

CHASS General Faculty Meeting
April 23, 2003

Dean's Report
Linda P. Brady, Dean and Professor of Political Science

1. CHASS Achieves!

This has been a tremendously successful year for the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, due to the dedication and hard work of our faculty and staff. We have initiated a number of proposals for new degree programs, both undergraduate and graduate. We have had great successes in the recruitment of an increasingly diverse faculty. We have continued to increase the volume of sponsored research in the college. We have dramatically exceeded our comprehensive campaign goals for private-sector fund-raising. And, most importantly, because it is our reason for being, we have enabled outstanding achievements by our students. Today, I'd like to highlight some of these accomplishments.

2. Curricular Initiatives

In February 2002 the Board of Governors approved our proposed masters degrees in French and Spanish. The addition of these new programs, which will serve the needs of teachers in the Raleigh area, as well as the needs of others interested in advanced education in French and German, will expand the number of CHASS faculty participating in graduate education. I want to congratulate the faculty of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures for their efforts in bringing these programs to fruition, with a personal thank you to Professor Mary Ann Witt for her steadfast commitment to this initiative.

The Departments of English and Communication have collaborated on a proposed Ph.D. in Communication, Rhetoric, and Digital Media. Their Proposal to Plan has been forwarded to UNC—Office of the President, and will be discussed at their fall meeting. Congratulations to Carolyn Miller and Vicki Gallagher and their colleagues for working together on an innovative, interdisciplinary proposal that will represent the first Ph.D. in the Humanities at NC State.

The English Department's Proposal to Establish an MFA in Creative Writing was presented to the Graduate Administrative Board last week, and we expect their approval shortly. The Proposal to Plan an MSW also was presented to the Graduate Administrative Board last week. A proposal for an undergraduate

major in Africana Studies is under consideration by the University Courses and Curriculum Committee, and a proposed Graduate Certificate in Non-Profit Studies has been forwarded to the Graduate Administrative Board for their review. A proposed Graduate Minor in Life Science Ethics will go forward to the Graduate Administrative Board shortly.

In summary, the college is developing and advancing new academic initiatives, with a special emphasis on enhancing our profile in graduate education and interdisciplinary programs. I want to express my personal appreciation to Gail O'Brien for helping us keep so many intellectual balls in the air at the same time. Thanks, Gail.

I also want to commend the work of the Task Force on Interdisciplinary Programs. As we have already heard, under Walt Wolfram's leadership this group is exploring how we can best support and expand our commitment to interdisciplinary programs. I look forward to receiving their report.

3. Faculty Recruitment

We're concluding two final faculty searches in Social Work, but as of today, we have recruited 15 new faculty members, in Communication, English, History, Philosophy and Religion, Political Science/Public Administration, Psychology, and Anthropology. Among these 15 new faculty are three African-Americans and one Latina. Interim Provost Bob Barnhardt has been extremely helpful in our efforts to recruit a diverse faculty, by his support of three of the four opportunity hires we have made in the current fiscal year. Since 2001, there has been a 44 percent increase in the number of African American faculty members in CHASS. With our new hires, fully 30 percent of the African American tenured or tenure-track faculty members at NC State reside in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

All of our new faculty members are stars. Let me highlight three. Michael Allen will join us as Assistant Professor of History in August. He graduated from the University of Chicago with Honors in History and is completing his Ph.D. in history at Northwestern. His dissertation, a history of political culture and memory, examines the origins and influence of the unprecedented effort to recover American remains from Southeast Asia after the Vietnam War. In addition to the second half of the U.S. history survey, Michael will teach upper level courses on recent American history and a seminar on the Vietnam War for history majors.

Jeffery Braden has been a professor at the University of Wisconsin, where he also directed the School Psychology Program. He joins the Department of Psychology in the fall. He earned his Ph.D. from UC—Berkeley and both an

MA and EdS from Gallaudet University, where his major interest was the relationship of deafness to development and cognition. He has recently been a Co-PI on over a million dollars of U.S. Department of Education grants investigating programs that train those working with children with special needs.

Finally, we are delighted to welcome Ann Ross from the University of Florida, one of four faculty hired this year in Anthropology. Ann is a physical anthropologist who earned her Ph.D. at the University of Tennessee, one of the top forensic anthropology programs in the country. She specializes in skeletal autopsies and uses 3-D morphometric methods to address issues of biological change among and between human populations. Ann has worked with the skeletal remains of war victims in Bosnia to aid in their identification and to gather evidence to study craniofacial variation for regional isolation in the Balkans.

We could go on and on with respect to the other twelve outstanding faculty who will be joining us next year. I want to express my appreciation to all of you for actively participating in these searches. More than one of our successful recruits has pointed to the intellectual climate in the college as a major factor in his or her decision to accept our offers.

In addition, we have successfully recruited new department heads in Foreign Languages and Literatures and Philosophy and Religion. Dr. Ruth Gross, Professor of German and former department head and dean of liberal arts at the University of Texas, Arlington, arrives August 15 to assume leadership of the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures. Ruth was the consensus choice of the faculty and the search committee. A former president of the Kafka Society of America, Ruth earned her Ph.D. from Yale. Her interests include 20th century German, Austrian, and comparative literature. I want to express my appreciation to Mary Helen Thuente, who chaired the search committee, and to the faculty who invested many hours in service on the committee. I also want to thank Dudley Marchi, who has ably served as interim department head during a period of curricular innovation in the department.

In January 2004, we will welcome Dr. Michael Pendlebury as the new head of the Department of Philosophy and Religion. Michael hails from the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa, where he serves as professor of philosophy and head of the Department of Philosophy. Michael's current work focuses on the nature of practical reasons and related questions in meta-ethics. He received the Ph.D. in Philosophy from Indiana University. We are grateful to Michael Vasu for chairing this search, and to members of the search committee for their hard work. Once again, we have a consensus choice, and an excellent one! Hal Levin, interim head of the department, enters phased

retirement this year. Hal, we will miss your humor and colorful attire at our department head meetings!

As you can see, we have had another superb year in our recruitment of faculty and departmental leadership.

4. Sponsored Research

This has also been a very successful year for faculty sponsored research activities. In 2001-02, college sponsored research reached \$3.4 million dollars, the highest ever. In the current year, we already have received awards totaling \$2.9 million dollars through the third quarter. (The comparable figure at this time last year was \$2.5 million dollars.) We anticipate additional awards before the end of the current fiscal year that will enable the college to exceed last year's record high achievement. I want to thank Matt Zingraff and the staff of the college research office for the support they provide to our faculty.

A major success is Michael Carter's \$489,000 grant from the National Science Foundation in support of LabWrite—a national, web-based initiative to use the lab report to help students write, visualize, and understand science. Working with a team from science communication, scientific visualization, botany, chemistry, and physics, Michael's work focuses on strategies for using the lab report to expand students' scientific literacy. Congratulations, Michael, and congratulations to all of you who have submitted grant proposals in the past year.

5. Private-Sector Fund-Raising

This is the second year of the three-year quiet phase of the university-wide comprehensive campaign. As I reported in the fall, our negotiated campaign goal for the college is \$12 million dollars. CHASS set a private-sector fund-raising goal of \$2 million dollars for the current fiscal year. As of the end of the third quarter, we have raised \$3.3 million dollars, putting us at 165 percent of our goal for the year. Our total credited for the campaign is \$4.9 million dollars. The objective in the quiet phase of a campaign is to reach approximately 50 percent of the campaign goal, or \$6 million. We expect to exceed that objective by fall 2004, when the public phase of the campaign is scheduled to begin.

There have been a number of significant gifts to the college this year. The A.J. Fletcher Foundation has awarded a \$1 million grant to the college for development of a new program in Non-Profit Studies. Fletcher Foundation board member Barbara Goodmon earned a Master of Arts in Liberal Studies at NC State in 2000, and has been a strong supporter of the college. This new program will have both academic and outreach components. Jim Svava has chaired the Faculty Steering

Committee for the Nonprofit Initiative, and I want to thank him and all of the faculty who have given their time and energy to help shape this initiative.

NC State alumni Kathy and Herb Council have established a \$1.289 million trust that will create an endowment for merit scholarships in CHASS. Kathy was president of the college's Board of Advisers in 2002, and was persuaded of the importance of merit scholarships in support of our efforts to recruit the best and brightest students to CHASS.

The Social Work Program has benefited from an approximately \$250,000 gift from the estate of Ionna Russell, one of the "founding mothers" of their program. The fund will provide for faculty development and curricular innovation in support of our outstanding Social Work Program, which was reaccredited this year for a fourth 8-year period.

There are many more successes, and I encourage you to read the most recent issue of Pathways, our newsletter for alumni and friends of CHASS, for more information about our efforts to build a strong financial foundation for the college. Many of you have been involved in designing proposals, identifying prospects, and making the case to alumni and friends, and we are grateful for your participation. I also want to express my personal thanks to Joanna Johnson, our Director of Development, for her efforts to bring all of these gifts to fruition. None of this would have been accomplished without the support of Patrick Carroll in the College Development Office. Our Director of Communication, Suzanne Jacovec, has served as liaison with the University's News Services office and is responsible for college publications, including Pathways. This college advancement team is working for all of us every day.

6. Student Achievements

Last, but certainly not least, let me turn my attention to the accomplishments of our wonderful students.

Jessie Andrews, a junior History major, won the Southeast Slavic Studies Association award for the best student paper, and the prize committee had to be persuaded that he wasn't a graduate student.

Jerry Moore, a senior English major, was named Student Journalist of the Year for 2002-2003 by the Society for Collegiate Journalists, a national honorary society.

Christine Mallison, a former MA student in English/Linguistics and a current Ph.D. student in Sociology, won numerous honors, including the prestigious Language in the USA fellowship for the Linguistics Society of America Institute

this summer. She is the first graduate student in Sociology to create an individualized Ph.D. concentration in sociolinguistics.

Patricia Warren received a Preparing the Professoriate Award and the African American Association of Graduate Students Academic Achievement and Leadership Award for CHASS.

Melissa Adams, a 2003 alumna in Multidisciplinary Studies, has won a Goldwater Fellowship.

Finally, the Master of Science in Organizational Communication program, directed by Professor Bill Jordan, will award its first twelve degrees at Commencement in May.

These are just the highlights. The dedication of CHASS faculty shows in the achievements of our students. We will recognize the outstanding contributions of our faculty in the areas of teaching, research, service, and engagement at our annual Faculty Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, May 6, at 4:00 pm in Caldwell Lounge. Please join me then for special recognition of our colleagues.

Thanks for all you do to support the mission of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.