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LOCAL & STATE

## What's New on College Campuses in the Carolinas

### Appalachian State University

Among the new academic programs is a Bachelor of Arts in dance studies. The school has offered a minor in dance for more than three decades, and hundreds of students sign up for classes each year.

### Belmont Abbey College

The Envoy Institute of Belmont Abbey is designed to help young adults better understand their faith. Participants will learn skills such as critical thinking and Scripture study. Officials are planning a fall leadership summit and will host student activities next spring and summer.

### Central Piedmont Community College

A new associate degree program will train students to detect flaws in railroads, bridges, airplanes, nuclear power plants and other materials. CPCC is believed to be one of the first community colleges in the Southeast to offer the degree, called nondestructive examination.

### Charlotte School of Law

Heading into its second year of classes, the biggest task facing the school is gaining accreditation with the American Bar Association. A site visit is set for September, and the law school could receive provisional accreditation as early as summer 2008.

### Davidson College

Ten Davidson students are moving into an ecological co-op where they'll learn about environmental issues and sustainability. For example, students will monitor use of power, water and natural gas as well as temperature in the house. The students will live in the former Dean Rusk building on Main Street.

### Gardner-Webb University

Want to smoke or chew tobacco? You'll have to go elsewhere. This month, Gardner-Webb banned the use of tobacco on the Boiling Springs campus - one of the first schools in the state to do so. The tobacco-free policy applies to anyone who steps on the campus, including visitors. It also extends to university owned or leased vehicles. The school also plans to offer classes for those wanting to stop using tobacco.

### Johnson C. Smith University

After more than \$750,000 in renovations, the historic Carnegie Library on campus has been transformed into a training site for programs designed to train more students in math- and science-related fields. Among the programs hosted there is HBCU-UP, which helps recruit new students in the fields at historically black colleges and universities.

### N.C. State University

The new Golden Leaf Biomanufacturing Training and Education Center aims to train new students in biotech fields. For example,



ANDY BURRISS - (ROCK HILL) HERALD PHOTO

**Paige Salane of Columbia fans herself on Friday as she waits for the elevator while moving into Wofford Hall at Winthrop University in Rock Hill.**

students will learn how to turn cells into pharmaceutical products and vaccines. The 90,000-square-foot building will contain labs like those at companies like GlaxoSmithKline.

### Pfeiffer University

The school's Charlotte campus is now home to a master's degree program in marriage and family therapy - the third such program in the state, leaders said. Classes will be held at night, and students must perform 500 counseling hours. Pfeiffer also plans to open a low-cost counseling center in 2008.

### Queens University of Charlotte

One of the bigger changes is the size of Queens' freshman class, the largest at the school since 1967. Queens is welcoming 300 freshmen this year, a 29 percent increase over last school year, leaders said. The group includes 11 presidential scholars, the school's most prestigious academic scholarship.

### UNC Chapel Hill

The roof of Morrison residence hall has 172 solar panels that will heat water throughout the building - the university's first major renewable energy project. It is one of many new features at Morrison, which underwent a complete renovation during the past two years. Students also can track energy use on the Web.

### UNC Charlotte

The school is introducing a "University College," which will coordinate its general education program for first- and second-year students. UNCC also has created a "one-stop" advising center for undeclared freshmen, transfers and those entering a major.

### University of South Carolina

Students can download music files all day without running into legal problems. And it's free, mostly. USC has partnered with the online music service Ruckus Network to give students access to more than 2.1 million songs. The program is offered to students who use PCs. Those with Macs are asked to use other music sites. Students must pay a small fee to transfer the files to a CD or other device.

### Winthrop University

Among the new buildings opening on campus is the Lois Rhame West Health, Physical Education and Wellness Center. The 137,000-square-foot, \$27 million project is the largest building on the main campus. It is also Winthrop's first "green" building. Among the features: a pool filtration system will use ultraviolet rays to destroy some gases in chlorine and other bacteria and viruses, then send the water back into the pool. — COMPILED BY APRIL BETHEA