

Dr. Gowler named assistant dean of college

Dr. David Gowler, assistant professor of religion and philosophy, has been appointed assistant academic dean of Chowan College, according to a joint announcement earlier this month by Dr. Herman E. Collier, Jr., interim president, and Dr. B. Franklin Lowe, Jr., vice president for academic affairs.

In his new position, Dr. Gowler's principal focus will be that of leading and enabling all aspects of curriculum development and will be responsible for the oversight, planning and structuring of the academic program.

Dr. Lowe noted that Chowan is preparing for an institutional self-study, required for reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, during which time all aspects of curricula development will be addressed.

"It is timely and essential that we have able and strong leadership for this undertaking," he said, "and we are indeed fortunate to have someone with the abilities, interests and commitment of Dr. Gowler to fill this very important position."

President Collier said that as assistant dean of the college Gowler will report directly to the vice president for academic affairs. In addition to serving as the institutional resource person for program development, he will plan, direct, coordinate and supervise all academic program studies, Collier stated.

A member of Chowan's Strategic Planning Council, Dr. Gowler will also chair the Curriculum Committee of the faculty.

A native of Illinois, Gowler received his undergraduate degree in religious studies at the University of Illinois. He earned both his master of divinity and doctoral degrees at the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary of Louisville, KY.

He completed additional study at Cambridge University in Cambridge, England and also at Yale University's NEH Summer Seminar: "The

Sacred, Secular and Profane: Bible and Literature in Bakhtinian Perspective."

Gowler was a Garrett Teaching Fellow, research assistant and instructor of New Testament at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Prior to joining the faculty at Chowan, he was an assistant professor of religion at Berry College in Rome, GA.

In addition to his teaching and student advising responsibilities, he developed and directed "Thinking and Writing Across the Curriculum," a cross-disciplinary program for the college.

The new dean has authored a number of articles for prestigious publications and has edited and reviewed many books and texts. He was the author of *Host, Guest, Enemy and Friend: Portraits of the Pharisees in Luke and Acts* for which he was nominated as a finalist for the "1991 Awards for Excellence in Religious Studies," by the American Academic of Religion. He is completing *What Are They Saying About the Parables?* that will be completed this fall.

Gowler has presented a number of papers at scholarly meetings throughout the United States as well as in Australia, Scotland and Norway and has reviewed many books by various authors. He serves as associate editor and a member of the advisory board of *Emory Studies in Early Christianity*.

A member of many professional organizations, Gowler was included in the 1993 edition of *Who's Who in Biblical Studies and Archaeology*, and the 1994 issue of *Who's Who Among American Teachers*.

Gowler was the faculty representative to the Chowan Board of Trustees, 1993-96, and is currently serving on the presidential search committee and the steering committee for the college's self study for re-affirmation of accreditation.



DR. DAVID GOWLER
Assistant Academic Dean

To be responsible for curriculum development

Chowan seeks leadership role in computer technology

Chowan College continues to take "giant steps forward" as a leader in educational technology with the installation of a campuswide computer network that will open new worlds of information and opportunities for students and faculty.

The Long Range Technology Plan, adopted by the Baptist coeducational senior college, focuses on global issues and addresses the goals of the college that are applicable to every educational institution. Work is well underway to provide advanced technological instruction that will make Chowan a leader among the thousands of colleges recruiting top high school students and seeking outstanding and noted professors and instructors.

"It is imperative that Chowan continue its development as a strong and distinctively competitive baccalaureate institution," said Dr. B. Franklin Lowe, Jr., vice president for academic affairs, "and we must stay abreast with technological advancements that are occurring so very rapidly in our society."

Chowan's technology plan is designed to ensure that completion requirements in all curricula include the use of computers and that students will be equipped with requisite skills and training for employment in today's marketplace.

The campus network will comprise subnets to serve the administrative operations of the college, the faculty and students. Future access will extend to individual residence hall rooms to give students access to Whitaker Library as well as worldwide resources available through Internet.

The technological emphasis and computer network will allow "students, faculty and staff

to have access to worldwide information that only major urban universities and colleges have been able to provide in the past," Lowe continued.

Installation of the campuswide fiber optic network backbone, that will have the capacity to meet computer needs well into the 21st century, is scheduled to be completed by late spring. Peter Squire, director of development for information technology, said that "parts of the network will necessarily change as technology advances, but we will add new hardware and software versions as they become available."

Squire noted that the new network is "a switched Ethernet technology that is the newest technology available and will last well into the next century."

The administrative and faculty networks will allow the accessing of information in areas such as student records, financial aid, housing, accounting, fund-raising, alumni services and special events. The various academic departments of the college are making plans to utilize the networks according to their respective needs.

The Texie Camp Marks Computer Center, established in 1992, is the primary computing center for the college. Currently more than 50 computers with fast Pentium processors and Apple Macintosh units are connected to the local area network to provide a mixture of workstations.

"The network operating system is Novell Netware running dual protocols—IPX and TCP/IP—and a Cisco router and 56K leased line provides Internet access to the campus community," Squire added.

Chowan's leadership in educational technol-

ogy includes plans to integrate current computer and network use into campus programs.

"By sharing our expertise," said Dr. Andrea Eason, director of information technology, "we can help this region of our state utilize new technologies and prepare students for successful employment and service in the increasingly technical marketplace."

Eason noted that Chowan plans to make networked classrooms and laboratories available to area secondary schools and share information resources and technical support. Educational technology meetings, demonstrations and seminars in the continuing education program will be held on the campus.

Several students are shown working on computers recently installed for instructional purposes and connected to a local network.

