

More than 65 years of combined service to Chowan

Two veteran professors announce retirement

Warren Sexton taught continuously for more than three decades

The lives of many students have been enriched through the service of Sexton and Jones



WARREN G. SEXTON
... completes 36 years of teaching social sciences

Sexton was strong supporter of athletic program, Braves Club and Sports Hall of Fame

Graduation day in May, 1995, will mark the end of a 36-year teaching career for Warren G. Sexton, associate professor of social science, who has announced his retirement effective at the end of the current semester.

Sexton, which joined the faculty of Chowan in the fall of 1959, received the associate degree at Lees-McRae College and was awarded both the bachelor's and master's degrees by Appalachian State University. He has also completed additional graduate study at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

A native of Lansing, Sexton has taught courses in history and served as chairman of the social science department for 21 years.

While a student at Lees-McRae, Sexton met his wife, Carol, who is an associate professor of library science and a member of the staff of Whitaker Library. The couple has two children: Warren, Jr., of Greensboro, and Jean, assistant director of Pembroke State University's library.

In recalling his nearly four decades of service to the college, Sexton said he had "witnessed the major growth of the campus and facilities."

"My first office space was on the ground floor of McDowell Columns building," Sexton said,

"and I taught classes in the old gym which is now the Braves Den Student Center."

"Our student body is much more diversified than in those early years," he recalled, "and our students now come from a much wider area."

Sexton received the Excellence in Teaching Award in 1971 as a tribute to his "outstanding teaching and commitment to the institution." The student body also dedicated the 1991 edition of *The Chowanoka*, the college yearbook, to Sexton and said "his scholarly example and commitment to teaching have earned for him the respect of his students."

"One of the greatest rewards of teaching," Sexton testified, "is when former students return to the campus and express appreciation for help they received in my classes."

"I have always tried to teach students and to do so in ways to earn their respect," he solemnly noted, "and when I have done that I can think that I have been successful."

Throughout his tenure at Chowan, Sexton has been a strong supporter of the athletic program and was instrumental in forming the Braves Club and the Chowan Sports Hall of Fame. He served as chairman of the athletic committee for a number of years and rarely missed an athletic event played on campus.

Sexton has also been active in community and area athletics and officiated in high school games of basketball and football. For a number of years he also umpired baseball contests.

In the retirement years ahead Sexton plans to continue his hobbies of fishing, reading and enjoying semi-classical music. "But I also plan to become more involved with community and civic projects," he said.

Mrs. Hattie R. Jones will reach a milestone in her life at the end of this semester when she retires after completing thirty years of service as a member of Chowan College's faculty.

A native of Bluefield, West Virginia, Mrs. Jones received her undergraduate degree from Concord College and was awarded the master's in education by Virginia Polytechnic Institute. She completed additional graduate study at a number of institutions including James Madison University, University of Dayton and the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

During the summer while attending college, Mrs. Jones was employed at a Bluefield bank. "I really loved it," she said, "but I felt a genuine call to teaching and I have truly enjoyed all of my 41 years in the classroom."

Jones joined the business department faculty in the fall of 1965 after teaching for eleven years in Tazewell County, VA.

Two of the students Mrs. Jones taught in elementary classes in Tazewell plan to be present at graduation exercises on May 13 to witness their favorite teacher's final appearance in Chowan's academic procession.

"We have kept in touch throughout the years and I am very pleased that they will be present on the day I officially retire from Chowan," Mrs. Jones said proudly.

Mrs. Jones met her husband, Bob, a native of Omaha, Nebraska, at Chowan when he joined the business faculty to fill the position of one of her friends.

The veteran teacher says that she and her husband, who is also retired, have no definite plans

for retirement. "I will continue to enjoy reading and music," she testified, "and we will probably do quite a bit of traveling, but we haven't made any firm decisions as yet."

Mrs. Jones, who teaches courses in the computer information systems curriculum, noted the growth of Chowan during her three decades of service on the faculty, and recalled many outstanding students she has taught.

"I'll be very proud to see two of my students receive their baccalaureate degree in May," she said, "because I also saw them receive their associate degree two years ago."

A mixture of emotions can be detected in Mrs. Jones' voice when she describes her philosophy of teaching. "My life, and the lives of my students, should be improved because our pathways have crossed," she said.

"My life has certainly improved and I truly hope theirs has as well," she continued.

Eva Clayton

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November 1992 when she became the first African-American woman to represent the State of North Carolina. She gained immediate seniority as a freshman, filling the unexpired term of the late Congressman Walter B. Jones, Sr.

Clayton holds a B.S. degree from Johnston C. Smith University and a M.S. degree from North Carolina Central University. She attended law school at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and North Carolina Central University in Durham.



MRS. HATTIE JONES
... taught Business courses

Trip planned to "music show capital"

The Fine Arts Foundation of Chowan College has announced plans for a trip to the Ozark Mountains and Branson, MO, now called "the music show capital," Nov. 27 to Dec. 3.

Proceeds from the trip, which is limited to thirty persons, will be used to support the fine arts programs and offerings at Chowan College and the Roanoke-Chowan area.

"We are offering a first-class, six-day trip," said E. Vincent Tilson, vice president for development. "The package includes round-trip air transportation, tickets to eight of Branson's most popular shows, and six nights lodging at a full service hotel."

The group will leave Norfolk International Airport on Tuesday, Nov. 28, and arrive in Branson by noon. After an afternoon of free time and dinner that evening, they will attend the "Jim Stafford Christmas Show." Other performances included in the tour package are the "Radio City Rockettes," and Christmas shows of Andy Williams, Mel Tellis, Shoji Tabuchi and Lawrence Welk with the Lennon Sisters.

"We have made arrangements to tour the Ralph Foster Museum and College of the Ozarks," said Clayton Lewis, director of corporate and foundation relations and tour director for the trip. The group will also see the "Port of Lights," visit the "Mountain Man Shop," and enjoy a dinner and stage show on the showboat, "Branson Belle."

Branson has become a center for live entertainment with more than 35 theaters providing a variety of pop, country, and even classical and Broadway music.

The area also provides many shopping opportunities from flea markets to elegant shops. Many mountain craftsmen offer local craft items for sale which represent the history of the Ozarks.

The cost of the tour package is \$995.00 per person, double occupancy, or \$1,250.00 per person, single occupancy. "The package also includes six bountiful meals and a continental breakfast each morning," Lewis noted.

Further information and reservation forms may be obtained by contacting Clayton Lewis, Chowan College, Murfreesboro, NC 27855, telephone 919/398-4101. Reservations are on a "first come, first served" basis and must be made by August 1.