Bowles appoints former provost
Charles Jenkins as interim chancellor

By Wade Allen
Editor

When Dr. Allen C. Meadors, who had been chancellor at UNCP for 18 years, left over the summer to become the president of Central Arkansas University in Conway, Ark., a temporary replacement had to be found in order for a search committee to be appointed to begin the search for a new chancellor.

University of North Carolina System President Enkoe Bowles turned to a familiar face around UNCP, Dr. Charles Jenkins, to serve as interim chancellor for one year.

“When I came in on July 1, I was able to help the institution move forward,” Chancellor Jenkins said.

He is no stranger to UNCP. In fact, when December rolls around, Chancellor Jenkins will have been an employee of UNCP for 39 years.

“I’ve had a lot of admiration and teaching,” he said. “I served as provost, and as director of admissions.”

Although the title of administrator holds a lot of prestige and power, he has a way of dealing with it.

“The focus is not on me; it’s on the faculty and staff,” Chancellor Jenkins said.

When Gov. Bev Perdue ordered institutions within the UNC-system to take a 10.5 percent budget cut with reversions of salaries, Chancellor Jenkins is now at the center of one of the biggest budget crunches in the history of the state.

It is not the year that we are going to take the attitude of ‘we’re not going to do anything,’” he said. “It’s not going to significantly impact the teaching and quality of learning.”

Dr. Jenkins held three town hall meetings for the sole purpose of identifying the budget and answering questions from audience members.

Upon becoming interim chancellor, Dr. Jenkins said that he preferred to remain living in his home in Laurinburg, where he has resided for 40 years, rather than occupy the chancellor’s residence on-campus for a year.

“I want to save the University some money, he said. “We will be elevating students, faculty and alumni in the chancellor’s residence.”

Chancellor Jenkins said that his attention was on student retention and graduation rates. When asked about spending for extracurricular events, he said that although he sees these as enriching experiences, there may be some cut backs in order to accommodate the massive budget cut.

“We may have to pull back one program from each of the three series at GPAC,” Chancellor Jenkins said. “We can’t ignore cost and cost effectiveness.”

He said that he had received a warm welcome from UNCP as he took the helm of his new post and is “looking forward to all of it.”

“I enjoy students. I am still teaching a course on Monday and Wednesday. It’s a great privilege,” he added.

See related story 24.

Cafeteria manager calls new renovations ‘a steal’

By Kayloni Wyatt
News Editor

New renovations ‘a steal’ have been able to see the new student orientation, when Dr. Allen C. Meadors announced that this will be the last renovation to the cafeteria.

By Kayloni Wyatt
News Editor

New and returning students were greeted back to the school year with a newly remodeled cafeteria.

Cafeteria manager, John Campbell, called the renovation “a steal.”

“Just the cafeteria has had an admittance cut with reversions of salaries. The cafeteria is now at the center of one of the biggest budget crunches in the history of the state.”

When Gov. Bev Perdue ordered institutions within the UNC-system to take a 10.5 percent budget cut with reversions of salaries, the cafeteria has become a heavy hit to the budget.

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