

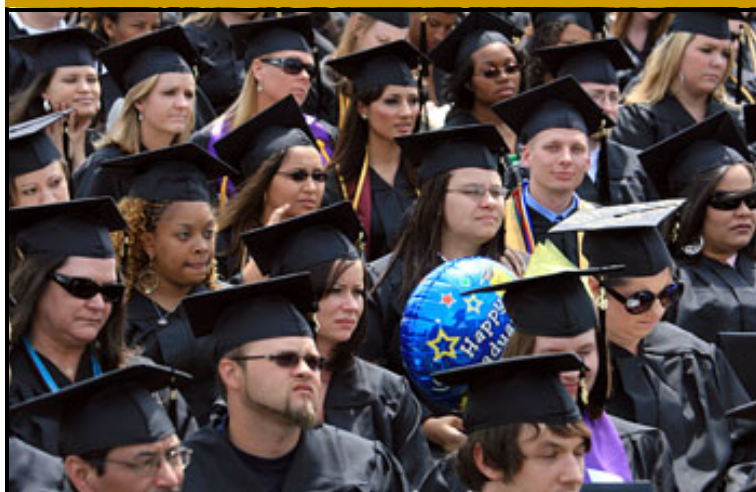
# UNCP Black & Gold News

The Official Newsletter of the UNCP Alumni Association

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July—August 2008

## New Graduates Take Degrees

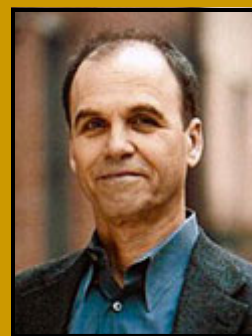
*Author Scott Turow addresses commencement audience*



In his welcoming remarks at Spring Commencement on May 3, Student Government Association President Barry Burch Jr. summed up the moment for 475 graduates of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

"We all took diverse routes to get here and we will all go different ways, but commencement is the one moment we all come together," the student leader said.

On cue, commencement speaker Scott Turow, who is an attorney and author of seven best-selling novels, advised the graduates to reject the famous words of poet Robert Frost, that



**Scott Turow**

there is "one road or the other."

As a youthful idealist of the 1960s, Turow set out to become a great novelist but went to law school instead.

"It turned out to be the best decision I ever made," he said. "Going to law school gave me what I needed to become an author; the law gave me a subject about which I am passionate."

Biology major and Pembroke native Bryan Howington said that early in his college career, he stood at a crossroads, and he believes he took the right road.

"I went to another college to play football and came home," Howington said. "Coming here was the best decision I ever made."

Howington, who was tempted several times to join UNCP's new football team, concentrated on his studies, excelled and earned a full scholarship to East Carolina University's Bowman School of Medicine.

Chancellor Allen C. Meadors, who presided over his 9th spring commencement at UNCP, gave this charge to the graduates: "During your years here at UNCP, we have often spoken to you about leadership. We want each of you to take your place as leaders in your community; in your profession; and in society.

"You do not have to be born with characteristics or traits of a leader," Chancellor Meadors said. "You do not have to wait for a tap on the shoulder; you do not have to be at the top of the organizational chart; you can step up and lead at any point in your life."



# Braves Softball Wins First Conference Crown

UNC Pembroke captured its first Peach Belt Conference title in softball on April 7 when the Braves swept a doubleheader from the University of North Georgia.



**Johnson**

The championship marks the first outright title that a women's program at UNCP has won in the PBC. In 1993, the volleyball team was a co-champion playing a limited schedule and finishing with a record of 4-1. The preseason coach's poll picked the Braves to finish in 8th place.



As regular season champions, the Braves secured the top seed in the conference tournament scheduled for later that month, and went into the tournament as the number five ranked NCAA Division II team in the nation and number one in the region. [http://www.uncp.edu/news/2008/softball\\_champs.htm](http://www.uncp.edu/news/2008/softball_champs.htm)



**SOFTBALL - BERRIER & SHAW**

## Softball Celebrates First Two All-Americans

The UNCP softball team celebrated the first two all-Americans in program history this year as senior centerfielder Brittany Berrier and sophomore infielder Jelena Shaw were named to one of three 2008 Louisville Slugger/National Fastpitch Coaches Association All-America teams, the NFCA announced. Berrier earned first team honors and Shaw took home third team laurels just less than a week after both earned first team all-region status from the NFCA. Berrier was also named to the Daktronics All-South Atlantic Region Team as well. The Braves finished the season with a record of 46-14 overall with a 17-1 mark in the Peach Belt Conference.

## UNCP Alumni Travel



**New York**



**Quebec**

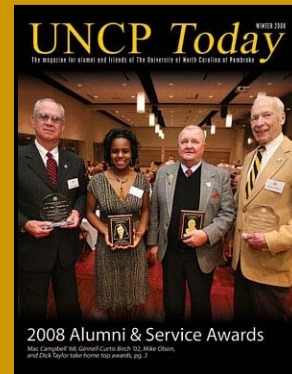
Experience some of the most fascinating cities in the world with friends and loved ones! The UNCP Alumni Association has partnered with Collette Vacations to offer unique travel opportunities around the globe.

Visit the website and find out more:  
<http://www.uncp.edu/alumni/travel/>



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**Are YOU Getting UNCP Today?**

Visit the link below and update your contact information to make sure you don't miss an issue!  
<http://www.uncp.edu/alumni/update/>

# Canada Wins UNC Teaching Excellence Award

Dr. Mark Canada, an associate professor of English, has been named a recipient of the 2008 UNC Board of Governors Award for Teaching Excellence. The award goes annually to a faculty member on each of UNC's 17 campuses and underscores the importance of teaching in higher education. The winners were honored in Chapel Hill on May 9 with a commemorative bronze medallion and a cash prize. Dr. Canada will serve as University Marshal and deliver the commencement address at the 2008 Winter Commencement.



Canada

***"To be honored for what I believe is my calling is a real thrill."***

Dr. Canada is a remarkable teacher, said Dr. Charles Harrington, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs.

"During his time at Pembroke, Mark Canada has proven consistently that his innovative and effective teaching, his prolific scholarship, and his incomparable service to his department, the University, and our region are exemplary," Dr. Harrington said. "This award is fitting recognition for him...He exemplifies all

that is good about academia, and I am delighted for him."

In his 12th year at UNCP, Dr. Canada was recently named assistant chair of the Department of English, Theatre and Languages. Dr. Canada, who specializes in American literature, has taught more than a dozen different courses.

"The award is the highlight of my professional career because it is for teaching," he said. "I did not start out to be a teacher, but I have come to love it," Dr. Canada said. "I use a lot of individual instruction, and a lot of my teaching comes down to one-on-one conferences."

[http://www.uncp.edu/news/2008/mark\\_canada.htm](http://www.uncp.edu/news/2008/mark_canada.htm)

# Certificate, Minor in Entrepreneurship To Be Offered

Two new programs in the School of Business were approved in February by UNCP's Faculty Senate and will be available to students next fall. Faculty are now working to develop a concentration in Entrepreneurship.

The programs are being originated at the Thomas Family Center for Entrepreneurship (TFCE), a recent addition to the University supported by Pembroke native and Los Angeles real estate developer Jim Thomas. Dr. Mike Menefee, the Thomas Family Distinguished Professor of Entrepreneurship, is spearheading the effort.

***"I expect these programs to be very popular...We're going to do this right and make sure these programs are of the highest quality before we take the next step."***

— Dr. Mike Menefee

School of Business Dean

Eric Dent said "Entrepreneurship courses and programs are the fastest growing segment of higher education. Many students, including liberal arts majors, realize that understanding the business dynamics of entrepreneurial efforts is important to their futures."



Dent



Menefee

<http://www.uncp.edu/news/2008/>

# Department of Foreign Languages Established

As UNCP continues to emphasize an international perspective, foreign languages will play an important role. To that end, UNCP will establish a stand-alone Department of Foreign Languages beginning with the 2008-09 academic year. Dr. Liliana Wendorff '84 was named chair of the department, which will separate from the English and Theatre Department.

"Clearly, preparing students to thrive in a global and multicultural milieu requires that students are exposed to a wide range of cultures and language training," Dr. Harrington, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs, said. "Establishing a stand-alone foreign languages department is the first point of departure in our efforts to broaden language programs at UNC Pembroke."

Wendorff, who is already the coordinator for UNCP's four-year-old Spanish language major, said the department will grow in numbers and offerings.



Wendorff

[http://www.uncp.edu/news/2008/foreign\\_languages.htm](http://www.uncp.edu/news/2008/foreign_languages.htm)

# Senator Weinstein Endows Scholarship at UNCP

In the North Carolina General Assembly, Senator David Weinstein does a lot for The University of North Carolina at Pembroke. On April 9, he personally established a scholarship at the University.

The Max Weinstein Endowed Scholarship is named for Sen. Weinstein's late father and will benefit students majoring in history. As an endowed scholarship, it will be awarded perpetually.

"I have a great interest in history and so did my father," Sen. Weinstein said. "I have been making a scholarship gift each year, and it is my pleasure to endow the scholarship in my father's name."

At a presentation in the History Department, Sen. Weinstein said UNCP's growth is pleasing to him.

"As the representative from this district, it is my job to make sure UNCP gets a fair share of financial resources," he continued. "We've been fortunate to make a lot of progress."

Chancellor Meadors thanked Sen. Weinstein for the gift and for his support of the University.

"Since Sen. Weinstein has been in the legislature, we have been netted \$100 million in capital projects, and we have a \$29 million project in the works," Chancellor Meadors said. "He is a great friend to the University and to our entire region."

The scholarship gift is for \$10,000. A committee of the History Department will select a recipient for the annual scholarship award.

The first scholarship from the endowment will be awarded next fall, but History Department Chair Dr. Robert Brown noted a \$500 scholarship will be awarded next week thanks to an additional gift from Sen. Weinstein.

"On behalf of the department and the University, I would like to thank Sen. David Weinstein for his support," Dr. Brown said. "Our students need this, and they appreciate it."



From left:  
History  
Department  
Chair Dr.  
Robert  
Brown, Chan-  
cellor Allen  
C. Meadors,  
and Sen.  
David  
Weinstein.

[http://www.uncp.edu/news/2008/david\\_weinstein.htm](http://www.uncp.edu/news/2008/david_weinstein.htm)

## Career Center Has Free Services For Alumni



Clarifying Choices  
Defining Goals  
Pursuing Opportunities  
Succeeding in the Job Search

Did you know that all of the Career Center's programs and services are available to UNCP alumni at no charge? Services include assistance with interviewing, resume and cover letter writing, planning for graduate school, or making a career change. In addition, you are invited to participate in events sponsored each semester through the center.

### **Schedule of Events for Fall 2008:**

**Fall Career Expo** – Wednesday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. – Discover a world of opportunities at the UNCP Career Expo! Employers, graduate schools, government, and not-for-profit agencies will be in attendance to discuss careers and job opportunities with their organizations.

**Fall Business Etiquette Dinner** – Tuesday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. – If you have ever wondered which fork you should use at a meal, or if you find yourself questioning whether or not a certain topic is appropriate for dinner conversation, then this event is for you! At the Fall Business Etiquette Dinner you will learn the answers to these questions, and many more, from a Certified International Business Etiquette Consultant over a full multi-course dinner. Tickets must be purchased in advance for the dinner.

**Fall Teacher Education Fair** – Wednesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. – The Fall Teacher Education Fair gives alumni interested in pursuing teaching careers the opportunity to network with school systems from around North and South Carolina, as well as other states around the Southeast.

Contact the Career Services Center to schedule an individual appointment to discuss any of your career-related questions and plans. **To find out more visit the Career Center Web site at: [www.uncp.edu/cs](http://www.uncp.edu/cs) or call 910-521-6270.**