Greetings and Happy Holidays from your UNC Staff Assembly. Let me take this opportunity to thank all of you for your dedication and hard work to our students across the state of NC, our faculty to whom you support, and the citizens of NC which we all serve. We truly have a gift in our wonderful University system and without you it would not be successful.

Our big news to share with you at this time is that we will soon be awarding our first scholarships from the Janet B. Royster Memorial Staff Scholarship Fund. Be on the lookout during January for information on how you can apply for professional development funds to support what you do on your UNC System campus. The 2015 Chancellors’ Cup Golf Tournament, which is the primary fundraiser for the JBR Scholarship Fund, will be held in Greenville, NC in April. We encourage you to contact your staff organization to find out how you can participate as a volunteer, player or sponsor of this event.

The Assembly has identified several priority items to work on this year. These include:

1) Award the first scholarships from the Janet B. Royster Memorial Staff Scholarship Fund,

2) Identifying ways in which campus staff organizations can strengthen relationships and work more closely with campus HR departments to benefit all staff,

(continued on page 2)
3) Continue to partner with the Faculty Assembly to identify areas in which campus staff and faculty can work together to better serve our students and assist each other,

4) Define ways in which we can recognize our retired and active duty military personnel throughout the system,

5) Work with campuses to secure one Erskine B. Bowles Staff Service Award recipient from each campus.

Our goal is to identify ways in which staff can be recognized and celebrated for the work they do each day.

During this season let us take a moment to reflect upon, and celebrate, the blessings we have through our jobs, our educational system, and our colleagues, and in the words of Maya Angelou remember that “Nothing can dim the light which shines from within.” Happy Holidays!
EUC hosts underwater expert

Jean-Michel Cousteau, a distinguished underwater explorer, called for action to protect endangered ocean resources at a recent lecture he gave at East Carolina University.

Cousteau’s mission to preserve oceans and sea life was first inspired by his father, Jacques Cousteau.

The younger Cousteau said every person is connected to water and to oceans, so decisions made about how endangered ocean resources are managed have significant global impacts.

Chemicals in trash eventually make their way to water systems that flow into the oceans and impact marine life, he said.

“Marine debris is a global problem with a global solution,” he said.

UNCW gets $1 million grant

UNC-Wilmington received a $1 million grant from the U.S. State Department to partner with the International Islamic University in Islamabad, Pakistan.

It’s the biggest State Department grant a UNC-system school has received to date.

The grant will allow UNC-W to conduct faculty and student exchanges with the Islamic school and encourage research and teaching collaborations between the schools.

Tara Romanella, a UNC-W media relations specialist, said in an email that UNC-W’s commitment to the best practices in applied learning and its emphasis on American literature helped secure the grant.

She said all students will have the opportunity to get involved in the activities.

UNC-C helps settle coal ash

Faculty members at UNC-Charlotte will be directly involved in Duke Energy’s efforts to drain and close its coal ash impoundments nationwide.

The faculty will join national experts on a board tasked with reviewing Duke’s implementation of the new state coal ash policy.

John Daniels, the board’s chairman, said the board is funded by Duke.

“Each of the panelists have to sign a conflict of interest, and none of them can be funded by Duke personally,” Daniels said.

Daniels said part of his job as chair is to ensure that the panel covers the range of expertise required for this issue — including dam stability, environmental risk assessment and community engagement.

NC A&T is largest HBCU in US

North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University has been named the nation’s largest historically black college, with an enrollment of more than 10,700 students.

Akua Matherson, associate vice chancellor for enrollment management at N.C. A&T, said in an email that the university has been improving its recruitment strategies for the past three years.

N.C. A&T also continues to increase the percentage of students who return each year in good academic standing, she said.

“We didn’t set out to become the nation’s largest HBCU in terms of enrollment,” Matherson said. “This verifies that our plan is working.”
NCSU Agrees on Shared Governance

On March 19th, the following statement was signed by
• NCSU’s Student Body President Alexander Parker
• Student Centers Board of Directors President Wesley Lo
• Chair of Staff Senate Ryan Hancock (pictured at left)
• Faculty Senate Chair David Zonderman
• and Chancellor W. Randolph Woodson:

North Carolina State University faculty, staff and student leaders believe in shared governance and its power to represent the viewpoints of all members of the Wolfpack community. Through established and growing partnerships and a shared commitment to the University’s mission of teaching, research, and engagement, the faculty, staff and students recognize that bringing their voices together advances that mission and the entire community at NC State. The Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, Student Government and the Student Centers Board of Directors hereby commit to:

- Creating an environment where voices of each constituency are considered throughout the decision-making process.
- Supporting avenues of open communication and accountability.
- Recognizing that each governing body complements, rather than competes, with each other.
- Understanding that collectively our voices are strengthened when unified as one.

Let it be recognized on this date, Wednesday, March 19, 2014, that these governing bodies commit to continually work toward successful shared governance at North Carolina State University.
NCSSM Staff Emeritus Program
The North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics has established a Staff Emeritus Program. Under this program, SPA staff members who completed ten years of full time employment at NCSSM and retired from NCSSM are eligible to receive emeritus status. This status allows them to retain access to campus facilities, a campus email address and availability of staff rates of admission to athletic and cultural events. More information is available at:

https://sites.google.com/a/ncssm.edu/spa/staff-emeritus

UNCG Staff Excellence Awards
Congratulations to the 2014 Staff Excellence Awards recipients:

Ms. Melissa Barnes  
(Human Development & Family Studies) 
and 

Ms. Paige Morris  
(Exercise and Sports Science) 

For more information go to:
http://www.uncg.edu/staff-groups/senate/Senate_Committees/Staff_Recognition/excellence/

UNCP Staff Star Awards
Congratulations to UNC Pembroke’s Staff Star Awards recipients including:

Mrs. Keondra Mitchell  
Ms. Alesia Cummings  
Ms. Cindy Campbell  
Ms. Mary Baynes  
Ms. Natasha Kinto  

For more information go to:
http://www.uncp.edu/about-uncp/administration/staff-council/star-employee/past-star-employees

UNCSA Staff Excellence Awards
Congratulations to UNCSA’s 2014 Outstanding Staff Awards recipients:

Mrs. Mary Graves  
Staff Professional Excellence Award  
Mrs. Leslie Kamtman  
Staff Community Service Award  

For more information go to:
http://uncsa.edu/administration/staffcouncil.htm

CCGT Trophy is Presented to WSSU
On November 11, 2014 Staff Assembly Chair Susan Colby visited Winston Salem State University to join London Mickle in presenting the Chancellor’s Cup Golf Tournament trophy to Chancellor Reaves in honor of his retirement at the end of the year. (see photo at right)
UNC Charlotte was established in September of 1946 to serve returning veterans from World War II. Soon after Charlotte College was created and supported by Mecklenburg county and business leaders asking for a two cent tax to support the college. By 1965 the legislature approved bills creating the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, the fourth campus of the statewide university system.

University of North Carolina at Charlotte or UNC Charlotte is now North Carolina’s urban research university. Located in the state's largest metropolitan area, UNC Charlotte is among the fastest growing universities in the UNC System.

UNC Charlotte has opened the first of its kind in Mecklenburg County for an innovative educational concept that has been growing in popularity across North Carolina. The new high school will focus on STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education, with a specific emphasis on energy. We are certainly the leaders in the nation in this category.

UNC Charlotte’s PORTAL building opened in February 2014. PORTAL is an acronym for Partnership, Outreach and Research to Accelerate Learning. University officials describe it as harnessing the power of a research university with collaboration of Mecklenburg county business communities to plan strategies for success in a contemporary setting for students, faculty business partners.

- 27,300 Students Fall 2014
- 50.5 % Women & 49.5 % Men
- 2,700 undergrads 700 graduates students
- Belk College of Business
- 1,000-acre wooded campus
- Approximately 75 buildings
- 8 miles from Uptown Charlotte
- 15,300 seats in Jerry Richardson Stadium

UNCC Staff Council Chair
Jim Kay

For more information on UNC Charlotte’s Staff Council, go to:
www.stafforg.uncc.edu
UNC has established its place among leaders in higher education since it was commissioned in 1789 opened its doors for students in 1795 as the nation’s first public university.

UNC Energy Frontier Reach Center (UNC EFRC) technologically advanced a way to transform solar energy into hydrogen fuel, earning $10.8 million from the US Department of Energy to continue the work.

UNC School of Journalism & Mass Communications developed a website to track the Ebola outbreak in Liberia, helping CDC officials & on the ground in West Africa.

The Carolina Covenant is UNC Chapel Hill’s promise to youth from low-income families toward a debt-free opportunity in higher education for 10 years.

- 29,135 total Tar heels students
- 1st Top 10 BEST Value Public University for 2014 by the Princeton Review
- 5th Best public university in the U.S. News and World Report’s 2015 for the 14th consecutive year.
- 221 years of service to all 100 counties in NC
- 178 Fulbright Student Program Awards for global research and study

For more information on UNC Chapel Hill’s Employee Forum, go to:

http://employeeforum.unc.edu
Fayetteville State University
2014 Employee Appreciation Luncheon
“Showdown at the Bronco “Corral”