

Halifacts

Spring 2007

A quarterly publication of current events at Halifax Community College

Class of 2007 Celebrates - Degrees Conferred



The Halifax Community College (HCC) Class of 2007 was all smiles Saturday, May 12, as they walked across the stage in The Centre and accepted certificates, diplomas and degrees. Dr. Delores A. Parker, vice president for Academic and Student Services for the North Carolina Community College System gave the commencement address.

"I always enjoy going to commencement, because this is what we strive for. This is the day we all look forward to," said Parker, who gave an overview of HCC's 40-year history and achievements. She also gave an historic perspective of 1967, when the college was established. "While many things have changed in 40 years, the need to have educated citizens has remained the same." She gave three points to graduates including staying connected to your family and community, becoming a lifelong learner, and becoming a global citizen.

HCC President, Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr. recognized recipients of the first-ever Presidential Partnership Award. Cisco Systems, Inc., Halifax Regional Medical Center and PCB Piezotronics were presented the award for commitment and partnership in developing workforce education programs and supporting economic development in the Roanoke Valley.

Griffin also gave the charge to the graduates. "Today is both an ending and a beginning. I charge you to lay aside that which is no longer needed and take up those tools which have lead you to this place in life."

Graduate Judy Oglesby gave the student response. "None of us are content to let others determine our destiny. It is through determination that we got to this day," said Oglesby. "If you have shared any of my experiences at HCC, you're finding that you are a changed person."

May Graduate Determined to Finish Studies



Barbara Motley-Smith

Barbara Motley Smith is a nontraditional student. She is nontraditional in her determination and in her faith. An Interior Design student, Smith graduated in May with an Associate in Applied Science degree and a one-year diploma in Interior Design. She also received a one-year certificate in computer-aided design, or Auto-CAD. She received a one-year certificate in Interior Design in May 2006, but will continue at HCC in the fall in order to earn a certificate in the Graphic Design Program.

Smith, a native of Jackson and a resident of Roanoke Rapids, has worked in retail and has owned three businesses. She has also worked as a teacher's assistant at a university and has volunteered at various public schools. Although it has been difficult for Smith to finish her education due to family, health and job demands, she has persevered.

See Smith, page 2

Message from the President



Greetings from HCC! We've had a very exciting year. I am pleased to report that the N.C. Community College System has given HCC a **Superior Rating** in meeting mandated performance funding measures for the 2006-07 year. HCC was among 38 community colleges in the state system that received this distinctive rating. I am sure you will join me in congratulating our faculty, staff, and students on their success in meeting these standards that are core indicators of student success.

We are also gearing up for the next academic year. HCC has a great strategic plan in place to keep us focused on carrying out our mission and purpose. In order to make this a caring environment that promotes student success, we are updating the campus strategic and master plans, enhancing enrollment management activities, developing new student retention and academic programs and establishing new educational programs, like the Early College Program, to meet the needs of our region.

We are also continually scanning the environment for opportunities to work with our business and industry partners to meet the training and development needs of employees. Our continuing education division offers an array of courses for employers in our region. We are extremely proud of our success in providing updated Workforce Development Programs for our business and industry partners.

We are an open door institution and I invite you to visit our campus often. We believe that students and citizens in our service area are our greatest assets. I invite you to explore the myriad of opportunities available by visiting in person, calling (252) 536-HCC1 or visiting www.halifaxcc.edu. Remember, HCC is your community college where **"Learning Comes to Life – In Pursuit of Excellence."**

Sincerely,
Dr. Ervin V. Griffin, Sr.

Vice President Earns Doctorate



Dr. Joy Cooley

Vice President of Instructional Services Joy Cooley recently earned a doctorate in Higher Education Administration Leadership from East Carolina University. The program was offered as a cohort on the HCC campus, which made it more accessible for her.

"I've always been a nontraditional student. Throughout college, I've always had family, work and been a student, so I can really identify with our students at HCC who have the same responsibilities and are trying to get it all in," said Cooley. "It's work. You have to commit to a project and see it through. You really have to work everyday to make it happen. That's what it takes—perseverance."

Cooley has been in education all of her life. Originally from Weldon, where her

mother, Connie Metcalfe stills lives, Cooley taught at McIver Elementary School for 13 years. Then in 1989, she came to HCC as an Adult Basic Education instructor. She has moved into progressively responsible leadership roles and actually served as the acting president for five months.

Having close ties to HCC since its creation, she took her first post secondary class at HCC when it was Halifax Technical Institute, where her father, Robert Metcalf, was a founding Board of Trustee member. In addition to earning a doctorate, Cooley also holds a bachelor's degree in education from North Carolina Wesleyan and a Master's in education from Campbell University.

She serves as the president of the advisory committee for the Roanoke Center and is on the board for United Way of the Roanoke Valley. Active on the Business Education Partnership, Cooley also serves on Roanoke Valley Chamber of Commerce committees.

Cooley currently resides near Littleton with her husband, Harold. Her brother, Bob, and sister-in-law, Lucy Metcalfe live in Roanoke Rapids and Cooley's daughter, Anne, and son-in-law, Todd Holder live in Raleigh with their two sons, Evan and Corbin.

Smith

cont. from page 1

"I know God has raised me up and given me His favor. The good outweighs the bad," said Smith.

The Phi Theta Kappa honor society member is also an Ambassador, a mentor for Student Support Services, and a minister at her church working with young women. She is the recipient of three

scholarships at HCC including the Jerry Painter Scholarship, the Clellie M. Taylor Memorial, and the HCC Leadership Award.

Smith's son, Chester and his family live in Roanoke Rapids. Her daughter, Dorothy, lives in Chesapeake with her family. Smith also has five grandchildren.

Halifax Community College
(252) 536-HCC1 (4221)
www.halifaxcc.edu

Leadership Institute Calls Two from HCC

Halifax Community College's (HCC) Sherry Agee of Gaston and Kelley Cox of Weldon attended the North Carolina Community College Student Leadership Institute (SLI), June 10-15 in Raleigh. They were among 30 students chosen to participate from North Carolina's 58 community colleges.



Sherry Agee

Agee, a recent graduate of the Business Administration Program, is the Administrative Assistant for the HCC Foundation, Inc. and Institutional Advancement.

She is the Alpha Eta Phi Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa president for 2007-08, a National Society of Leadership and Success member, a Howerton Gowen and

N.C. Community College Trust Fund Scholar, a member of Who's Who Among Students in American Junior Colleges, a New Dixie Oil Scholarship recipient, and a Microsoft Certified Professional.

Cox is dual-enrolled as a high school senior/college freshman at HCC. She is pursuing a degree in the Associate in Science



Kelley Cox

Program. An HCC Ambassador, Cox was named Partners for Education "Tutor of the Year" in 2004.

SLI provides an opportunity for select community college students to receive vital leadership training; in turn, these

students take knowledge back to their own campuses and train other students. The institute expands a community college education beyond academics into awareness of "real world" demands. The graduates are better equipped to be tomorrow's leaders.

The annual program is designed to offer community college students a hands-on, educational approach to many facets of leadership. The six-day institute was held at Peace College in. Two-day mini-sessions will also be held in November and March, 2008.

Scholars Honored in Raleigh



Joshua Ferguson

Joshua Martin Ferguson and Judy Mae Oglesby were honored by the North Carolina Community College System (NCCCS) on April 24 with Academic Excellence Awards. The event was held at the North Raleigh Hilton. Two students from each community college received the Academic Excellence medal from System President H. Martin Lancaster and Dr. Linwood W. Powell, vice chair of the State Board of Community Colleges.

Ferguson, a student in the Associate in Applied Science Industrial Systems Technology Program, is from Emporia, Va. Oglesby, a student in the Associate in Arts



Judy Oglesby

(College Transfer) Program, is from Roanoke Rapids, N.C. Both graduated during HCC's commencement exercises this year.

The recommended criteria for selections include currently enrolled students and those who have completed at least 12 semester hours in an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, Associate of Applied Science, or Associate of General Studies Degree. Students must also have a cumulative grade point average of not less than 3.25.

The NCCCS enrolls more than 800,000 students in 58 comprehensive community colleges. More than 600 people attended the April 24 event.



2007 - 2008 Season Program
"Embrace the Diversity"

November 16, 2007

Pasty Cline:
A Musical Tribute

December 1, 2007

The North Carolina Symphony

February 8, 2008

Julius Ceaser

April 22, 2008

Little Women

May 31, 2008

Riders in the Sky

For tickets & information
call The Centre's Box Office
at 252-538-4336

Highlights from 2006 - 2007



HCC student, Becky McCoy, creates College's 40th Anniversary logo



Dr. Mary Stephenson, adjunct professor, enjoys preparing HCC Teacher Prep students



A light moment before high school students arrive for Junior's Learning About Careers Day (JLAC)



Vice President Joy Cooley celebrates receiving her doctorate from East Carolina University



President Griffin and Roanoke Rapids Postmaster Toni Agner unveil commemorative stamp at HCC's first Stamp Dedication



HCC & Elizabeth City State University signs Teacher Prep agreement. LuAnn Riddick (center), program liaison, is on hand for official signing



President Griffin presents HCC's first academic mace



Dr. Delores Parker (left), 2007 Commencement speaker, joins President Griffin and Board Chair Dr. Stanley Edwards

Thanks & Farewell



*Bonita Terry-Malone
Director of Institutional Advancement/
Executive Director of the Foundation*

For the past three years I have served as Director of Institutional Advancement for HCC and overseen the College's Foundation. With strategic foresight and guidance from Jack Bryan, former Foundation Board Chair and Charles McElheney, the current Chair, the Foundation has experienced growth. While gifts have fluctuated as organizational adjustments occurred, community friends, faculty, and staff continued to support students through the Foundation's scholarship program. For this I am eternally grateful.

As of June 29, 2007, I will be leaving the College and am proud to leave with the integrity that accompanied me on my arrival. A heartfelt thanks goes to Dr. Theodore Gasper, Jr., former HCC President, for hiring me and acknowledging the skills that I had to offer and the Board of Trustees for your approval. A sincere thank you to departmental team members and "sisters" Sherry Agee, Kim Edwards, and Melanie Temple who worked diligently and professionally on every project and offered invaluable advice. For encouragement and professional mentorship, I acknowledge and thank former HCC Vice President, Dr. Laura W. Buffaloe, who

helped me to understand the "whys" of many challenges and the true meanings of "get the facts" and "just push through it". Thank you Dr. Buffaloe. You are remembered and respected forever.

To HCC Administrators, Faculty, and Staff – **THANK YOU!** You each know the role you have played in my professional experience at HCC, and whatever that was – I can assure you that I experienced tremendous growth from it. I would be remiss not to specifically thank those of you who have scored scholarship applications and Tara Keeter who graciously assisted me during the scholarship selections. A special thanks to Dean Barbara Hasty, "Dot" Greene, and the Student Services Division for **always** helping with **every** program effort. You were always there to assist and many times after work hours. Please know that I am forever in your debt.

Finally, thanks to Charles McElheney and the Foundation Board of Directors for giving your time and expertise to the College. As the Foundation continues to grow, please be encouraged to stay true to the original vision and to expand the vision to help ensure exponential growth for the College.

To end my last year at HCC, I share a story with you that I shared with the Foundation Board at the end of my first year. This perfectly describes my efforts at HCC:

This is a story I learned from Wangari Muta Maathai, a world-renowned environmentalist and 2004 Nobel Peace Prize recipient from Kenya, Africa.

A fire started in a forest and it overwhelmed the animals. They panicked and ran all about the forest in total fear. One little humming bird was in the midst of the mayhem. He felt helpless and wanted to fly away from it all. Then the humming bird stopped and decided it was not good to run away. The bird decided to do something. He flew to the nearest stream, gathered small amounts of water, carried it back to the forest, and dropped it onto the fire. The little bird did this repeatedly. Other animals begin to notice the bird. Many laughed. Some scoffed and asked the bird, "What are you trying to do? You are too small to make a difference. This situation is out of hand." Though the comments continued, the humming bird did not stop. The humming bird did not give up. Instead, he said to the others - - **"I'm doing my part."**

I will continue to keep Halifax Community College in my thoughts and prayers, as Dr. Griffin and his administration move forward to ensure that HCC continues to be the place where...

Learning Comes to Life in Pursuit of Excellence!

**Halifax Community College
Board of Trustees**

Dr. Stanley M. Edwards
Chairman

Frank V. Avent

Jay A. Baker

William J. Boseman III

Helen B. Brown

David Cairns

Roger W. Dalton

Bernella W. DeLaMora

Rachel K. Hux

Rev. Robert L. Knight

Lillie J. Solomon

Cary Whitaker

**Halifax Community College
Foundation Board of Directors**

Charles McElheney
Chairman

Pat Wilkie
Vice Chairman

Ervin V. Griffin, Sr.
Secretary

Dr. Jose Antony

Reginald Baird

Helen Brown

M.E. Gilstrap

Marshall Grant

John Jones

David King

Steve Medlin

Hubert D. Pope

Alex Thannikkary

Pat Wilkie

Clark Young



Halifax Staff

Bonita Terry-Malone
Editor

Melanie Temple
Public Information Officer

Kim Edwards
Graphic Artist

*Halifax Community College welcomes students
and employees without regard to race, color,
national origin, religion, sex, age, or disability.*



100 College Drive, P O Drawer 809
Wetton, NC 27890
(252) 536-HCC1 Fax: (252) 536-4144
www.halifaxcc.edu