Bennett, Hinton, Mertz) were inducted into the NC State University Academy of Outstanding Teachers.
- 2 CHASS faculty (Profs. Martin, Wolfram) were inducted into the Academy of Outstanding Faculty engaged in Extension and Engagement.
- Walt Wolfram received the Alumni Association Outstanding Extension Service Award
- Michael Grimwood was named Alumni Distinguished Undergraduate Professor.
- 2 CHASS faculty (Birkland, Hester) were named Distinguished University Professors.
- Scott Fitzpatrick received the Gertrude Cox Award for Innovative Excellence in Teaching and Learning with Technology.
- CHASS faculty received a variety of fellowships and awards from organizations such as the Fulbright program (4), Carnegie Foundation (1), American Philosophical Society (1), Guggenheim (1), Mellon post-doc (1), American Bar Association's Order of the Coif (1), and the Shakespeare Association of America Outstanding Dissertation (1).

CHASS Student Honors

- 47 students were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa and 58 graduate and undergraduate students were inducted into Phi Kappa Phi.
- 90 CHASS students participated in the University Honors program.
- 338 CHASS students participated in the University Scholars program.
- 87 CHASS students were Pack Promise Scholars and 22 were CHASS Caldwell Fellows.
- More than 2,035 CHASS students earned Dean's List honors during the academic year.
- 4 incoming Park Scholars were enrolled in CHASS.
- The NC finalist for the Rhodes Scholarship is a German Studies major.

Private Sector Fundraising and Advancement Activities

The CHASS Achieve! Campaign goal was an ambitious \$12 million—and thanks to the work our staff, faculty, and friends, we hit our target! We continued our communications efforts by sending a hard-copy magazine to more than 25,000 friends and alumni twice this year (addressing Engagement and **Health and Well-Being**). We also distributed monthly electronic newsletters to more than 900 CHASS faculty, NC State administrators, and friends of the college. Along with NC State’s Creative Services, we “branded” the college and coordinated communication efforts across departments, and with the university. Finally, we hosted a reception at the Willard Hotel (which Chancellor Oblinger attended) for DC-area alumni.

Administration

This year saw no changes in Department Heads, but many changes to the CHASS administrative team. Dr. Toby L. Parcel led CHASS as Dean until 16 May, 2008, when Dr. Jeff Braden (Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies) stepped in as Interim Dean. Dr. Vicki Gallagher became the Associate Dean for Graduate Studies, and Dr. Mary Wyer agreed to become Interim Associate Dean for Research (while continuing as Assistant Dean for Interdisciplinary Programs). The “Interim” designation was removed from Dr. Ed Funkhouser’s appointment as Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, and Dr. Walt Wolfram agreed to chair CHASS’s Extension and Engagement activities for the coming year. Other departures included Assistant Dean of Finance Jessie Sova, Assistant Dean for Diversity Dr. Monica Leach, and Development Officer Joanna Johnson. We are delighted to welcome Matt Enderwick (Assistant Dean for Finance) as a new team member, and to have the outstanding assistance of Marion Neal as Interim Assistant Dean for Finance to keep us going. In the CHASS Advancement Office, Becky Bumgartner served as interim officer until Stacy Zearing was hired in June. CHASS

added 16 new tenure line faculty, including Mary Tschirhart as Director of the Nonprofit Institute. In addition, the departments of Sociology/Anthropology, Social Work, and Interdisciplinary Studies returned to a beautifully renovated 1911 Building, and we hosted a celebration in October to mark the installation of History, Philosophy and Religion, Foreign Languages and Literatures, and the CHASS Research Office in newly renovated Withers Hall.

Recommendations and Concerns for the Future

During 2008-09 CHASS will focus on a number of goals, including:

- Identifying a person to lead the college as Dean.
- Developing a strategic plan for development, coordinated with Nevin Kessler.
- Continuing to invest in the research productivity of our faculty, including new research center proposals.
- Hiring 11 or more new tenured and tenure-track faculty.
- Creating Performance Art degrees in Music, Theater, and Dance within the university.

The CHASS budget has not grown as fast as the demands placed upon it. As CHASS expands its research, graduate programs, certificates, majors, and distance education initiatives to support NC State's Strategic Plan and UNC Tomorrow goals, it is stretched thinner to make ends meet. Perhaps equally important, CHASS lacks space for the increases in faculty, graduate students, and research activities. CHASS growth in academics and research attests to its promise to realize NC State strategic goals; however, to realize those goals, CHASS will need the combined support of the Provost, the Chancellor, and CHASS faculty and staff. We have demonstrated that we can lead the university in growth; we need only the means to do so.