Application Surge
More and more young people seek an Appalachian education. Can the university accommodate them?

Plus,
Board of Trustees approves athletics facilities plan
Doing More with Less

In the face of extraordinary state budget problems, Appalachian’s base state appropriation has been reduced by more than $5 million, or approximately 6 percent, during the past two and a half years. In addition, the university has reverted more than $8 million in state funds.

The N.C. Legislature’s full support for enrollment growth and last fall’s record enrollment certainly helped make up a portion of Appalachian’s reduced state appropriation. Furthermore, the effect of these cuts has been somewhat offset by students and their parents assuming a growing portion of Appalachian’s operating budget through tuition increases. Responding to this issue, the UNC Board of Governors has frozen tuition for the coming year—subject to final action by the state legislature.

With some state budget analysts currently projecting a $2 billion gap between revenues and desired spending for the coming fiscal year, the University of North Carolina system will not likely escape further cuts in state support, although university enrollments are up more than 6 percent this year and substantial enrollment growth is projected well into the future. (See page 13.)

Thus far, we have managed such cuts through judicious budgeting and careful planning, which have reduced operating budgets to the bone. Now we must strategically address the long-term ramifications of shrinking public funding, both to protect the learning environment that we have worked so long and hard to create and to shape Appalachian’s future as a premier comprehensive university.

Shortly after coming to Appalachian, I created the Strategic Planning Commission comprised of faculty, staff, and students. Representing all facets of the campus community, it serves as an advisory group on Appalachian’s mission and other strategic questions. In an era of increasing accountability, finite resources and priority setting, I believe that every project and program at Appalachian must be continually evaluated in the context of both current and future contributions toward fulfilling Appalachian’s mission of education and public service.

I have charged this commission to help establish a process and to formulate parameters for dealing with the fundamental challenge ahead of us:

“How do we continue to do what Appalachian does in such an exemplary way – only do it with more students and less funding?”

Without question, Appalachian students continue to benefit from a wide range of dynamic programs and educational initiatives despite current fiscal constraints. Yet, strategic thinking and careful planning must define how we address today’s circumstances while shaping what Appalachian will be years from now.

Francis T. Borkowski
5. Athletics Facilities Plan
Appalachian’s Board of Trustees approves a concept to improve facilities for student-athletes and fans.

8. A Library for a New Age
Funds from the 2000 public higher education bond referendum are enhancing academics. Appalachian breaks ground on a new library in April.

10. Brad Wilson: A Steward of the UNC System
UNC Board of Governors Chairman Brad Wilson ’75 speaks on issues facing public higher education and what his Appalachian education means to him.

13. In Growing Demand
Student quality is up, but so is quantity. Appalachian considers how to maintain a close-knit community with increased enrollment.

DEPARTMENTS

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On the cover…
Some of Appalachian’s 13,185 on-campus students pass Belk Library during class change.
New Members Join ASU Foundation Board

Four new members have joined the Appalachian State University Foundation Board of Directors. Each has been elected to a four-year term.

They are Vaughn Hayes ’68 ’78 of North Wilkesboro, vice president of store planning for Lowe’s Companies Inc.; Katherine Harper of Charlotte, president of the Harper Corporation of America; Darlene Romine ’72 of Greensboro, director of national accounts at Biogen; and James R. “Rocky” Proffit ’77 of Davidson, president and CEO of NAPCO. Jeannine Collins ’79 ’81 also joined the board, representing the university’s Alumni Association for 2002-03.

Twenty-seven people serve on the board of directors. The foundation, incorporated in 1968, invests private contributions in stocks, bonds, and other options in a conservative portfolio determined by its investment policy and investment consultants. The foundation provides funds to support the university’s academic programs and student scholarships. Its support totaled a record $10.13 million in 2001-02.

Provost Set to Retire

Provost Harvey Durham will retire in June after thirty-seven years at Appalachian as a faculty member and administrator.

Durham joined the university in 1967 as an assistant professor in the Department of Mathematics. He has been a professor of mathematics since 1971. He was named chairman and associate professor in 1967, associate dean of the faculty in 1971, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs in 1974, acting vice chancellor for academic affairs in 1979, vice chancellor for academic affairs in 1980, and provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs in 1981. He was promoted to executive vice chancellor in 1989.

“Harvey has been an unwavering advocate for the university’s faculty and students during his tenure, and his wisdom and counsel surely will be missed,” said Chancellor Francis T. Borkowski. A university search committee hopes to identify a new provost later this spring.

SACS Accreditation Reaffirmed

The Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) has reaffirmed Appalachian’s accreditation for another ten years. The action came during the organization’s annual meeting in December.

The reaffirmation follows a two-year extensive self-study by faculty and staff, plus an on-site review by a SACS reaffirmation committee.

Reaccreditation is required for an institution’s continued eligibility for federal student aid and research grants and continued recognition of the university’s credits and degrees by other institutions.

The committee’s report cited no weaknesses and made only three recommendations. Those recommendations related to criteria ensuring that faculty, including those teaching in the university’s distance learning programs, have the appropriate academic credentials, and that the duties of the chancellor and vice chancellors be included in appropriate staff and faculty publications.

The visiting committee commended the university’s long-standing commit-
ment to the humanities and cultural outreach efforts. The low number of recommendations are rare for an institution and reflect highly on Appalachian, according to SACS staff.

“Widespread opportunities to participate in learning communities greatly enrich many aspects of student learning at Appalachian,” said John W. Prados, chairman of the visiting committee. Prados is vice president emeritus of the University of Tennessee.

“Particularly laudable has been the university’s long-standing and continued commitment to quality undergraduate education,” Prados said. “Although unanimity of opinion is not possible or even desirable in an academic institution, a great many of the Appalachian State faculty, staff and administrators seem to share a set of values focused on excellence in undergraduate education and genuine concern for students.”

Appalachian’s last reaffirmation occurred in 1992. Appalachian has been a member of SACS since 1942.

Freshman Survey Says…

■ Nearly 100 percent of freshmen brought a computer to campus

■ 64 percent do not have a credit card, but 86 percent have a check/debit card

■ 50 percent consider themselves born-again Christians

■ 17.9 percent have a body part other than their ears pierced

Source: Office of Student Development’s 2002 Freshman Survey

GPS Base Station Installed Atop Rankin

The Department of Geography and Planning is part of a network of global positioning system (GPS) base stations installed across North Carolina as part of a $65 million federally funded project to create more accurate flood maps.

The $20,000 GPS base station atop Rankin Science Building “communicates” constantly with at least four of the twenty-eight GPS satellites in continuous orbit around the Earth.

The GPS data, combined with field and aerial surveys, will yield elevation data that is accurate within twenty inches. Department faculty say that having precise elevation data for creating accurate flood maps, also known as Flood Insurance Rate Maps, is critical. The base station also will support other projects requiring precise GPS information.

After several mild winters, students braved a series of snow storms in 2002-03. Extreme weather combined with a stalled public transportation system led the university to cancel classes January 23. Classes were canceled again February 17 due to a heavy ice storm. University records indicate Appalachian has canceled classes only seven other times: March 20, 1943; December 5, 1974; January 21, 1985; February 13, 1985; April 6, 1987; March 15-19, 1993; and January 28, 1998.
Freshman Programs Receive More Honors

Appalachian State University’s commitment to first-year students continues to receive praise. Named a TIME magazine “College of the Year” in 2001 for its attention to freshmen, Appalachian received the 2002 Noel-Levitz Retention Excellence Award for Freshman Learning Communities for enhancing the freshman experience and improving freshman-to-sophomore retention. Appalachian also was recognized in 2002 by the Policy Center for the First Year of College as an Institution of Excellence.

U.S. News & World Report’s 2003 America’s Best Colleges Guide has rated Appalachian third out of thirty-four institutions for its first-year experience academic programs and fifteenth for its learning communities program. These were new categories in the annual publication.

“Our high ranking in these categories is evidence of a lot of hard work by many people in the university to make Appalachian a challenging but welcoming and supportive community for new students,” said Chancellor Francis T. Borkowski.

Joni Petschauer, who directs the university’s freshman learning communities program, said, “Student success, particularly in the first year, is central to the Appalachian experience. We constantly seek new ways to ensure academic rigor and excellence throughout the educational journey of our students.”

In other categories, U.S. News & World Report’s 2003 America’s Best Colleges Guide placed Appalachian third among the South’s top public master’s degree granting universities and eleventh among public and private master’s degree granting universities in the South. The university ranked third in terms of “best value” among master’s degree granting universities in the South. Appalachian has placed among the top fifteen southern universities since the rankings first appeared in 1986.

Appalachian Hosts McGraw-Hill Forum

Appalachian hosted the McGraw-Hill Forum for Student Success and Academic Change in November. Representatives from ten U.S. institutions met to identify specific issues facing their students, schools, and institutions with regard to college access and admissions; and to plan efforts that will increase the number of underrepresented students entering and succeeding in college.

Appalachian was selected to host the program because of its award-winning freshman learning communities program.

From TV to Teaching

Broadcast veteran Cullie Tarleton, an executive in residence in the Department of Communication this semester, teaches a class in electronic media management. Tarleton retired as senior vice president of television and cable for Bahakel Communications. He spent thirty-six years in the broadcast industry, serving as general manager of Charlotte’s WBT TV for twenty-five years. The Department of Communication, housed in the College of Fine and Applied Arts, offers undergraduate degrees in advertising, electronic media/broadcasting, journalism, public relations, and applied communication. It has more than nine hundred majors.

Close student-faculty interaction is a major component in freshman learning communities.
Athletics Facilities Plan: 'A Beginning to Something Special'

An athletics facilities concept described by one student-athlete as “exciting and motivating” received the green light in February from Appalachian State University’s Board of Trustees.

The $30-32 million plan calls for renovating and expanding Owens Field House to provide new locker rooms and a central location for coaches’ and support staff offices; installing a new playing...
Women student-athletes are particularly excited about the prospects of new locker rooms in an expanded Owens Field House. Because the current building contains only a football locker room, soccer and field hockey players must change into their Mountaineer uniforms in hallways, single-stall bathrooms, or other buildings before a match at Kidd Brewer Stadium. Below, the study committee’s recommendation approved in concept by the Appalachian trustees.

“"A concept this big is exciting and motivating,”
Josh Baldwin, a freshman from Stafford, Virginia

Facilities Plan Highlights

- Replacing Kidd Brewer Stadium’s artificial turf
- Renovating and expanding Owens Field House
- Converting Varsity Gym to an indoor training facility
- Increasing stadium capacity to 21,000 people; renovating and reconfiguring stadium to enhance fan experience
Athletics Facilities Plan: ‘A Beginning to Something Special’

A concept this big is exciting and motivating,” says football player Josh Baldwin, a freshman from Stafford, Virginia. Baldwin is among 550 student-athletes and a large number of intramural and club sport participants to benefit from the improvements, which will be implemented in stages. The plan represents a cost-effective means of addressing Appalachian’s most pressing needs for improving athletics facilities, both now and for the foreseeable future, says Chancellor Francis T. Borkowski.

“This plan obviously enhances the learning environment for our students-athletes and the large number of students involved in intramural sports,” Borkowski says. “It also extends the life and expands the use of existing facilities by the broader university community and reflects well on the nature and scope of today’s Appalachian State University.”

The facility enhancements were recommended by a thirty-member committee convened by Borkowski one year ago to look at the university’s athletics needs. It was chaired by George Goodyear, the parent of an Appalachian graduate and a strong advocate of the university and its athletics program. The group, which included students, alumni, faculty and friends of the university, studied the university’s athletic program and football in particular. As part of the process, the committee hired Davidson Consulting Group to evaluate the university’s athletics facilities needs and recommend ways to address them.

Under the approved plan, the 16,500-seat Kidd Brewer Stadium will be expanded to approximately 21,000 seats. Funded through a focused private fundraising effort and marketing initiatives, stadium improvements also will include new lighting and sound systems, renovated grandstands to include boxes and suites, and a covered upper deck for the east grandstand. The grandstand boxes will be designed as venues for a variety of meetings and activities when not in use for sports events. The plan also includes renovations of the press box, coaches’ boxes, concessions and merchandising areas, and restrooms on the west side of the stadium.

In addition to football, Kidd Brewer Stadium serves as a practice and game site for Olympic sports teams and hosts a variety of campus activities including the Mountaineer Marching Band, ROTC, summer concerts, and certain student recreation activities.

A $75 athletics fee paid by students will fund improvements to Varsity Gym and Owens Field House and the stadium’s turf replacement. These projects, directly related to student use, account for about half of the $30-$32 million price tag.

Expanding Owens Field House is critical because of the upcoming demolition of Broome-Kirk Gym. The nearly fifty-year-old gym—which contains 15,000 square feet of coaches’ offices and team locker rooms—will be torn down for a new dining hall.

Don Lockerbie of Olympvs International, a company that worked with Davidson Consulting Group on the athletics feasibility study, told Board of Trustees members that doubling the size of Owens Field House will create a “unified headquarters of operations,” which will include locker rooms for both men and women, coaches’ offices for all sports except basketball and volleyball, a film room, and other meeting space.

All twenty sports will benefit from a new sports medicine complex in the building, as well as a new weight room nearly five times larger than the existing weight room.

“The plans for Owens Field House will improve and increase what types of rehabilitation and other services the athletics training staff can offer our student-athletes,” says Head Athletic Trainer Jim Shorten.

Kidd Brewer Stadium’s existing artificial turf is linked to a common injury suffered by student-athletes: “turf toe.” “Turf toe” occurs when a player’s shoe grips and sticks to the turf, causing the big toe to bend too far as bodyweight moves forward. This can cause ligament damage and even joint damage.

The current surface was state of the art when installed in 1995, but new technology has produced artificial fibers that look and feel like grass when supported by a sand and rubber foundation. The current surface is one-half inch fiber on top of a one-and-a-half inch pad and asphalt foundation.

At Varsity Gym, the athletics facilities plan calls for converting the gymnasium into a multi-purpose indoor practice complex for all intercollegiate sports teams as well as space for intramural and club sports. After upper- and lower-level bleachers are removed, the area will be converted to include an artificial turf covering about three-quarters of the length of the building, with one-quarter reserved as hardwood floor. Nets and cages for baseball, soccer, and golf can accommodate practices during inclement weather.

Head Coach Jerry Moore, who has led the Mountaineer football team for fourteen seasons, says the Board of Trustees’ decision is “a beginning to something special.”

“These improvements will help every program,” he says. “There are going to be a lot of improvements for turf and the stadium, but the most important thing for the entire department is the planned indoor facility. It solves an ongoing need.”

The athletics facilities plan is complemented by a new natural-grass soccer field, to be constructed adjacent to Lackey Field, and six tennis courts, to be located off Stadium Drive. Groundbreaking will occur this spring.

Director of Athletics Roachel Lane looks at all the improvements as long-term benefits. “This is an opportunity to go forward and mold what Appalachian athletics can be for the future,” he says. “It will have an effect on helping us to recruit and retain quality people in the future.”

—from staff reports
n November 2000, North Carolina voters considered one of the greatest issues facing public higher education: a $3.1 billion bond referendum to finance urgent building needs at the sixteen University of North Carolina institutions and fifty-eight community colleges. It would change the way the state pays for higher education capital improvements, replacing the traditional pay-as-you-go approach with a strategic, long-term financial plan. The measure passed with overwhelming support, providing the means to finance projects totaling $82.3 million at Appalachian State University.

A Library for a New Age

Funds from bond referendum enhance academics

Students collaborate inside Belk Library, which was built in 1968 for a campus enrolling six thousand. It has overcrowded shelves and cramped study space. Top right, an architectural rendering by Pease Associates of Charlotte and the firm Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson and Abbot.
In April, Appalachian breaks ground on the campus’s foremost bond referendum project—a new library and information commons. It will be constructed by 2005 on what is now a parking lot beside Whitener Hall.

With 214,000 square feet, the library and information commons will house electronic classrooms, group study rooms, a multi-media authoring center, a twenty-four-hour cyber café, and computer connections at every seat, as well as traditional shelves of books, reference materials, and journals.

The new facility will have almost 50 percent more space than Belk Library, providing more seating for users, additional space to house library materials, and more space for teaching. About one third of the building will be dedicated to the library’s growing collections, according to University Librarian Mary Reichel.

“The new library is being designed to meet the ever-changing research and educational needs of students, faculty, staff and others on the campus of a premier comprehensive university,” Reichel said. “It’s going to make such a difference for our campus and community.”

Once the library is complete, neighboring Whitener Hall will be demolished and a three hundred-vehicle parking deck will be built in its place. Occupants of Whitener Hall will be relocated to the renovated Belk Library. The entire project will cost about $47.6 million.

The library and information commons will have five levels. Each floor is open and flexible, allowing configurations to change as needs change. A combination of features such as brick, glass, and a roofline broken by dormers will give the appearance of a three-story building when the facility is viewed along College Street. A glass-enclosed rotunda will help disperse natural lighting.

The architects have incorporated many of the suggestions offered by faculty, staff, students, and the community about the library’s features and use. Student suggestions included comfortable seating, quiet study areas, rooms for group study, an area that would be “homey” and inviting, and a round-the-clock study room.

The building will have public computers, laptops for checkout, and Internet access at every seat via ports or a wireless access. The cyber café/study area, along with a seventy-five-seat lecture hall, will be at the front of the building and can operate independently of the library’s schedule.

The new facility will have seating for about 1,700 patrons, up nearly 70 percent from Belk Library. There will be twenty-six rooms for group study that can accommodate four to eight students. Belk Library has only three rooms available for group study. Three classrooms will be used to teach students about electronic library resources and library research.

Alumni and friends will have gift-giving opportunities to name rooms and other spaces, making the new facility even more attractive and useful.

“A really positive aspect about the seating planned for the new library is the variety that will be available—seats at study tables, group study rooms, and lounge-style seating—which makes it a really good mix to meet student needs,” Reichel said.

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“The new library [will] meet the ever-changing research and educational needs... of a premier comprehensive university.”

——— University Librarian Mary Reichel
Appalachian is proud to have you as UNC Board of Governors chairman. Are you enjoying this role?

It’s been fun, and more time consuming than I planned. We had a series of important issues one right after the other: I was elected in July in the middle of the Quran controversy on the Chapel Hill campus, then came the controversial N.C. State conference center, and then personnel issues at Chapel Hill and N.C. State. This was in addition to getting the budget ready and making a decision on tuition. For 2003, I hope it calms down.

What in your professional experience calls you to be chair?

I had never thought of being on the Board of Governors until Bob Snead [Class of 1955] called me in fall 1996 and asked me to consider running. I’ve always been interested in public service—and I do view this assignment as public service—so this was a natural flow. I’ve always enjoyed politics: I was in student government while at Appalachian in a number of capacities and had the opportunity to serve in leadership positions in Gov. Hunt’s second term. I’ve always enjoyed higher education, and I was also motivated by my loyalty to Appalachian. The real reason I thought about serving was Bob Snead’s call wanting to make sure there was an Appalachian voice on the UNC Board of Governors. But I want to say very quickly, we all check our credentials at the door and work to represent the entire university system.

How much time per week do you spend on BOG related work?

I’ve been lucky in that my employer supports me and gives me the time. He encourages all employees to have external involvement. Between telephone calls, meetings, writing letters, talking to UNC President Molly Broad, it works out to a day a week.

The board voted Jan. 10 to freeze tuition. Explain this decision.

Well, it was an important decision. I believe it was the right decision at the right time. While I was chair of the Budget and Finance Committee, we raised tuition those two years, and again last year. If you total the tuition increases in those three years, it’s a 62 percent increase. And those decisions were the right decisions at that time.

As I’ve visited campuses, I hear and see that those tuition increases are paying off. But I’ve also been hearing, particularly from students, that they stepped up to the plate but are now getting less for their dollar: the size of classes has increased, sections aren’t as readily available as they were, and the sequencing of classes has been disrupted because of budget considerations. So, the president and I decided to recommend to the board that we call a time-out and not increase tuition, either across the board or entertain any campus-based increases this year, because of the burden on the student, the percentage of increase over the last three years, and the lack of economic recovery in North Carolina. Now, are we going to be able to sustain that judgment? I don’t know. This is a year-to-year decision. The General Assembly gets the final say—we’ve expressed our points of view as stewards of the university. The General Assembly has got a tough $2 billion budget hole to fill, and we hope they
will be able to figure it out and not increase tuition.

**Assuming that the General Assembly does not increase tuition, how do you balance the needs of sixteen campuses with limited state appropriations?**

We’ve given the General Assembly our input on tuition, but we’ve also submitted our budget for next year. And we will be advocating for that budget. We believe we’ll be able to demonstrate to them that the needs of the university must and can be met by their appropriating sufficient dollars within that budget to keep the operation running.

The No. 1 priority of the university is student access, and the pressure we’re under is due to the enrollment growth. Last year we had 7,500 new students come into the university from the year before. In 2002 we paid for half of that enrollment increase through a tuition increase. The General Assembly paid for the other half through their state appropriations. This year, we are going to rely on the assurance we got from the General Assembly that if we met them halfway last year, that they would find the means by which to fully fund enrollment growth this year, thereby taking the pressure off of tuition.

We’re concerned though. We don’t know to what extent the university will have to undertake additional cuts to help balance the state budget. The General Assembly and the governor and all of us are really coming to an intersection in making a restatement of what typically and historically has been the commitment of the General Assembly to the people of North Carolina, and that is to fully fund the university so that it can fulfill its mission. We cannot operate the university through tuition revenues. That is a bankrupt strategy. The math will not work. And the legislature has always recognized it. So it will require direct appropriation, and how much they’re willing to do so will be the question of the day.

**When you’ve visited campuses, what effects from budget cuts have you seen?**

The first thing I’ve seen is a great spirit and a shoulder-to-the-wheel attitude. Faculty are doing what they love to do: teach students. And they will make it work. But I

“Students ask me, ‘Does it make a difference where I went to undergraduate school?’ The answer is no. What makes a difference is what you do while you’re there.”

*Brad Wilson ’75, UNC Board of Governors Chairman*
also hear that after a succession of budget cuts, and we’re now probably in the fifth year, it’s moving from the so-called “fat” to the “muscle.”

Staff and faculty point out that it’s been a while since they’ve had pay raises. That is beginning to affect recruitment. Resources and maintaining and improving quality are clearly linked, and we can’t make that come uncoupled.

What will it take to keep that coupled?

It will take money. I mean it all comes back to money. It’s not a complicated equation. We recognize we compete for the total amount of state resources and we recognize there are other interests that are just as important, if not more important, but at the end of the day it will take money to keep the operation of the university running like we all want it to run. We cannot do it out of tuition.

An interesting statistical footnote, North Carolina taxpayers pay 75 percent of the cost of an in-state student’s college education. That’s the second highest in the country. That’s a wonderful testimony of the value that North Carolina places on higher education. We now are at or above the total amount of state resources and we recognize we compete for the university out in the world, and after they take their tour they usually say, “Wow, I didn’t realize that…” “Isn’t this a beautiful place,” “See how it has evolved,” “I didn’t realize it was so big.” All the descriptors you’d want to hear about your undergraduate alma mater I typically hear. Another thing I hear is, “It sure is cheap for what you get.” A lot of people would disagree, but I was talking with a friend of mine whose son goes to school with my son—he’s a junior in high school—and she said, “I just saw what it costs to go to Appalachian. I can’t believe what a bargain it is.” It is a bargain, and we ought to be proud of that.

How do you rate your education at Appalachian?

I had a great experience there. I actually went to Appalachian with the intention of transferring to Duke, which is where I always wanted to go to school. And when I got to Appalachian, it was such a comfortable fit. This was the place for me. Then, I did meet my wife there, which had some influence. I fell in love with the school, AND with one of the students! The real test was when I went to law school at Wake Forest. I wasn’t sure how prepared I would be. I found when I arrived that I was as prepared if not more so than folks from all over the country, and I had gotten a very solid, quality undergraduate education that served me well in my law school experience. Students interested in law school often ask me, “Does it make a difference where I went to undergraduate school?” The answer is no. What makes a difference is what you do while you’re there.
It is a predictably cold and snowy January afternoon in Boone. But Treva Isaacs and Misti Reese, along with other members of Appalachian State University’s Office of Admissions staff, ignore the weather outside as they prepare the latest batch of notification letters to a portion of the more than 11,000 prospective students who live in Charlotte, Raleigh, and other cities, towns, and counties across the state.

Beginning in November and continuing through late spring, the pace is especially hectic for the admissions staff despite a “rolling admissions” policy that provides an answer to prospective students usually within a month of completing the application process. With the number of applications running nearly 15 percent ahead of last year, only about half of the students applying for admission next fall will be offered a place in Appalachian’s Class of 2007. Approximately 2,450 freshmen are expected to enroll next August.

This double-digit increase in applicants—Appalachian’s seventh consecutive year for a record number of undergraduate student applications—is only part of the story. With the university potentially on the threshold of significant enrollment increases, such strong and growing demand for an Appalachian education raises important questions.

“We must find ways and the means to educate more...
students if Appalachian is to fulfill its primary mission as a public university,” says Chancellor Francis T. Borkowski, “and, we must do it without losing those values and the special learning environment that have distinguished Appalachian for many years.”

With on-campus enrollment reaching a record 13,185 students last fall compared to an admissions plan that originally anticipated about 12,800 students, campus resources and facilities, as well as the Town of Boone infrastructure, have become increasingly important considerations for enrollment planners.

Retention Boosts Enrollment
Appalachian’s student retention rates, which rank among the highest in the University of North Carolina system, were primarily responsible for the unexpected jump in enrollment last fall. The current freshman class of 2,400 students is approximately the same size as the prior academic year.

In addition, more than a thousand students are enrolled in Appalachian’s off-campus programs offered through admissions partnership program classes in high schools, or in bachelor’s or master’s level classes offered through the Appalachian Learning Alliance on ten community college campuses. These off-campus programs are expected to grow at least 15 percent the next two years, especially with the escalating demand from older students seeking to update their knowledge and skills in light of North Carolina’s rapidly changing economy.

Recent national recognition and awards earned by Appalachian’s freshman learning communities—which this year involve about 80 percent of the university’s freshmen—are among reasons for the surge of student interest in Appalachian. Prospective students and their parents also cite Appalachian’s quality of instruction and nurturing environment as major factors.

Appalachian’s enrollment has grown nearly 80 percent from a base of 7,352 students since the university joined the UNC system in 1972—an average increase of fewer than two hundred students per year. Yet, such incremental growth combined with the recent surge of new students has increased today’s on-campus enrollment to a level already approaching Appalachian’s enrollment target for the
Demand

By emphasizing the positive learning environment and by focusing on those factors that have made Appalachian attractive to so many students for years, we are now attracting top students who might have considered the university as a second or third choice in the past and other students who might not have considered Appalachian at all,” Hiatt says.

To increase student access, Appalachian offers a growing number of students an opportunity to enroll mid-year through a deferred admissions program. Many of these students take community college courses or work during the fall semester following high school graduation. Approximately four hundred students, including 150 transfer students, entered Appalachian for the first time this January.

Seeking Optimal Enrollment

Balancing enrollment growth with university resources becomes an increasing complex issue in the face of such strong demand for an Appalachian education.

For example, when the May 1 deadline approaches for accepted students to pay a deposit that will secure a place in the fall freshman class, admissions officers and other Appalachian administrators become increasingly anxious.

Traditionally, about 42 percent of students accepted by Appalachian actually enroll. Yet, if this “yield” from acceptance offers increases by only two percentage points, freshman enrollment will rise by more than one hundred students—creating both a housing shortage on campus and the need for additional English, mathematics, history, and biology class sections.

“Obviously, we want to serve as many students as possible,” says Provost Harvey Durham. “But, in this period of fiscal constraints and enrollment growth, we also must maintain the university’s high academic standards, while enhancing the value of an Appalachian degree.”

Given continued state support for enrollment growth and the numerous campus infrastructure projects currently under way or planned, many observers believe that Appalachian probably can accommodate more students.

However, at this point, no one really knows how many students may actually represent Appalachian’s optimal enrollment—a level that provides maximum student access and preserves Appalachian’s character and atmosphere as a relatively small and close-knit campus community.

—from staff reports
New Clinic Helps Those with ADHD

Attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder is a common problem that affects a person’s social, academic, and family functioning. Last fall, the Department of Psychology opened its Psychology Clinic to help families assess and treat the problem.

Students in Appalachian State University’s school and clinical psychology programs provide many of the clinical services. “The clinic is a service to the community and a real benefit to students,” says department chair Stan Aeschleman.

The clinic specializes in comprehensive assessment of ADHD and related learning, behavioral, emotional, social, and family problems. Director Hank Schneider says that a comprehensive evaluation takes about eight to ten hours. It includes interviews with family and teachers, measurements of intelligence, academic achievement and attention and concentration, and often a visit to the child’s school to observe behavior.

The clinic staff discusses its findings with the family and recommends treatment. The clinic cannot prescribe medication but does work with clients on medication. The clinic offers other treatment methods, such as workshops that focus on developing positive coping skills.

The Psychology Clinic, located at 413 Howard St., works with children and adults. To schedule an appointment, call (828) 262-6639.

GREENBRIAR MOVIE THEATER OPENS THIS SEMESTER

One man’s love of film is giving students a new viewing experience.

Greenbriar Movie Theater, a 1920s-style cinema constructed with private funds from Wilkesboro resident John McElwee, opens this semester for curricular and extracurricular screenings. The theater is located in renovated space inside Plemmons Student Union. It seats seventy-four and features surround sound, an eight-by-fourteen-foot screen, and 16mm, DVD, and laser disc projection.

The venue serves various departments that incorporate film studies, including English, history, interdisciplinary studies, and foreign languages and literatures.

A film buff since childhood, McElwee has collected more than a thousand films and enjoys sharing them with Appalachian State University. For the past two years, he has hosted a weekly film series in I.G. Greer Auditorium.

The university plans to use Greenbriar Movie Theater to show more of McElwee’s collection, which dates to the early 1900s. It includes silent movies, newsreels, original cartoons, and many obscure films from the 1950s and ’60s.

Original posters and publicity stills from McElwee’s memorabilia collection line the cinema’s entry, recreating the “now playing” feel for students.

“It’s a wonderful facility for invoking history, to show what the movies were like before multiplexes,” explains Craig Fischer, an assistant professor of English who teaches film classes.

Fischer says he’s excited about using Greenbriar Movie Theater for this semester’s advanced film students, who will study film’s transition to sound. “We’ll watch Warner Brothers ‘soundies’ from John’s collection that only showed in four or five theaters in New York in 1926. We’ll actually be able to recreate a Warner Brothers screening. It will be so wonderful to give a historical background to the whole movie-watching experience,” he says.

Visit www.films.appstate.edu for on-campus movie listings.

– Linda Coutant ’01 MA
Entrepreneurs Listen to Students’ Ideas

Could you pitch your best business idea in just ninety seconds?

Walker College of Business’s Entrepreneur Summit gave students about the time it takes to ride an elevator with a venture capitalist to the executive’s top-floor office to sell their business idea.

“We wanted students to get feedback on their ideas, be inspired by the experience and have some fun, too,” said Bryan Toney, Walker College instructor and event organizer.

One by one, students tried to sell an idea to a roomful of business owners. With humor, displays, and handouts they pitched their proposals—from a subscription flower service for people prone to forget special occasions, to a combination bar and laundry targeted for college towns, to a campus taxi that would use golf carts to transport students from class to class.

Senior Burton Buffaloe’s proposal, “Data Tech Solutions,” was deemed the best by the panel of business owners. “We can scan all of the information in your file cabinets, transfer it to an electronic database and store the files in a climate-controlled data warehouse,” he explained in his pitch. “A company’s files would then be accessed via the Internet.”

Also during the Entrepreneur Summit, students heard firsthand from more than forty people who had successfully implemented their own business ideas.

– Jane Nicholson ’95 MA

International Business Major Added to Curriculum

Increasingly, Walker College of Business graduates are seeking and finding opportunities for overseas employment with American-based companies.

As a student at Appalachian, Margaret Olejarska ’98 took advantage of Walker College’s various overseas opportunities. She credits the college for preparing her to step into her current responsibilities.

“The international experiences and education I received gave me the tools and confidence to be successful in the global business environment,” said Olejarska. “Now leading the marketing efforts in the two most difficult wine markets for Ernest & Julio Gallo, I am putting this learning into practice.”

Likewise, Adam Scherer ’01 participated in the William R. Holland Fellows Program for Business Study in Asia as a student. “The focus of the Walker College on the international arena serves as a model for other educational institutions,” he said. “Compared to my peers, I already have a solid basis for understanding today’s global business environment.”

To make sure that Walker graduates continue to be prepared for the increasing international job opportunities, the college has added an international business major. The degree incorporates a language minor (currently either French, German, or Spanish) and a required ten-to-fifteen-week overseas internship or semester-long study abroad experience.

“This international business major will give our students an even better understanding of the different cultures with which U.S. companies do business and make them extremely marketable to that business community,” says Dean Ken Peacock.

Following graduation as a marketing major, Olejarska entered Ernest & Julio Gallo’s management training program. She lives in Paris where she serves as the company’s international marketing manager for France and Spain.

Scherer, a finance major, accepted a job with North Carolina-based Bernhardt Furniture Company. As an outsourcing associate for Bernhardt Asia LLC, he lives in Dongguan, China, an hour outside of Hong Kong.

– Marsha Turner ’72 MA
Robby Benson Teaches in T&D

Robby Benson, popular movie star of the 1970s and '80s, led acting and directing workshops in the Department of Theatre and Dance in November and has agreed to return next fall as an artist in residence. Made popular by the movies Ice Castles, One on One, and Ode to Billy Joe, Benson has spent recent years directing film and television.

“Robby brings the dimension of film work to our program,” said chair Susan Cole, whose department has more than a hundred majors. “We are at the point where we want to add courses in film because that’s where the market is. Robby brings a wealth of experience as an actor, screenwriter, and director.”

Teaching is not new to Benson. He has taught workshops in screenwriting, acting, and directing at the University of South Carolina and the University of Utah.

Benson says he enjoys teaching at the college level because there is no geographical boundary to talent. “Teaching is about cultivating new talent, new people. There’s great talent everywhere, and you want students to learn their skills, be compassionate and professional, and be respectful of the business,” Benson said.

Benson started acting at age five, appearing in summer stock productions and later commercials. At age twelve, he appeared in the Broadway production of Zelda and at age fourteen starred in the original stage production of The Rothschilds. Benson says he believes a strong foundation in theatre is important to a successful career in entertainment.

Food of Champions

Can blueberries keep athletes healthy?

The fruit’s high antioxidant properties certainly interest Appalachian State University faculty Lisa and Steve McAnulty and their students, who have found that eating blueberries prior to exercise can suppress an athlete’s oxidative stress.

Oxidative stress is an imbalance between oxidants and antioxidants that damages molecules such as DNA, lipids, and proteins. Doctoral research by Steve McAnulty, assistant professor in the Department of Health, Leisure and Exercise Science, revealed that exercising in a heated environment contributed to this imbalance. The next step was to look for substances to reduce the effects of the stress.

“While a lot of research has looked at the antioxidant benefits of whole foods, there is little research regarding what happens when supplements or whole foods are used during exercise,” said Lisa McAnulty, assistant professor in the Department of Family and Consumer Sciences. “We are seeing that whole foods may be more beneficial in terms of their capability in suppressing some of these damage markers.”

With a grant from the North American Blueberry Council (NABC), the researchers had runners consume 2/3 of a cup of blueberries every day for a week prior to a treadmill test in a heated environment. Through blood samples, they found that one cell damage marker generated from the oxidative stress was substantially reduced in these runners, compared to runners taking an equivalent antioxidant amount of Vitamin C or a placebo.

These initial findings have led the couple to begin an expanded NABC-funded study that examines additional cell damage markers.

“Oxidative stress and immune function are related, and these are also related to chronic disease like cardiovascular disease,” Steve McAnulty says. “So, determining how exercise interplays is very interesting.”

– Jane Nicholson ’95 MA
New Grants Awarded to RCOE

The Reich College of Education recently received three major grants that address ongoing and emerging issues in the public schools:

Arts in Education

More than 2,600 children in grades K-8 across Avery, Watauga, Ashe, and Wilkes counties will participate in a new program integrating the arts in the basic curriculum. The program is based on the A+ Schools Program in which the arts play a central role in teaching and learning. It is funded by a three-year, $1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education.

Teachers will receive training this summer for the 2003-04 school year. They will learn, for example, how to teach geography and history in part by exposing children to drama, dance, music, and visual arts of cultures around the world.

Four school systems, four arts councils, and Appalachian State University, known collectively as the Appalachian Arts in Education Partnership (AAEP), will administer the program.

Quality in the Classroom

Tracy W. Smith has received a $452,000 research grant from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) to study the relationship between student depth of learning in the classroom and national board certification status.

Faculty and graduate student researchers from Appalachian, UNC-Greensboro, and the University of Georgia are collecting and analyzing students’ language arts work samples submitted by more than two hundred teachers nationwide.

Smith, an assistant professor of curriculum and instruction, says the study will explore depth of learning beyond what is typically determined through standardized testing.

More than 3,600 public school teachers in North Carolina and 16,000 teachers nationwide hold NBPTS certification.

Appalachian Transition to Teaching

A $1.6 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education will assist new teachers who have been hired without licensure or without traditional teacher preparation.

The Appalachian Transition to Teaching Program (ATTP) begins later this year. The RCOE program will offer courses to lateral entry teachers so they can complete requirements for state licensure while teaching full time. Instruction will be provided by Appalachian faculty through the university’s existing alliance with ten regional community colleges that offer university-level coursework on their campuses.

Many school districts employ lateral entry teachers because of severe staffing shortages caused by expanding student enrollment and teacher attrition.

Wilkes Teacher Honored by USA Today

James Brooks ’85 ’97 made the USA Today’s All-USA Teacher Second Team in 2002, as one of forty runners-up to the newspaper’s annual All-USA Teacher First Team.

He teaches English, Latin, and film at West Wilkes High School. He was noted for using grants to start digital video production classes, and for incorporating technology and current events in his teaching. Brooks is the third Appalachian State University graduate in recent years to be honored through USA Today’s teacher teams.

Also, Brooks has been selected by Cable in the Classroom as one of the nation’s most innovative technology teachers. As a result, he will serve as one of CIC’s ten teacher advisors.

Appalachian Rated ‘Exemplary’

Appalachian State University has received the highest possible rating on the 2001-02 Institutions of Higher Education Performance Report from the N.C. State Board of Education. Appalachian was among seven of North Carolina’s forty-eight undergraduate teacher education programs that were designated as “exemplary.” The others were East Carolina University, Elon University, UNC-Greensboro, UNC-Pembroke, UNC-Wilmington, and Western Carolina University.

The report rates teacher education programs according to three overall criteria: compliance with state and national accreditation standards, the quality of program completers, and involvement with and service to public schools.

Appalachian consistently has ranked among the top teacher education programs since the State Board began rating schools in 2000.
Master’s Degree Program Ranked Among Top 20

The master’s degree program in industrial-organizational psychology/human resource management at Appalachian State University has been ranked twentieth among master’s and doctoral degree institutions in terms of student research productivity.

The rankings of the nation’s top forty master’s and Ph.D. granting institutions were created by Michael A. Surrette of Springfield College and included in the July 2002 Industrial Psychologist newsletter.

“A topic that has received attention for decades has revolved around the most appropriate way to rank graduate programs,” Surrette wrote. “Historically institutions have been ranked on the basis of their reputation, by their faculty productivity, as well as by the number of faculty who hold positions on editorial boards of APA journals.”

In contrast, Surrette ranked the institutions based on student productivity in research and presentations at the Annual Graduate Student Conference in Industrial-Organizational Psychology and Organizational Behavior.

His study covered presentations made between 1992-2002. For each student paper, poster or symposium presentation, institutions received one point and were ranked according to the total number of points received.

Appalachian’s industrial-organizational psychology/human resource management program prepares students for positions in human resource management and consulting. “We emphasize independent investigations and scholarly activity in the program,” says Tim Ludwig, program director. “It allows students to gain expertise and demonstrate expertise in an area.” The program enrolls about twenty students.

Information about the degree program is available at the web site www.psych.appstate.edu/GradProg/io_info.htm

– Jane Nicholson ’95 MA

Politiccal Science Student Honored

Trent Ikerd ’01 of Newton recently won the Most Outstanding Graduate Student award from the Southern Criminal Justice Association. He is pursuing a master’s degree in political science with a concentration in justice studies.

The SCJA award recognizes outstanding academics and leadership. Ikerd’s leadership activities include teaching juvenile justice at Catawba Valley Community College, membership in Pi Gamma Mu and Alpha Chi honor societies, and volunteering with the state’s Division of Community Corrections.

SCJA is a regional professional organization affiliated with the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences. It comprises eleven states, plus Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands.

For his thesis, Ikerd says he’s combining his two loves: criminal justice and weight lifting. “I’m looking to see what effects weight lifting has on aggression among inmates in prison. Very little research has been done in this area,” he says.

Alumnus to Represent Poland at EU

As Poland prepares for 2004 membership in the European Union, an Appalachian State University graduate is helping his native country’s economic reform.

Jacek Wasilewski ’00 MPA came to Appalachian’s graduate school in 1998 as part of a cooperative venture with his alma mater, University of Gdansk, to give Polish students the public administration skills and experience needed to advance the former Soviet Bloc country’s economy, administration, and politics.

Now Wasilewski has returned to Europe as Poland’s economic development director from the Pomeranian Region. Based in Brussels, Belgium, he will represent his local government to the European Union and work to bring economic investors to the area. Poland is among thirteen countries being considered for membership next year in the European Union, an integration of nations that works for stability, peace, and economic prosperity.

“It’s a great opportunity and I’m glad to serve my province,” Wasilewski said.

After finishing his master’s degree at Appalachian, he interned with Onslow County, worked with the City of Hickory as a transportation planner, and most recently forecast personal income tax revenues for the New York State Budget Office.

Four Polish students have completed master of public administration degrees at Appalachian since the cooperative venture began. Two continue to work in the United States, while another works for Poland’s equivalent of the Social Security Administration. Two students currently are in the program, which is housed in the Department of Political Science and Criminal Justice.

– Linda Costant ’01 MA
Performing incites passion for James Anderson, new conductor of the Appalachian Symphony Orchestra. “I love the spontaneity that comes in a great performance of a well-prepared program. When the entire ensemble is focused on communicating with a unified voice, there is no experience that compares,” he says.

Anderson joined the Hayes School of Music faculty this academic year after serving as director of orchestral activities at the University of Montana and music director for the Butte Symphony Association.

He has been working to energize orchestra members and teach them to communicate the meaning of the music they perform.

The ability to reach out to an audience is what spurred Anderson’s desire for a conducting career. “While studying with Otto Werner-Mueller in Canada,” he says, “I had an experience with an ensemble where I felt the sensation that the music we were making was literally controlling the breathing of the audience. This sort of shared musical experience was electrifying.”

Besides conducting the seventy-piece orchestra, Anderson teaches music theory and aural perception. He holds a bachelor’s and master’s degree from UNC-Chapel Hill and a doctor of musical arts degree from the Eastman School of Music.

The Appalachian Symphony Orchestra will perform Shostakovich’s Symphony No. 5 in D minor on April 25, its last concert of 2002-03. The performance begins at 8 P.M. in Appalachian State University’s Rosen Concert Hall. Admission is free.

– Shiona Christensen

New Conductor Leads Appalachian’s Symphony Orchestra

Wind Ensemble to Tour in Eastern N.C.

The Wind Ensemble will tour Eastern North Carolina May 12-16. The goal is to visit public schools and recruit students interested in music.

The Wind Ensemble has been touring every other year since 1976, alternating years with the Appalachian Symphony Orchestra. The groups cover Eastern North Carolina one year and Western North Carolina the next.

The tour schedule is still being arranged, but Conductor William Gora says the ensemble will perform a night concert at Meymandi Concert Hall in Raleigh.

The tour is purposefully scheduled after commencement so students do not miss classes. The fifty-two-member Wind Ensemble will stay in the homes of local band parents they know.

The tour helps students learn responsibility while they are trying to recruit other students, says Gora.

“Students learn the process of planning and how to be flexible people because things don’t always go as planned. Hopefully they’ll tour with their students [as teachers]. I learned this from my high school director,” says Gora.

For a tour schedule, call Gora at (828) 262-6454.

– Crystal Thompson

Down to Business

Kevin Doherty, an attorney with Gladstone, Doherty & Associates in Nashville, talks with students about contracts and copyright issues in the music industry. He visited the Hayes School of Music in November.
From the President’s Pen

Being An Appalachian Ambassador

Being an Appalachian Ambassador . . . what does it mean? Twenty-five years ago, the Appalachian Student Ambassador organization was created with the vision and foresight of Mr. Fred Robinette. This close network of Appalachian students was brought together to represent Appalachian. These students bleed Black and Gold. They represent us to prospective students and their families. They represent us everyday.

But, we are all Appalachian ambassadors. We are the dedicated long-time friends, the alumni, and the volunteers of Appalachian. We are the Appalachian faculty and staff, the professionals, community and business leaders, and we touch lives from Boone to points throughout the world.

In turn, as Appalachian ambassadors, we agree to disagree . . . whether it is with an Appalachian administrator, athletics coach or professor. We represent Appalachian in our professions, our communities and our everyday lives in a most positive and supporting manner. We support and give to Appalachian, whether it is of our time or our financial resources, because we love Appalachian. It is not one person nor one program, but Appalachian State University that we love and support.

As ambassadors we are our brothers’ keeper. We create scholarships for our students like five dedicated Kappa Delta sorority sisters did in memory of their sister and Appalachian alumna who died of breast cancer in 2001. They created a positive memorial out of a tragic event in their lives. We create scholarships to honor dedicated friends and teachers who better the environment for Appalachian students.

Some of our finest Appalachian ambassadors never attended a class here nor graduated from here. However, they love Appalachian for what it has been, what it is today, and what it will be in the future.

There is a sign in the Mountaineer football team locker room. It states, “Today I will give my all for Appalachian.” I am most honored to represent Appalachian and its 78,000 alumni, friends and family. I challenge each of you to give “your all” for Appalachian and be the best Appalachian ambassador that you can be.

Jeannine Underdown Collins ’79
President, Appalachian Alumni Association
**Alumni News**

Sr., supervisor 7th hole Masters Tournament, Augusta, GA. He is an assistant principal at Kings Mountain Middle School, Kings Mountain.

**RETIRED:** Pamela Brown Tulbert, as teacher at J.M. Alexander Middle School, Huntersville, after 35 years as an educator.

**NEW POSITIONS:** Cyndi Saunders, first grade teacher, Memphis City Schools, Spring Hill Elementary, Bartlett, TN.

**RETIRED:** Suzanne Harris Justice, as teacher of exceptional children in Alamance-Burlington School System, Burlington, after 33 years as an educator.

**AWARDS/HONORS:** Judy Klutz Sik received the Clarence L. Pugh Distinguished Alumna Award from Lenor-Rhone College. She also received the Distinguished Alumna Award from Appalachian State University’s Alumni Association. She is a science teacher at Hardin Park Elementary School, Boone.

**NEW POSITIONS:** Meredith Knight, director, patient financial services, Saint Francis Hospital, Memphis, TN.

**AWARDS/HONORS:** Melinda Eudy Ratchford, Belmont, chosen by faculty and students at Belmont Abbey College as winner of the Adrian Faculty Excellence Award that honors the professor of the year. Melvin Fogg Jr., Kannapolis City Schools Principal of the Year. He is principal at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School, Kannapolis. Scott Padgett, Concord, elected mayor of Concord. Steve Williams, Huntersville, received the Outstanding Service Award from Appalachian State University’s Alumni Association. William Smith, recipient of Peter J. Elch Excellence in Teaching Award, received the Fellowship Award at the College of Arts and Sciences. He is an English professor at Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA.

**NEW POSITIONS:** Diane Honeycutt, president, Richmond Community College, Hamlet. Sara Swicgoode, as teacher and coach in Wlake County Public Schools, Raleigh, after 33 years as an educator. William Pitts, as English teacher at Davie High School, Mocksville, after 32 years as an educator.

**RETIRED:** Brenda Smith Hartley, as teacher in Caldwell County Schools, Lenoir, after 32 years as an educator. Ed McMichael, as superintendent at Neuse Correctional Institution, N.C. Department of Correction, Goldsboro, after 31 years of service. Phillip Teagarden, as adjunct professor of biology at Tallahassee Community College/Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL. Sylvia Coon Euliss, as teacher in Almanace-Burlington School System, Graham, after 32 years as an educator.

**AWARDS/HONORS:** Nancy Sigmon, principal for Outstanding Educator of the Year in Pinellas County Schools. She is a family literacy/ adult educator in Pinellas City Schools, Largo, FL.

**NEW POSITIONS:** Donna Bearsie Simmons, dean of school of education, Gardner-Webb University, Boiling Springs.

**RETIRED:** Ray Gentry, from Developmental Evaluation Center, Morganton, after 30 years of service. He is an adjunct instructor at Lenor-Rhone College, Hickory.

**RETIRED:** Ray Gentry, as a principal in Cabarrus County, Yadkinville, director of faculty development, UNCG, Greensboro. She is community relations manager at Progress Energy, Cary.

**AWARDS/HONORS:** Carolyn Sakowskik, winner of Robin Mayes Award from Publishers Association of the South. She is president of John F. Blair, Publisher, Winston-Salem. Martha Farmer Bragg received the Naomi Dickens Shaw Award for Faculty Teaching Excellence. She is a professor of mathematics and chair of mathematics and science division at Louisburg College, Louisburg.

**NEW POSITIONS:** Anita Harshbarger Hawkey, ODS teacher, SC Department, Page High School, Greensboro.

**RETIRED:** Gill Parsons Dula, as seventh grade teacher at Hudson Middle School, Hudson, after 30 years as an educator. Gordon Correll, as administrator in Lee County School District, Bishopville, SC, after 30 years of service. John Hoffman, as teacher and assistant principal with Rowan-Salisbury Schools, Salisbury, after 28 years as an educator. Judith Helms Mullis, as a principal in Cabbars County Schools, Concord, after 30 years of service. Patricia Smith Routree, as food service director in Kings Mountain City Schools, Kings Mountain.

**REUNION:** 30th Reunion, October 4, 2003.

**AWARDS/HONORS:** Bill Collins, selected Stokes County Principal of the Year and Wake Holmes North Region Regional Principal of the Year. He is principal at Meadowbrook School, King. Randall Smith received the John Marshall Foundation Teaching Award. He is a 12th grade AP government teacher at John S. Battle High School, Bristol, VA.

**DEGREES:** Herman Norman, Yadkinville, doctor of philosophy, curriculum and teaching, UNCG.

**NEW POSITIONS:** Len Murphy, owner, Rudolph’s Fraser Fir Farm, Banner Elk. Steve Rankin, athletic director/softball coach, Lake Norman High School, Mooresville.

**AWARDS/HONORS:** Grace Smith Martin, Raleigh, presented with Leesville Elementary PTA Teacher of the Year award. She was also nominated for the Disney Teacher of the Year award. Steve Cone, Burlington, NJ, elected president of national organization American Alliance for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

**AWARDS/HONORS:** Bob Crumley, elected to Leadership North Carolina board of directors. He is president and chief executive of Crumley and Associates, PC, Asheboro. Michele Powell Talient, Lincoln County Teacher of the Year. She is a second grade teacher at North Brook Elementary School, Vale.

**DEGREES:** Ed Davis, doctor of education in educational leadership, UNCG. He is assistant superintendent of Union County Public Schools, Monroe. Alan McEachern, as director of the athletic department at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke, Pembroke, GA, after 30 years in education.

**NEW POSITIONS:** Bonita Adams, principal, East Junior High, Boise, ID. Carol Morris Harris, speech therapist/ preschool disabilities coordinator, Rutherford County Schools, Spindale. Eddy Daniel, superintendent, Brunswick County Schools, Bolivia.

**AWARDS/HONORS:** Chris Swecker received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Appalachian State University’s Alumni Association. She is a special agent in charge of FBI operations, Charlotte. Cynthia Avery Alford, Excellence in Teaching Mathematics Award/Guilford County Schools. She is a mathematics teacher at Northwest Guilford High School, Greensboro. Kathy Gibson Hawkins received top Women in Business Award in the triangle area from the Triangle Business Journal. She is a community relations manager at Progress Energy, Cary. Noell Todd McLaughlin received top Women in Business Award in the triangle area from the Triangle Business Journal.

**REUNION:** 25th Reunion, October 4, 2003.

**AWARDS/HONORS:** Chris Swecker received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Appalachian State University’s Alumni Association. He is a special agent in charge of FBI operations, Charlotte. Cynthia Avery Alford, Excellence in Teaching Mathematics Award/Guilford County Schools. She is a mathematics teacher at North West Guilford High School, Greensboro. Kathy Gibson Hawkins received top Women in Business Award in the triangle area from the Triangle Business Journal. She is a community relations manager at Progress Energy, Cary. Noell Todd McLaughlin received top Women in Business Award in the triangle area from The Triangle Busi-
In Memoriam

Board of Trustees member Faye Broyhill died October 14, 2002, at her home following a short battle with cancer.

She attended Meredith College and Appalachian State University. In 1956 she won the Miss North Carolina title and later became third-runner up in the Miss America Pageant. She served on a number of community and institutional boards. Among them, she was currently serving on the Board of Trustees at Appalachian and Meredith College and on the J. E. Broyhill Civic Center Advisory Council in Lenior.

Survivors, in addition to her mother, include her husband, Paul H. Broyhill, and three children. Former Sen. James T. Broyhill is finishing her term on Appalachian’s Board of Trustees.

Losses in the Appalachian family

This issue includes death notices received by the Donor Advancement Services Office May 18, 2002, through November 18, 2002.

In Memoriam

Peggy Inez Gragg Hinson, 91, Concord, July 6.

Freida Farthing Sasser, 89, Fredericksburg, VA, Sept. 11, Paul E. Mahoney, 82, Eclectic, AL, Oct. 4.


Hugh S. White, 86, Williamsburg, VA, June 30.

Class Notes and Alumni News

He is a sportswriter at the Atlantic City Press, Pleasantville, NJ.

New Positions:


Retirements: Michael Pace, from U.S. Army, after 23 years of service. He has accepted a position as a general services officer with the U.S. Department of State, American Embassy Bogota, Colombia.

79 Awards/Honors: Mary Ann Mims Davis, Mansfield, GA, National Board Certification as a Middle Childhood/Generalist. Tina Dixon Wilson received top women in Business Award in the triangle area from Triangle Business Journal. She is executive vice president at PT Street, Inc., Cary.


Weddings: Del Hunt and Billy Helton, Durham, June 8.

66 Awards/Honors: Cathy Dominick Massett, Acworth, GA, EdS in elementary education with emphasis on education leadership, and educational leadership certificate, Georgia State University. Melvin Baker, Williamburg, VA, doctor of education in instructional technology and distance education, Nova Southeastern University.


Retirements: Will Burgin, as director of vocational/technical education in Watauga County Schools, Boone, after 39 years in public school education.

31 Awards/Honors: David Weinerb won two awards in the Boxing Writers Association of America national contest. He was honored at the national awards dinner in New York City.

30 DEGREES: Cathy Dominick Massett, Acworth, GA, EdS in elementary education with emphasis on education leadership, and educational leadership certificate, Georgia State University. Melvin Baker, Williamburg, VA, doctor of education in instructional technology and distance education, Nova Southeastern University.


Retirements: Will Burgin, as director of vocational/technical education in Watauga County Schools, Boone, after 39 years in public school education.

31 Awards/Honors: David Weinberg won two awards in the Boxing Writers Association of America national contest. He was honored at the national awards dinner in New York City.
Paul Mahoney ’33 waited sixty-nine years to receive a diploma from Appalachian State University. With help from the Registrar’s Office and an alumna, his longtime wish for an Appalachian sheepskin came true. And just in time.

“I know this is far fetched, but could you do this for me before I die? I’m 92,” Mahoney wrote last year in requesting a diploma from the university’s registrar.

In the summer of 1933, after completing four years of coursework, Mahoney had to return to his native Illinois because of financial hardships. His parents were about to lose the family farm. Mahoney did not get to finish his teaching apprenticeship or apply for graduation. As a result, he did not receive a diploma.

Mahoney went on with his life, working for the Works Progress Administration, then as an Army cook during World War II, a golf instructor, and a meat salesman to cafeterias in New York’s largest office buildings. A self-taught pianist, he played for many churches throughout his life.

“I’ve had a good long fruitful life with opportunities from my good old Appalachian,” Mahoney wrote.

The university maintains all student transcripts from Appalachian’s 104-year history, so the Registrar’s Office was able to examine Mahoney’s academic records. It deemed Mahoney in good standing.

“It was clear he was a good candidate for graduation. He had enough hours and a fine grade point average,” Registrar Don Rankins said. “This situation was unusual because I haven’t seen someone with this much school work who had not graduated.”

“It seemed cold to just mail his diploma,” Rankins continued, “so we found an Appalachian alum in the area to present it to him on behalf of the university.”

Mahoney received his diploma at his Eclectic, Alabama, church in May 2002 from Sandy Bailey ’81 during a service honoring high school graduates. The public recognition was a surprise to Mahoney.

To thank the registrar’s staff, Mahoney wrote again, saying, “Being a graduate from one of the greatest universities in the world is a mighty good feeling. Thank you so much for the effort and kindness.”

Mahoney died a few months later on October 4, 2002.

–Linda Coutant ’01 MA

Appalachian Today  Spring 2003  25
Teacher, FBI Agent Named Distinguished Alumni

Judy Kluttz Sink ’67 MA of Boone and Chris E. Swecker ’78 of Charlotte received the Appalachian State University Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Award. Sink is a second grade teacher at Hardin Park Elementary School. Swecker is special agent in charge of FBI operations in Charlotte.

The award recognizes extraordinary career distinction and exceptional and sustained community leadership.

Sink has spent more than twenty years in the classroom, as an elementary school teacher in Watauga County and a science laboratory instructor at Appalachian. She holds national certification from the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards.

Among her activities, she has been a member of a National Academy of Sciences group working to develop national science teaching standards. She has served as an advisor on science issues in North Carolina, Texas and New York, as well as at the national level.

Sink was a consultant to NASA Headquarters to develop a national K-12 curriculum to commemorate the one hundredth anniversary of flight. Among her honors, Sink received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science in 1990.

A political science and economics major, Swecker worked briefly as an assistant district attorney before joining the FBI in 1982. He has risen through the ranks to become special agent in charge of FBI operations in Charlotte.

Swecker is responsible for 240 special agents, task force personnel and support staff involved in counter terrorism and counterintelligence, and investigating organized crime, gang activities, public corruption, fraud and other federal violations.

Earlier career highlights include commanding FBI operations at the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. While stationed in Texas, Swecker was responsible for all organized crime and narcotics investigations, surveillance squad, aircraft operations, and liaison matters with Mexico.

– Jane Nicholson ’95 MA
Spring 2003

**AWARDS/HONORS**

Larry Ward, selected Police Officer of the Year. He is a sergeant with the Georgetown Police Department, Georgetown, SC.

**DEGREES**

Lee Price, Charlotte, associate in information systems, network administration and PC support focus, Central Redmond Community College. M. Keith McDaniel, master of arts in school administration, Gardner-Webb University. He is a teacher at East Burke High School, Icard.

**NEW POSITIONS**

Lisa Blythe Marcy, regional marketing manager, Southern Title, Daytona Beach, FL. Thomas Tunstall Jr., account manager, Titan Adhesives Company, Inc., Paterson, NJ.

**WEDDINGS**

Barbara Messor and Eric Rathburn, Asheville, Dec. 1.

**BIRTHS**

Jeffrey and Tina Riddle Balty, Yadkinville, a son, Gabriel Lance Tann, April 21. Sondra and Michael Simmons, Hickory, a son, Andrew Lawrence, May 31.

**AWARDS/HONORS**

Richard Batson, Chesapeake, VA, selected as a member of the Order of Barristers National Honor Society and received the Diane Legal Ethics Award and William E. Davis Trial Advocacy Prize. Robert Schuhmann, Hutton Family Award for Teaching Excellence in Off-Campus Programs. He is an assistant professor in the department of political science at the University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY.

**DEGREES**

Christopher Moore, Harvey, IL, master of education, St Xavier University. Richard Batson, Chesapeake, VA, juris doctor, Case Western Reserve University School of Law.

**NEW POSITIONS**

Christopher Moore, CEO and founder, Final Note Entertainment, Inc., Harvey, IL. Richard Batson, staff attorney, U.S. Coast Guard, Atlantic Area Command, Norfolk, VA.

**WEDDINGS**

Charles Edwards and Dianne Welch, Siler City, June 15. Marion Carter and Jeffrey Moore, Hickory, April 1.

**BIRTHS**


**CLASS NOTES AND ALUMNI NEWS**

**AWARDS/HONORS**

Gibbs Smith, associate, letter and certificate of commendation for participation in the DeSota delimiting survey and Melanie General survey; Jeff Crum, Charlotte, honorable mention-Associated Press, Georgia-Severe Weather Coverage. Mark Hudzik, Glade Hill, VA, elected to a term on the Franklin County YMCA Board of Directors. He was also elected to a term on the Franklin County Charter School Board of Directors.

**DEGREES**

Mary-Lynn Carothers Boyd, Reidsville, master’s in elementary education, UNC-Greensboro.

**NEW POSITIONS**

Al Kramer, assistant vice president, First Citizens Bank, Raleigh. Amanda Jessup, client information analyst, banking officer, BB&T, Winston-Salem. Craig Hartley, captain/commanding officer, administrative services, Greensboro Police Department, Greensboro.


**NEWS**

Lawson Earns Outstanding Greek Alumnus Award

B. Thomas Lawson Jr. ’82 ’87 of Winston-Salem received Appalachian State University’s Outstanding Greek Alumnus Award. He is a vice president with Bank of America.

Lawson was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha International Fraternity and was chapter consultant from 1982-84. As a fraternity field representative, he traveled the United States and Canada providing support to alumni and undergraduate chapters. He was a member of the Order of Omega, and advisor for Lambda Chi Alpha and Phi Mu fraternities.
Class Notes and Alumni News


WEDDINGS:

AWARDS/HONORS:
- David Killby, awarded a National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant to support his doctoral research. He is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM. James Mayes Jr., Taylorsville, Hickory Public Schools Teacher of the Year. Mac Mahaffee II, Mentor, OH, won a regional Emmy award for his work as a promotion writer/producer at WKY-TV in Cleveland, OH.

DEATHS:
- John Gullett, Johnson City, TN, master of divinity, Covenant Theological Seminary. Terry McClannon, Boone, EdS, higher education administration, Appalachian State University.

NEW POSITIONS:
- Arlene Franco, manager, Solomon Brothers Fitness Center, London, UK. Ashley Good, lead financial analyst, rotating parts and turbine airfoils, General Electric Aircraft Engines, Cincinnati, OH. Darin McIntosh, firefighter 1, Charlotte Fire Department, Charlotte. Daryl Ghent, senior vice president marketing.

AWARDS/HONORS:
- Karen Brueckmann Hauschild, Raleigh, one of four to receive the Provost’s Office University Award for Excellence at N.C. State University. Kelly Powell Walker, Hendersonville, Rosman Middle School Teacher of the Year. Kimberly Hayes Bennett, Morganton, honored as Gamewell Middle School Educa-
DEGREES: April Yates, Fayetteville, juris doctor, New England School of Law. Brandye Matkins Peterson, Greensboro, master of science in occupational therapy, UNC-Chapel Hill. David Webb, Kappa, H, master of science in administration, Central Michigan University. He is a communications watch officer in the US Navy. Elizabeth Mosley, Charlotte, master’s in history, UNC Charlotte. Tonya Miller, master’s in business administration, Simmons College, School of Management. She is a senior associate, licensure and accreditation at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Boston, MA.


AWARDS/HONORS: Jason Gilbert, Alexandria, VA, Helen Hayes Award nomination for outstanding lead actor in a resident musical. Mark Turner, earned BICSI professional registration as RCDD/LAN specialist. He is a systems engineer at Comin Cable Systems, Hickory. Ray Baynard Jr., High Point, received Certified Cash Manager designation. Sabrena Lynn, recipient of recognition for Employee Achievement, Creativity and Technological Service Award. She is a QA release associate at Wyeth Vaccines, Sanford. Shawn Vincent Sr., Augusta, GA, Who’s Who among U.S. Healthcare Executives.

DEGREES: I. Sean Ricker, master’s in business administration, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He is a controller at Doral, Mequon, WI. Mark Byrd, North Wilkesboro, master’s in school administration, Gardner-Webb University. Rodney Dunning, Birmingham, AL, PhD physics, Wake Forest University.


AWARDS/HONORS: Heather Fox Shook, inducted into Phi Kappa Phi at the UNC Charlotte. She is a kindergarten teacher at Badin Elementary School, Badin. Robin Stockton Ma- son, chosen by peers as Teacher of the Year and selected by administration to participate in Math Lead Teacher program where she will become a lead mathematics teacher in her district. She is a second grade teacher in Oconee County, SC.

DEGREES: Colleen Bender Bohensky, Madison, NJ, master of arts in elementary education, Seton Hall University, Melanie Gillie, Raleigh, master’s in special education, N.C. State Univer- sity.


AWARDS/HONORS: Melanie Stella Wright, Teacher of the Year for A. Laurin Welborn Middle School. She is a Spanish teacher at A. Laurin Welborn Middle School, High Point. Scott Nicholson, had his first novel published, _The Red Church_. He is an author and reporter for the Watauga Democrat, Boone.

DEGREES: Krista Herold, master of education in elementary education, UNCC. She is a kinderga- ten teacher at Morven Elementary School, Morven. Kristi Middoff Kirby, Raleigh, master of health science and physician assistant certifica- tion, Duke University. Roger Succhini, Charlotte, master of social work, University of N.C. at Chapel Hill.


AWARDS/HONORS: Carl and Rebecca Jordan Pfaltz, Snel- ville, GA, a daughter, Elizabeth Ashley, July 13.

Class Notes and Alumni News


47AWARDS/HONORS: Amy Brandon Schoenecker, named Teacher of the Year at Rosman High School. She is an art teacher at Rosman High School, Rosman. Amanda Berndle Corum, Winston-Salem, won the N.C. Principal Fellows Scholarship. Mark Spragins, LPC licen- sure. He is a mental health therapist at Adams Community Mental Health, Winston, CO.

DEGREES: Brad Willis, Charlotte, MBA in operations management and consulting, Wake Forest University Babcock Graduate School of Manage- ment. Mary Scott Vincent, master of education, Auburn University. She is a fifth grade teacher at Yargrough Elementary School, Auburn, AL. Melissa Robbins Parlier, master of arts in marriage and family therapy, Appalachian State Univer- sity. She is a case manager/counselor at Crossnore School, Inc., Dosscoffee, Robert Waller, Anaheim, CA, master of fine arts in film and television production, screenwriting, Cham- paign University. Thelma Floyd, Winston-Salem, as- sociate of divinity, Asbury Theological Seminary. Tracy Kelley, Columbia, SC, master of social work, University of South Carolina. Van- nia Fran- cis Wilmer, Mooresville, MBA, Wake Forest Uni- versity. W. Todd Poole, MBA, Appalachian State University. He is a constituent advocate for U.S. Representative Richard Burr, Winston-Salem.


Lee, a son, Michael Handy, Millers Creek, July 20. Todd Mar-
### Alumni News

- **Worsley, county manager, County of Greene, Snow Hill, Richard McLargue, town manager, Town of Sylva, Vania Francis Wilmer, data analyst, Wachovia Corporation, Mooresville.**


### Alumni News

- **5th Reunion, October 4, 2003.**


  **NEW POSITIONS:** Amy Miller Barber, Joan officer, State Employees Credit Union, West Jefferson. Amy Vaughn, assistant director of annual giving, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, VA. AnnMarvin Wright Griffiths, production coordinator, Clear Channel Outdoor, Arlington, TX. Chad Hawley, assistant director of compliance, Big Ten Conference, Elmhurst, IL. Chad Holdsworth, capital facilities planner, Saint Mary’s County, Leonardtown, MD.

  **Chantal Morales Dennis, associate rector, Saint Francis Episcopal Church, Greensboro. Eric Heninger, senior financial analyst, Legg Mason Real Estate Services, Orlando. FL, Georgia Wilson Reuter, admissions counselor, University of South Carolina, Columbia. SC. Heather Baxley, co-owner, ACA Advertising, Inc., Wilmington. Heath Herrin Wong, associate pastor, Englewood United Methodist Church, Atlanta.**

### Alumni News

- **Appalachian Alumni:** McKinney Alumni Center • ASU Box 32015 • Boone, NC 28608-2015

  Phone: (828) 262-2038 • FAX: (828) 262-4962 • E-mail: alumni@appstate.edu

  **Complete this form online by going to www.appal.Alumni**
In Memoriam

Former N.C. State Treasurer Harlan E. Boyles, a public servant for nearly fifty years, died Jan. 23, 2003, after a brief illness. Known for his financial acumen and personal integrity, he was the namesake of the Walker College of Business’ Harlan E. Boyles Distinguished CEO Lecture Series at Appalachian State University. Since 1991, he had visited campus twice each year to participate in the event’s activities. By talking with students in classes and individually, he influenced hundreds of young people through his experience, advice, and counsel.

In recognition of Boyles’ life and service, his family, friends, and colleagues created an endowment in 2000 that supports Appalachian’s Harlan E. Boyles Scholarship in Business for outstanding Walker College of Business faculty and the Harlan E. Boyles Scholarship in Business for deserving students.

Appalachian published his highly acclaimed book, Keeper of the Public Purse, in 1994. That same year he was commencement speaker and received an honorary doctorate. The Alumni Association awarded him honorary alumni status in October 2002.
Tell us what you want!

The Office of Alumni Affairs seeks your input on how it can best serve the Appalachian Family through alumni programs and services. Because we value your opinion, please take a few minutes to complete an online survey at the web site www.alumni.appstate.edu by clicking on the penny icon.

The first hundred respondents get a prize.

NEW POSITIONS:


WEDDINGS:


WEDDINGS:

Amanda Hicks and Matthew Mallery ’01, Charlotte, June 15. Colleen Marron and Derek Young, Boone, Aug. 31. Heath Killian and Adam Forbes ’01, Gastonia, June 22. Wendy Polniak and Jason Lewkowicz ’00, Wichita, TX, June 29.

Did You Work in the Career Development Center?

The Career Development Center is compiling a list of its former graduate assistants and interns. If you worked in the center, please e-mail db45782@appstate.edu or call the center at (828) 262-2180. Please submit your full name (including maiden name), mailing address, e-mail address, phone number, graduation year and graduate program, current place of employment, and job title. Graduate assistants and interns from other campus offices do not need to respond.
GRAND OPENING!

Turchin Center for the Visual Arts

GRAND OPENING EVENT!
(Part of downtown Boone’s First Friday Artabout)
Opportunity to meet artists Joyce Scott and Nicholas Micros
Friday, May 2, 2003
5 p.m., Turchin Center

GRAND OPENING EVENT!
Debut of commissioned performance by world renowned artist Joyce Scott
Saturday, May 3, 2003
4 p.m., Valborg Theatre
Grand Opening reception directly following at the Turchin Center.

Ask us about our Lunch and Learn Series!

The Turchin Center for the Visual Arts is located on West King Street in the former Boone United Methodist facilities.

OPENING EXHIBITION:
Go Figure!
Manifestations of the Human Form in Contemporary Art
May 3–Aug. 30, 2003
Martin and Doris Rosen Galleries

Nina Levy
"Daughter," 2000
Cibachrome on aluminum
Courtesy of the Artist