

**Chancellor's African American Community Advisory Council  
Monday, September 17, 2007  
Research Building, College of Veterinary Medicine**

**Minutes**

**Members present:** Marti Adams, Marcus Belvin, Alice Garrett, Dwayne Green, Angel Lewis, Carolyn Smiley Love, Mitchell Silver, Jim Stewart, Brad Thompson, J.J. Wilkins, Greg Williams, Sandra Williams, Melanie Wilson

**University Members:** Christina Cox, Niccoya Dobson, Kevin Howell, Larry Nielsen, Jim Oblinger, José Picart

**Presenters:** Tommy Griffin

**Agenda Items:**

- **Call to Order**

Chairperson Jim Stewart welcomed everyone to the meeting.

- **Welcome and Campus Update**

Chancellor Oblinger welcomed new members and thanked everyone for their attendance and commitment to this group. He provided an update on enrollment information. NC State welcomed 4792 freshmen this fall, which is a record class for the university and the largest class in the UNC system. The NC State freshmen class averaged 1177 on the SAT and 35% of the students were ranked in the top 10% of their high school graduating class. NC State has approximately 31,800 students overall. In addition, the university receives more applications from North Carolinians than any other school in the system. Chancellor Oblinger also reported on the success the university system and NC State had with the General Assembly this year. The system budget experienced a 10 ½ % gain. NC State did well with operating dollars allocated toward entrepreneurial activities, Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), bioenergy and enhancements in the College of Engineering. On the capital side, the university received \$34M in funding for an addition to the Engineering Building III, \$38M in funding for a small animal hospital, \$17M in planning money for a new library on Centennial Campus, and \$7.5M in repair and renovation money for seven 4-H camps spread across the state. Chancellor Oblinger reported that there are five areas of focus for NC State that the university is striving to make publicly known. The areas are: energy and the environment, economic development, health and well-being, educational innovation, and leadership and development. NC State welcomes three new Board of Trustees members this year: Gayle Lanier, Barbara Mulkey and John Sall. Finally, on Sept 19 at 11:00 a.m. there will be a ribbon-cutting on the new Golden Leaf Biomanufacturing Training and Education Center (BTEC) facility, which is dedicated to workforce development in biotechnology and bioengineering. Council members are invited to attend.

- **Introduction of Council Members**

Chairperson Stewart asked Council members to introduce themselves.

Provost Nielsen announced that he helped represent NC State this past weekend in accepting the Institutional Role Model Award for Diversity from Minority Access, Inc. in Arlington, Virginia. NC State was the only institution to receive this award. The Provost recognized the work of Vice Provost José Picart and his colleagues in achieving this recognition.

- **African American Admissions Update**

Tommy Griffin, Director of Admissions, gave an overview of the Undergraduate Freshmen Admissions status for Fall 2007 and distributed newly printed materials from the Admissions Office. Griffin reported there are 433 new African American freshmen this year as compared to 382 in fall of 2003 when he last met with this group. There has also been an increase in the number of Hispanic/Latino students. When asked what attributed to the increase in the number of new African American freshmen, Griffin responded that there is not one factor that can be identified, but several factors, including outreach efforts and Pack Promise, have helped in this area. Dr. Picart noted that word of mouth from our current students also helps in the recruitment effort. Per Griffin, NC State has more African American students than Georgia Tech, Virginia Tech and UNC-Chapel Hill. Griffin and Nielsen provided a brief overview of the Pack Promise program. The program was designed to increase access to NC State by meeting most of the financial needs of students whose family income is at or below 150% of the federal poverty level. The Pack Promise student is also provided an opportunity to perform work-study in a research laboratory and dedicated academic counseling. The Admissions Office is happy to send publication material to interested groups. Please send contact and address information directly to Mr. Griffin.

Dr. Picart reminded the committee about the schedule of upcoming activities and events. There is an overview of this information in the packet each Council member received.

- **Social Capital and Community Engagement**

Chairperson Stewart and Dr. Picart presented “Developing a Roadmap for the CAACAC, Social Capital: An Approach to University-Community Engagement”. They developed the presentation around a seminar they attended on social capital. The presentation included an overview of the CAACAC and the responsibilities of its members, the definition of university-community engagement and an overview of social capital. The purpose of the presentation was to help identify future initiatives or projects that the CAACAC will engage in the years ahead. These initiatives or projects would focus on linking social capital in the African American Community with social capital at NC State in order to achieve campus-community engagement goals.

- **Small Group Discussion of AACAC Role in Building Social Capital and Community Engagement**

Committee members were asked to break into small groups to brainstorm ways to connect social capital in the African American community with university-community engagement objectives. They were also asked to explore how the CAACAC can serve as a bridge between the university and the social capital identified. The Council reconvened to share their ideas.

Finally, Chairperson Stewart asked committee members to visit the new NC State website ([www.ncsu.edu](http://www.ncsu.edu)) before the next meeting. The purpose for asking CAACAC members to visit

the website is to help CAACAC members identify campus social capital. In the next working meeting of the CAACAC, members will identify and prioritize campus and community connections. Chancellor Oblinger explained that the new website is the product of a 30-person committee that worked with a team of professionals over a fourteen month time period. He would be pleased to hear feedback on the new website from Council members at the next meeting.

Chairperson Stewart adjourned the meeting at 5:00 p.m.