

"A school of high order" — a dream renewed

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There is a link between knowing what is good and trying to do that which is good. Chowan can help you to become the best person you can be.

Philanthropic organizations and charitable individuals want to be assured that daily operational activities of the college are consistent with the mission statement. Through the years, individuals, corporations and foundations have given to Chowan because they believed in what the college is doing for young people, and had favorable impressions about Chowan as a positive force for progress in northeastern North Carolina and southeastern Virginia.

I hope you are identifying with the mission of Chowan College, your professors, your residence directors and their assistants. There are rules and regulations to be followed. Developing a positive attitude toward them is important. The way one looks at these regulations is a matter of consequence. If you look at regulations as a limit to your freedom, you may resent them and develop negative attitudes about Chowan College and those responsible for enforcing the policies. If you view the policies as a guide to your actions and a guarantee of freedom and security against impositions from a few individuals who are not always sensitive to the well-being of others, especially those living in residence hall situations where residents live in close proximity to one another, you will appreciate the regulations. Chowan College has rules and regulations because such policies are thought to promote a campus environment which is conducive to studying and learning.

I urge you to let members of the faculty and staff help you to become a brighter point of light in the twenty-first century. Let them help you to develop the good which is innately a part of your nature. In addition to a qualified faculty that strives toward excellence in teaching, Chowan provides a variety of support services and a varied program of co-curricular activities for students.

One of my concerns about undergraduate education is that college teachers and administrators have reduced the baccalaureate degree to little more than a required number of courses with a specified grade point average. There is much more to a college education that which is recorded on one's transcript. Recently, I reread

Chowan's institutional goals. Several goals relate to opportunities which facilitate positive life experiences and social skills. These aspects of an education are important to one's development and success.

A few years ago I interviewed a young man for a position at Chowan as a Residence Director. The young man had just received his B.S. degree from one of North Carolina's state supported universities. The man was not properly dressed for an interview. He used "ain't" and double negatives frequently when talking with me. He was not ready for work at Chowan College; yet he possessed many likeable qualities. When writing him a letter letting him know that the position had been filled with another applicant, I decided to be honest, to help him become prepared for a competitive world. Later, I telephoned to discuss some of my recommendations for his professional development. Two years later, I was surprised when he again applied for a residence hall position at Chowan. After being informed that Chowan had no vacancies for residence directors, he still wanted to come for an interview. As we talked during the second interview, I marveled at the correctness of his oral English. He was ready for professional employment. Unfortunately, he was never employed at Chowan College.

With your cooperation, you will not be like the young person I just told you about. With only a few exceptions, the vast majority of those people whom I have known in twenty-seven and one-half years as faculty and staff members at Chowan College have been well qualified for their employment and dedicated to the mission of the institution and their individual responsibilities. Members of the faculty and staff have inspired me to become a better person and a more competent teacher and administrator. I am fortunate to have been associated with able, dedicated and loyal colleagues. If you are willing, the Chowan College faculty and staff will help you to: (1) advance your mind; (2) perfect your body; (3) cultivate social amenities; (4) acquire a greater appreciation of the fine arts—music, art and drama; and (5) enhance your spiritual life.

On this Founders Day we again renew the dream, the challenge of Chowan's founders,

trustees, faculty and staff. I hope you will do what you can as students and later as alumni to maintain the ideal of Chowan as "a school of high order."

I want to close on a personal note. This is an appropriate time for me to publicly thank Chowan College for twenty-seven and one-half years of meaningful employment. Chowan College and Murfreesboro have been good to my faculty and to me. Also, I want to conclude with an expression of gratitude not only to Chowan's founders but to the many individuals, especially those from Murfreesboro, Ahoskie and other areas of the Roanoke-Chowan, who have given of their financial resources and used their influence to keep Chowan alive and to make it a viable force in northeastern North Carolina and southeastern Virginia. The founders gave Chowan College life. Chowan's twentieth century friends have sustained the college and upheld Chowan's validity as an institution of higher education.

I believe Chowan's finest moment is yet to come.

"There is much more to a college education than that which is recorded on one's transcript."

Nine Chowan students of the late 1800s are pictured below on the steps of McDowell Columns. This photo, submitted by E. Frank Stephenson, is one of the earliest photographs in existence of Chowan students.



Alumni notes . .

Doris Wilkins ('53) retired in February 1994 after serving for 31 years in social work. She currently resides in Raleigh and describes her retirement as "enjoying learning how to play and finding that it is a lot of fun."

Mrs. Gary D. Barnes ('54) moved to Colerain, NC, in 1975. She gave birth to a son on April 11, 1979, after adopting three other children. She is currently associated with *The News Herald* of Ahoskie as a bookkeeper in the circulation department. In November 1995, she and her husband, Leo, will celebrate their 41st wedding anniversary.

Carolyn VanNess Dooley ('64) and her husband, Larry, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on Sept. 11, 1995 at their home in Quinton, VA. The couple has two daughters and two grandsons. Carolyn is completing 27 years of teaching in Hanover County, VA, in the field of social studies and was chosen "Teacher of the Year" in 1995-96 by the faculty and staff of Lee-Davis High School.

Miss Ann Carleton Davis ('72) of Locust Hill married Linwood Blayne Gresham of West Point, VA, in July 1996. She is director of staff development at Mizpah Health Care Center in Locust Hill and her husband is employed at Chesapeake Paper Products in West Point, VA.

Deborah Eues ('79) was married to William Hennessy, Jr., of Charleston, SC, on August 3, 1995. The couple currently reside in Mt. Pleasant, SC, where he is an attorney and Deborah is a self-employed bookkeeper for several small businesses.

Steve Laney, ('81), is associated with Sullivan Graphics, Inc., of Brentwood, TN, as a corporate technical services project manager. He and his wife, **Carol (Culp)**, ('81) live in Franklin, TN, and they are parents of two children, Steven R., age 8, and Christopher, age 6.

Mrs. Mary Beth Taylor ('81) is married to Glenn Taylor and they have two sons, Adam, age 5, and Brent, 17 months. After teaching the first grade for 8 years, she is now working in her own pre-school and her husband is a member of the faculty of the University of Virginia Law School. The couple resides in Charlottesville.

Mrs. Jill Simpson Parrott ('89) and her husband, Ed, became the parents of a son, Aaron Mitchell, on January 12, 1995. They reside in Salisbury, MD.