

[ **SYNC** ]

A newsletter by the Division of Undergraduate Academic Programs

**INSIDE THIS ISSUE:**

<b>FROM THE DEANS DESK</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>DUAP STAFF OUT AND ABOUT</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>NEWS AND NOTES</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>GET INVOLVED</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>EVENTS</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>SYNC STAFF AND STAFF HIGHLIGHT</b>	<b>12</b>

**ISSUE  
HIGHLIGHTS:**

- Look who's retiring!  
See page 5.
- NC State student  
interviews for Mar-  
shall Scholarship. See  
page 7.
- Read the article by  
George Barthalmus.  
See page 9.

**GEP: IT TAKES A CAMPUS TO IMPLEMENT**

By Samara Fleming Burnette

If you've read the November 13, 2008 edition of the NC State weekly Bulletin (<http://www.ncsu.edu/bulletin/archive/2008/11/11-13/general-ed.php>), then you know that general education will be different for students coming in Fall 2009. You know that under the new General Education Program (GEP), students will take 11-14 fewer hours of general education courses than current students. You even know that there will be new diversity, interdisciplinary, and global knowledge requirements rendering breadth to the educational experiences of NC State students. But, what you probably don't know is the enormity of the implementation process going on within undergraduate colleges and divisions to usher in this change.

"Campus is playing a crucial role in this process and there's only a short window," said Catherine Freeman, academic standards coordinator in the Office of Undergraduate Courses and Curricula, an office within the Division of Undergraduate Academic Programs (DUAP).

Freeman works with the Council on Undergraduate Education (CUE) and the University Courses and Curricula Committee (UCCC) to coordinate the implementation of the new requirements. CUE helped refine the guidelines drafted by the General Education Task Force and approved by Provost Nielsen on February 1, 2008, while the UCCC is working hard to ensure that 274 curricula and programs are in compliance by December 1, 2008.

Jon Rust, a professor of textile engineering and department head of textile engineering, chemistry, and science, accepted an interim associate dean appointment with DUAP on August 1, 2008 to help colleges better understand the new GEP. He understands what has to be done during this process of implementation.

"Campus faculty are now dissecting their curricula and rebuilding it to comply with the new GEP," he said.



Catherine Freeman busy processing curricula changes.

(Continued on page 2)

## GEP: IT TAKES A CAMPUS TO IMPLEMENT

*(Continued from page 1)*

All across campus, faculty are coming together to review curricula and vet ideas on how to improve it. They are examining their programs and making changes that will increase the effectiveness of their programs. DUAP's First Year College and Transition Program were the first to submit their revisions late summer 2008; and then the colleges followed in mid-fall.

"The new requirements are a win-win for our students and our programs," said Chris Ashwell, professor of poultry science, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs). "Students have gained more flexibility and programs have added pertinent additional requirements where needed."

CALs was one of the first colleges to submit their curricula to the UCCC and has been able to allow students to have additional free electives built into their majors and reduce the total hours required for graduation. The total number of graduation hours required by the Poultry Science Department went from 125 to 120. Some programs, like Ag Engineering, took advantage of the reduction in graduation hours by adding free electives instead of reducing the overall graduation hours. Some programs were even able to add a pertinent additional course and remain at the 128 ceiling for graduation.

"Our concern was administering the new categories of diversity, interdisciplinary perspectives, and global knowledge," said Dave Parish, coordinator for advising in Engineering.

For the College of Engineering, requirements for math and science are all mandated by accreditation agencies. Changes to their curricula occurred mostly in courses outside of their college. Due to rigid accreditation requirements, the College of Engineering was able to institute a structured process that allowed them to efficiently revise their curricula.

"We modified, reviewed, and formalized the changes, while we guided the departments through the recommendations," said Parish.

Colleges that submitted their revisions after CALs and Engineering have benefited and learned from watching these colleges go through the process. Learning how to make the process efficient was necessary to meet the strict December 2008 deadline. No matter the variance in procedures among colleges, the review process has been valuable for the participants.

"It's been very rewarding to see everyone coming together and engaging in this process," added Rust.

But the process isn't over yet. There's still plenty to get done by the end of February. Every degree key must be revised to include the new GEP requirements. Curricula changes must be reviewed and the eight semester displays must be updated. Then the process moves to Registration and Records to build the new degree keys. And, still there will be more to do...

"Within the next three years, CUE will review the GEP Category List," Freeman related, "and I have no doubt that we will be able to get that done just as efficiently."

For more on the GEP process, see the General Education web site:

<http://www.ncsu.edu/uap/academic-standards/gep/index.html>

**"It's been very rewarding to see everyone coming together and engaging in this process."**

**— Jon Rust**

## FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

### A Message of Holiday Best Wishes and Reassurance for the Members of DUAP

As the end of another year approaches, I want to take this opportunity to offer everyone my best wishes for the holiday season and for the coming new year. In addition, I want to thank everyone for all of your good work this year.

We are fortunate in that we work in an environment where we can help people. In DUAP those people are mostly students, but we also have the opportunity to assist parents, alumni, and other people in our professions. This type of work can be very satisfying, but it is also very demanding. Those demands have become more significant, and even personal, as we learn more about budget reductions and the consequences to our programs and our personnel.

As the state and the national economies decline, we have been asked to reduce our spending for this year on a one-time basis and to plan for permanent reductions next year.

We have already identified the one-time reversions for this year and have been able to meet our goals without any serious disruptions to our programs and the way we do business. I do not want to minimize the consequences of the cuts for this year, but with the cooperation of our directors and our coordinators, we were able to reduce our spending on a one-time basis.

Next year's budget reductions will be more serious because they will be permanent cuts in our annual budget. At this stage no one knows how large the cuts will be because State Government must see how the revenue projections look for 2009-2010. An evaluation of the tax receipts (sales tax, income tax, etc) in January/February will be the basis for those projections. At present the University is looking at a cut of approximately 8%, but this number is for planning purposes only. What will the effect be on our Division?

The obvious answer is that we will have to reduce some of our activities. There are usually two ways to deal with a budget cut. One is a horizontal cut in which you take some money from every program, and the second is a vertical cut where you eliminate some programs and/or activities. At this time we are planning to do some of both. I do not think that it is reasonable to limit our response to a horizontal cut whereby we reduce the budgets of all of our programs and then be in a situation where most, if not all of our units, do not have enough resources to do their jobs.

As we examine which programs/activities might be eliminated or combined with other programs, I will share those decisions with you. I do want to reaffirm what I have said in the past regarding such cuts – my goal is to not lose people. Positions can be eliminated as necessary, but the administration of DUAP will do everything we can to find alternative positions for those people who have been affected by budget cuts.

Change can be a scary thing and we will be going through changes, but changes are also associated with growth and improvement. By growth, I do not mean that DUAP will necessarily grow in the next year or two; however we will have the opportunity to become more efficient in what we do best, which is working with and helping our students and other clientele. If any of you would like to discuss the future with me, please know that I am available.

Happy Holidays.



John T. Ambrose  
Interim Dean  
Division of  
Undergraduate  
Academic Programs

## DUAP STAFF OUT AND ABOUT

### NACADA AWARD RECIPIENTS



DUAP congratulates Donna Burton and Michelle Crossley, award recipients at the NACADA annual conference in October.

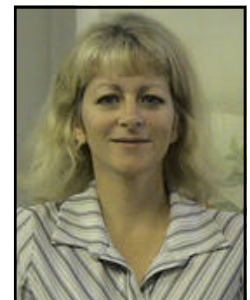
Burton was honored as an Outstanding Academic Advisor and Crossley was honored as an Outstanding New Academic Advisor.

## NEW STAFF

**Alecia Matthews** (pictured right) joined FYC this summer and has settled right in to teaching and advising. She finds that the close connection FYC advisers make with their students is very powerful, both for the students' growth and her own. Before joining FYC, Alecia worked in Student Affairs for ten years, as a corporate trainer at Opryland (even though she is not a fan of country music), and in the US Army. Having grown up in Buffalo, she is a die-hard Bills fan, but she does not miss the winter weather! When she wants to kick back, she reads People magazine and celebrity websites, and checks out blogs on all the candidates – she likes to know the behind the scenes story. But family is number one for her. Her husband is a physical education teacher and girls' basketball coach at Woods Charter middle school, and she has two children, Janna and James. She's looking forward to continuing her doctoral studies, and believes that "you have to be open to opportunity."



The Undergraduate Tutorial Center is excited to announce that **Betsy Jereb** (pictured right) will be their new administrative support specialist beginning in 2009! Betsy has served part-time as the UTC's administrative support associate since September, 2004. Betsy received her BA in Economics and Psychology at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana in 1983. She also earned a Database Management Certificate at Wake Tech Community College in July, 2002. She began working for the UTC in September, 2004. Betsy and her husband, Rick, have two children, Cameron and Michelle. We look forward to continuing to work with Betsy in her new role!



## DUAP STAFF OUT AND ABOUT

### CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF SERVICE!



After 25 years of dedicated service to NC State's Undergraduate Tutorial Center, Sandra Foley is retiring her role as the administrative support specialist at the end of 2008.

To help celebrate this occasion, please come to her retirement party on Friday, December 12th from 1:30-3:00 p.m. in the Undergraduate Tutorial Center (1005K Ricks Hall Addition). Please RSVP to Betsy Jereb ([betsy\\_jereb@ncsu.edu](mailto:betsy_jereb@ncsu.edu)).

### ACTIVITIES, CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS, AND PUBLICATIONS

- John Ambrose, interim dean, along with Karen Hauschild, associate director in FYC, and Kathleen Ruppe, associate director in University Housing, published *Learning Communities: Students at the Center* (pg. 32-57) in Metropolitan Universities, Vol. 19, No. 2, 2008.
- George Barthalmus, director of Undergraduate Research, and Marcia Toms, associate director of the Undergraduate Tutorial Center presented at the NC Collegiate Academy of Science day on October 4th. George presented on the growing importance of undergraduate research, and Marcia talked about writing reports in the sciences.
- Donna Burton, assistant director and adviser in FYC, will present a panel on stress management at the On Course National Conference, April 17-18, 2009, in Raleigh.
- Samara Fleming Burnette, coordinator for retention studies, participated in a webinar on *Improving Veteran Services: Initiatives To Help You Assist Your Veterans As They Transition From Military To Academic Life* on November 5, 2008.
- Mike Ellis of FYC graduated from NC State Human Resources Academy, which is a new certificate program that links participants to subject matter experts in 25 HR topics, in October. Participants were exposed to HR functions, legal aspects, NC State policies and procedures, as well as related courses that enhance overall knowledge and application of the HR function. Mike also graduated from the Equal Opportunity Institute in May.
- Karen Hauschild and Kathleen Ruppe presented at the ACUHO-I conference in Dallas, TX October 25-27 on the FYC Village and our partnership. Karen also presented to the central campus resident director staff about academic success resources and some strategies for students in their residential area as part of their professional development series on October 14.
- Kelly Laraway, director of OPCP, presented a grant writing class at the Grants Information Network on December 8-9 at Wake Technical Community College. She also presented to a group of middle and high school teachers on pre-college programs at the Junior Solar Sprint Teachers' Workshop on November 14 where many teachers were interested in NC State programs, campus visits, and school visits. In November, Kelly also served as a host at the 2008 Shelton Leadership Conference.
- Roxanna McGraw of OASIS is serving on the Military Veterans Working Group which is charged with reviewing NC State's current policies and practices that support military veterans and making recommendations for improvement. She also attended the Innovative Educators Webinar titled *Improving Veteran Services: Initiatives To Help You Assist Your Veterans As They Transition From Military To Academic Life* on November 5, 2008. Roxanna also co-presented with Tony Patterson, Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid, at the Partners in Access and Success Conference on *Guiding Low SES Students from Orientation to Commencement*, and presented on *Academic Advising: The Pivotal Point in Assisting Students to Succeed in College* on November 6, 2008.
- Phil Moses, Demetrius Marlowe, Megan Albidrez, and Carrie Leger delivered a panel presentation at the Partners in Access and Success Conference: Connecting K-12 and College for Student Success in Raleigh, NC: on November 6, 2008.

(Continued on page 6)

## DUAP STAFF OUT AND ABOUT

### ACTIVITIES, CONFERENCES, PRESENTATIONS, AND PUBLICATIONS

(Continued from page 5)

- Matt Rust, assistant director and academic adviser in FYC, and Karen Hauschild, FYC, presented on *Deciding to Be Undecided: The Role of Exploration in Achieving Academic Excellence* at Partners in Access and Success Conference: Connecting K-12 and College for Student Success in Raleigh, NC: on November 6, 2008. Matt also presented *Utilizing the Lens of Spirituality in a Career Exploration Course*. Poster session at the Annual Conference of the National Academic Advising Association in Chicago, IL: October 2008.
- Mary A. Tetro, coordinator of Pre-Law Services, and Pre Law Students Association officers traveled to Buies Creek to participate in the Campbell Law School Open House on November 1, 2008.
- Marcia Toms, associate director of the Undergraduate Tutorial Center, presented at the International Writing Center Association and National Conference on Peer Tutoring in Writing Joint Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada in early November. The presentation *Consultant Training in a Post-Process Writing Center* was co-developed with colleagues at Saint Louis University, University of Denver, University of Colorado-Colorado Springs, and Westminster College. Marcia also presented *Academic Writing in the US* for students enrolled in the Global Training Initiative course GTI 401 on Tuesday, November 18th.; and as a WSTS tutor, she led a workshop on writing application essays for the Boys and Girls Club of Wake County along with 11 pre-health club students on November 17th.
- Martha Wicker (OASIS), Ivy Talley (OASIS Student Ambassador) and Gwen Matthews, director of Advising at Wake Tech Community College presented on *Advising Transfer Students* as part of the Adviser Development Institute.
- Barbie Windom, director of the Undergraduate Tutorial Center, presented *Effective Questioning Strategies* on October 31st as part of the Certificate of Accomplishment in Teaching (CoAT) Graduate School program for graduate students.

## NEWS AND NOTES

### ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR STUDENT ATHLETES (ASPSA)

#### NCSU Student Athletes Reach Out to the NC Community

This Halloween, 13 North Carolina State University student athletes and many of the staff members from the Academic Support Program for Student Athletes donated a children's book library to the Tammy Lynn Center for Developmental Disabilities. The Tammy Lynn Center for Developmental Disabilities is a non-profit organization dedicated to the education and care of its disabled residents. This facility houses children and several adults with varying disabilities and is located on Avent Ferry Road, about 5 minutes from NC State campus.

At the Tammy Lynn Center, student-athletes participated in a "trick-or-treat" event and walked from classroom to classroom, assisting the residents on their quest for Halloween treats! Some student athletes wheeled the wheelchair bound residents from room to room and everyone had a wonderful time. After trick-or-treating, the student athletes selected books from the donated boxes and each student athlete read a book to the Tammy Lynn residents. NC State football player Willie Young captivated his audience with a rousing rendition of "It Looked Like Spilt Milk" by Charles Shaw. After reading, Willie said, "I really felt privileged to come out and participate in this Halloween event. It was fun reading to the kids because they were so interactive."

The Halloween event provided an opportunity for many of NC State's gifted athletes to share their time and compassion with people who may never be able to play on a team or attend college. The joy on the faces of the people at The Tammy Lynn Center showed how

(Continued on page 7)



Photo source: b is for books.

## NEWS AND NOTES

### ACADEMIC SUPPORT PROGRAM FOR STUDENT ATHLETES (ASPSA)

*(Continued from page 6)*

truly thrilled they were for these student athletes to visit and celebrate Halloween with them.

The feeling was clearly mutual. All of the student-athletes had a wonderful time and several plan to go back to the Tammy Lynn Center to volunteer on a regular basis.

This event which was organized by the Academic Support Program for Student Athletes (ASPSA), in conjunction with The Tammy Lynn Center, is part of a bigger literacy project being organized by ASPSA called "Booking with the Pack." This project's goal is to promote literacy in the NC community. The community outreach project currently includes 11 Wake County middle schools and 3 non-profit groups. NC State student athletes have also participated in pep-rallies at several of these middle schools to promote "Booking with the Pack." They have entertained hundreds of middle school students with stories of what it's like to be an NC State student-athlete and why academic success is equally and often more important than athletic success.

These outreach projects have been great successes on the path to promoting literacy all over North Carolina. The Academic Support Program for Student Athletes hopes to continue and increase its involvement in the NC community and to use the notoriety of student-athletes to advocate the importance of education to children and adults alike. Many NC State student athletes have proudly stepped up to showcase the importance of literacy in North Carolina and ASPSA looks forward to providing more opportunities for NCSU student athletes to stay active in the NC community.

### FELLOWSHIP ADVISING OFFICE (FAO)



**Ryan Going '09** (pictured left), Applied Math & Electrical Engineering, UHP & URP, has been named a finalist in the Atlanta region of the Marshall Scholarship competition. He traveled to Atlanta for an interview on November 10, and the results of the competition should be published shortly thereafter.

Before the interview, Ryan prepared for his interview with practice interviews and by his participation in "Outclass the Competition," a business etiquette and protocol workshop held in conjunction with the Shelton Leadership Forum.

As with any highly selective competition, Ryan's accomplishments have been supported by his faculty, the Marshall and the Goldwater selection committees at NC State, and the summer programs in which he has participated. He has won an Astronaut Scholarship, an honorable mention in the Goldwater Scholarship, and is currently engaged in a senior design project on solar re-chargeable lanterns. His service efforts also include founding and leading NC State's chapter of Amnesty International and intensive participation in Habitat for Humanity projects.

### FIRST YEAR COLLEGE (FYC)

#### High School Counselor Drive-in Conference

On October 24, First Year College hosted "Finding the Right Fit: Exploring College Majors," a free, drive-in conference for high school guidance counselors. This outreach effort allowed FYC to share some of the tools it uses to help students find the right fit here at NC State; the day also helped the counselors better understand the FYC program. Twenty-one counselors attended from across the state. One stated: "Thank you for the excellent program you provided for us last Friday. It was definitely a day well spent. There is no doubt that I can now much better counsel my students about the merits of the program and your keen interest in their welfare. This approach for freshmen should truly make a difference in some of their lives. Especially helpful were the general introductions to the program and your leading us through the exploratory career/strength exercises." The conference was coordinated by Matt Rust and Kimberly Franklin; Phil Moses gave the keynote speech; John Ambrose, Carrie McLean, and Karen Hauschild gave brief talks; and Mike Ellis, Shannon Brandt, and Michelle Crossley made sure everyone was well-fed!

## NEWS AND NOTES

### OFFICE OF PRE-COLLEGE PROGRAMS (OPCP)

This year, the Office of Pre-College Programs partnered with the Office of Undergraduate Retention Services to host the North Carolina State "Partners in Access and Success" Conference, which took place on Thursday, November 6, 2008, at the University Club. More than 115 teachers and administrators from K-12 schools, community colleges, and universities attended.

Dr. Roger Callanan, DUAP's assistant dean, welcomed the group. Kati Haycock, president of the Education Trust, gave the conference's opening address, sharing compelling national data on access and success in higher education.

Here's what some conference attendees had to say:

- *I found every session to be very informative and enlightening. Today has motivated me in my work with underrepresented students and to present pre-college opportunities to these students.*
- *Excellent information! It was amazing to know how many diverse programs there are for students to be engaged in prior to entering college!*
- *I learned so much. I feel refreshed in my educational pursuit. I hope to tap into resources I learned from this conference. I look forward to more conferences in the future.*
- *This event has been the most beneficial of any conference I've attended this year!*

Special thanks are in order to all those who helped make the conference a great success! DUAP presenters included Carrie Leger, Megan Albidrez, and Demetrius Marlowe; Phil Moses from ASPSA; Roxanna McGraw from OASIS; and Carrie McLean and Matthew Rust from FYC.

Another round of thanks goes to the Advisory Council for Enhancing Student Success and the Pre-College Coordinating Council for their role in identifying presenters. Samara and Kelly would also like to thank Dean Ambrose, Frankye Artis of TP and Carmen White for their invaluable help in conference planning and coordination. Thank you all! Here's to improved access and success!

### OFFICE OF ADVISING SUPPORT, INFORMATION AND SERVICES (OASIS)

#### Adviser Development and Training for Faculty and Staff

Please join the university in recognizing the Fall 2008 Adviser Development Institute graduating class on Thursday, December 11, 1:30-2:30 p.m., Walnut Room, Talley Student Center. Campus representatives are invited to attend. RSVP to Roxanna McGraw ([roxanna\\_mcgraw@ncsu.edu](mailto:roxanna_mcgraw@ncsu.edu)).

#### Student Events

A number of exciting Pre-Law Services events, resources, and programs were offered this month to students and NC State alumni. This is only a snap shot of some of the events and student opportunities so please visit the web site (<http://www.ncsu.edu/prelaw/>) for a comprehensive list or contact Mary A. Tetro ([mary\\_tetro@ncsu.edu](mailto:mary_tetro@ncsu.edu)), coordinator of Pre Law Services.

- **"What Do Attorneys Really Do?"**  
A panel of attorneys from a variety of fields of law offered their insights and experiences with NC State students. Students heard from representatives in the areas of Intellectual property, family law, trial/civil litigation, general practice, corporate, and aviation litigation.
- **"Developing Yourself as a Strong Candidate for Law School"**  
This session was extremely useful for any student considering law school as the next step after graduation. The session addressed skills, knowledge and strategies needed to develop oneself as an excellent candidate for law school. Representatives from New York University School of Law and University of South Carolina visited NC State University and met with interested students and discussed opportunities at their law schools.

**NEWS AND NOTES****OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH (OUR)****Discovery-, Inquiry- and Creativity-Based Learning : RESEARCH**

By George T. Barthalmus, Director



George Barthalmus

American small colleges and large research universities are taking advantage of their faculty scholars who wish to bring to undergraduate students the art of discovery and creativity through innovative lectures, laboratory classrooms, and their personal research. We are reinventing undergraduate education, a mission of the Reinvention Center (<http://www.reinventioncenter.miami.edu/>) particularly at our large doctoral research extensive universities, by taking advantage of the value-added offerings that only our internationally recognized faculty can do.\*

Assessment studies from across the United States show that a hands-on research/creative project or thesis (1) improves retention of the student, (2) recruits more women and minority students into the disciplines of science, technology, engineering and mathematics, (3) enables students to understand the application of required courses to problem solving, invention and discovery, (4) positions students for admission to graduate and professional schools, (5) provides the employer with evidence that students can do more than earn high grades in courses, (6) promotes critical thinking and the reading of classic and recent research within and often across the discipline, (7) improves student self confidence by teaching oral and poster presentation skills at campus and disciplinary symposia/conferences, (8) introduces students to research ethics, the value of teamwork and partnerships, entrepreneurial and invention/patent disclosure procedures, (9) teaches students how to publish their research, and (10) allows students to see career opportunities that they had not considered prior to doing a research/creative project. The challenge for all campuses is to collect this kind of learning outcomes' data.

Research need not only occur in traditional laboratory, library or field settings. It is important to introduce research within the standard classroom. Significant reading, writing and critiquing assignments, oral presentations with dissection of seminal papers, discussion of ethical and political issues that impact discovery and progress, and much more can be injected into even large classes across any discipline. These "r-classes and r-seminar classes" with the above approaches need to be part of all curricula. This prepares the student for the hands-on research that they should do for at least one semester prior to graduation. Indeed, at NC State, we push students to begin research in their first year of study. Even before these classes, would it not be a worthwhile challenge to replace the typical introductory first semester orientation course (1 credit hour) with an Introduction to Research (within the discipline) course that sets an environment of appreciation for the knowledge and creativity that energize our campuses?

The key to growing a campus undergraduate research program is to have the faculty fully interested in mentoring one or more undergraduate researchers each year. Faculty are quick to indicate that the effort is equivalent to training a new masters level student, but that the return on investment of time and dollars is frequently worth it. Undergraduates often see research pathways that graduate students, postdocs and faculty sometime miss, i.e., they are seeing the research anew and are not imprisoned by old methods and interpretations of the past. They work hard, ask questions and amaze even themselves with their own accomplishments; this produces a positive feedback cycle that is exciting to all in the research program. Faculty mentoring skills and expectations can be supported with campus workshops and the effective use of a best practices link on the website for undergraduate research (<http://www.ncsu.edu/undergrad-research/Mentors/bestmentoringpractices.php>).

Much has been said about the importance of a significant undergraduate research experience for getting admitted to top graduate and professional school programs, and for obtaining national fellowships. Our campus Health Professions Adviser has indicated that medical schools ignore research experiences that are only 6 to 8 weeks in duration; they will recognize one year experiences or greater as likely having had an important impact on the student's academic preparation for a medical degree. Graduate faculty seek students who had undergraduate research experience. In fact, many of our faculty, especially within the College of Engineering, recruit their own undergraduate researchers who had excelled in their laboratory. Consequently, the Office of Undergraduate Research is a strong partner with our Graduate School. For example, our Summer Undergraduate Research Program involves at least 20 differ-

*(Continued on page 10)*

## NEWS AND NOTES

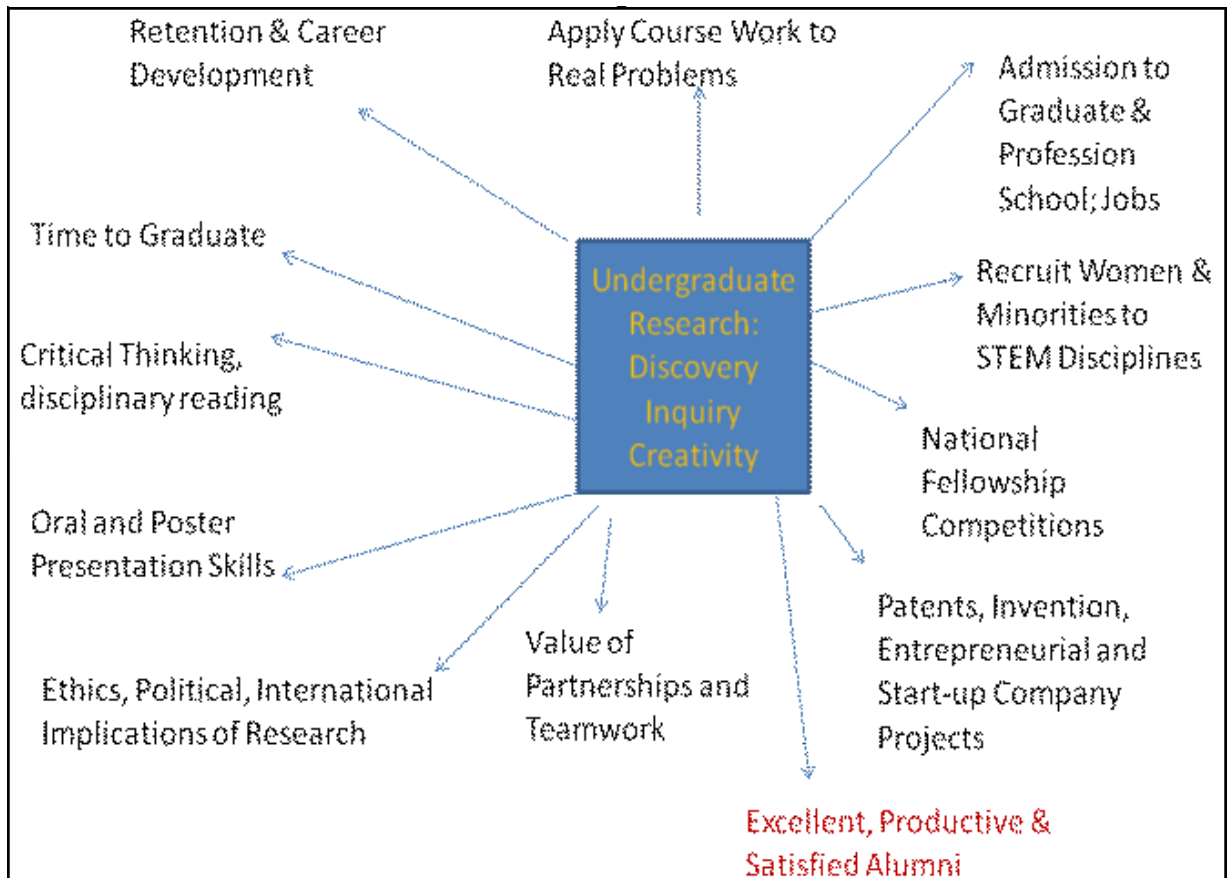
### OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH (OUR)

(Continued from page 9)

ent funding programs that attracts students from as many as 60 different universities; thus, we seek graduate applications from these top students who had proven themselves over the course of a 10-week research program on campus.

Special academic programs on campus as well as elective options to do research within the curriculum for credit are available to undergraduates. The University Honors Program requires at least two semesters of independent research/creative project as well as completion of honors research seminar courses. Many departmental or college level honors programs that begin in the sophomore or junior year require research in the discipline. Most curricula have a 490 course designation for Special Topics or Independent Student as a way to obtain credit for a research experience.

The undergraduate researcher often becomes a devoted alumnus because of the significant one-on-one experiences they had with their mentor and how those meaningful experiences propelled the student's further education and career. University Advancement (Development) must embrace campus undergraduate research programs at least for this reason.



\*The Boyer Commission on Educating Undergraduates in the Research University. Reinventing Undergraduate Education: a Blueprint for America's Research Universities, 1998. <http://www.reinventioncenter.miami.edu/TheBoyerReport.html>

The Boyer Commission on Educating Undergraduates in the Research University. Reinventing Undergraduate Education: a Blueprint for America's Research Universities: Three Years After the Boyer Report

<http://www.sunysb.edu/pres/pdfs/O210066-Boyer%20Report%20Final.pdf>

## NEWS AND NOTES

### OFFICE OF UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION SERVICES (OURS)

OURS, in partnership with the Advisory Council for Enhancing Success (ACCESS), is pleased to announce that the First Year Portal is available through the Student Success Website ([http://www.ncsu.edu/success/first\\_year.html](http://www.ncsu.edu/success/first_year.html)). The links in this portal are intended to make it easier for first-year students to access the information and services they need.

### UNDERGRADUATE TUTORIAL CENTER (UTC)

#### Spring Tutoring

A variety of free academic assistance is available this fall for NC State students enrolled for credit in many 100- and 200- level classes, primarily in math, physics, chemistry, foreign languages, economics, biology, and 300-level statistics. Several types of assistance are available that are designed to best meet the students' needs, including individual and group tutoring by appointment, Supplemental Instruction (SI), and walk-in tutoring. In addition, Writing and Speaking Tutorial Services (WSTS) provides assistance to anyone in the university community who needs help at any stage of the writing process. For further information and current schedules, please visit our website ([http://www.ncsu.edu/tutorial\\_center/](http://www.ncsu.edu/tutorial_center/)).

#### New Orientation Format

Plans are being developed to modify the required orientation format for students new to tutoring by appointment programs for spring 2009. Please view further details online in January ([http://www.ncsu.edu/tutorial\\_center/](http://www.ncsu.edu/tutorial_center/)).

#### WSTS Policy Change

Since its inception in 2001, Writing and Speaking Tutorial Services has offered one-on-one tutoring to all enrolled students at NC State University. This semester, our usage by both undergraduate and graduate students has forced us to refocus on our mission--serving undergraduate students. Therefore, WSTS is no longer able to serve graduate students.

## GET INVOLVED: BE AN ANGEL FOR DUAP'S HOLIDAY SERVICE PROJECT

Passage Home, Inc. is looking for sponsorship for 42 families this Holiday Season, and DUAP is stepping up once again!

**Please bring any unwrapped gifts to the DUAP Holiday**

**Luncheon on Friday, December 19th.** Your generosity in this time of need is greatly appreciated!

DUAP will also be collecting any food donations for the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina. The Food Bank accepts canned goods, dry items such as pasta and cereal, and toiletries. Please no glass items though!

Boxes as well as donations will be very helpful! For more information or questions, please contact Kathy Ziga ([kathy\\_ziga@ncsu.edu](mailto:kathy_ziga@ncsu.edu) or 919-515-5596).



# Happy Holidays!



**EVENTS****BIRTH MONTH DECEMBER OR JANUARY? HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU!**

Tresa Barlage, Mary Bowden, Carole Brashear, James Ellis, Barbara Langston, Susan Matney, Karen McCloud, Melissa McConnell, Roxanna McGraw, Carrie McLean, Heather Murphy, Kim Outing, Erin Robinson, Melissa Simpson, Marcia Toms, Carmen White

**STAFF MEETING**

The next two DUAP Division Meetings (8:30-9:30 a.m.) are scheduled:

- Friday, December 19, 2008 (**DIVISION HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**)
- Wednesday, January 28, 2009

For other events, see the online NC State Calendar (<http://calendar.activedatax.com/ncstate>).

**SYNC STAFF**

Questions or comments? Please send them to [duap\\_sync@lists.ncsu.edu](mailto:duap_sync@lists.ncsu.edu).

Samara Fleming Burnette, Editor

Pat Cellini, Associate Editor

Melissa McConnell, Assistant Editor

**SYNC Writers:**

Andrea Atkin, First Year College

Katie Sheridan, Academic Support Program for Student Athletes

Matthew Rust, First Year College

Marcia Toms, Undergraduate Tutorial Center

**For more information about DUAP and its units, please visit our web site:**

<http://www.ncsu.edu/duap/>

**Look for the next SYNC publication in February! Remember to send in your news and notes by January 20th.**

**SYNC FEATURE WRITER HIGHLIGHTED: SAMARA FLEMING BURNETTE**

Wearing a variety of hats is normal for Samara Fleming Burnette (pictured left), whose current job allows her to be coordinator for retention studies and the editor of *SYNC*. As part of her duties, she facilitates the Advisory Council for Enhancing Student Success (ACCESS), made up of more than 35 campus representatives, and coordinates other efforts to retain and graduate students.

Samara's activities go beyond what's written down. In addition to her other duties, she volunteers as an academic coach for two Pack Promise Scholars; serves on various committees (and is most proud of her seven years of service on the Council on the Status of Women); and is actively pursuing a Ph.D. in Educational Research and Policy Analysis.

"I view everything as a learning experience," she said when asked about the value gained from juggling all of her activities. "I am always amazed at how much I grow from participating in activities within DUAP and around campus."

As of January 2009, Samara will be taking on new responsibilities in the Office of Advising Support, Information, and Services (OASIS) where she will coordinate the Pack Promise Program and serve as an academic adviser.