



Dr. Parker stresses a point during class lecture

## Parker Elected To Chair

Dr. Earl H. Parker, professor of religion and philosophy, has been elected to the E. Lee Oliver Fagan Chair of Bible and Religion.

The chair, the first established at Chowan, was funded with an initial gift of \$130,000 by the late Lee O. Fagan of Standardsville, Va., in memory of his mother who graduated from Chowan in 1893. Fagan served as a member of the college's Board of Advisors until his death on March 22, 1977.

Dr. Parker was appointed to the position by the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees upon the recommendation of President Bruce E. Whitaker and Dr. B. Franklin Lowe, Jr., dean of the college.

He began his service here in 1969 after serving as counselor with the Vocational Rehabilitation Facility at Butner. Prior to that, he served over 11 years as pastor of Beth Car Baptist Church in Halifax, Va., and two years as pastor of Fremont Baptist Church.

He served two years as an Air Force chaplain with the rank of captain, and two years chaplain and professor of religion and philosophy at Converse College, Spartanburg, S.C.

The Rocky Mount native received his BA at Wake Forest University, BD at Yale University, and PhD at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland. He is married to the former Elizabeth Lewis of Fremont. They have two daughters, Jenny, a graduate of Chowan and Wake Forest, and Mary a junior at Murfreesboro High School.

Dr. Parker has received a number of honors since coming to Chowan. He was selected an Outstanding Educator of America for 1975. In 1976, The Chowanoka, was dedicated to him and Gilbert Tripp, professor in the Department of Science. He took a class on a Biblelands tour to Israel and Greece in January, 1975.

Dean Lowe emphasized Parker's qualifications for the position. "He has an excellent educational background by virtue of having studied at Wake Forest, Yale and Edinburgh. His broad experience as pastor, chaplain, counselor and professor has prepared him superbly for his work here at Chowan. He has proven to be one of the most popular professors on campus. In many ways, he has proven his loyalty to the college and love for the teaching process and interaction with the students.

"The Department of Religion and Philosophy is an important part of the academic program at Chowan, a Baptist college. The election of Dr. Parker to the E. Lee Oliver Fagan Chair of Bible and Religion brings added prestige to the chair, department, and college."

Dr. Parker said he is "deeply honored" and regards "the offer of this chair as a significant recognition and as a placement of great confidence in me."

He said he accepted the appointment "with deep satisfaction and with deepening commitment to Christ and to Chowan College."



LINDA SUE NELMS



KENNETH GATEWOOD

## Two Admissions Aides Join Administration

Two new Assistant Directors of Admissions were employed at Chowan during the summer months. Their responsibilities vary from recruiting to interviewing prospective students and their parents.

These new Assistant Directors are Miss Linda Sue Nelms and Kenneth Douglas Gatewood.

Miss Nelms, of Suffolk, Va., will be primarily concerned with acquainting college-bound Virginians with the benefits available to students who study at Chowan College. She will represent Chowan at most of the college and career day programs sponsored by secondary schools in Virginia.

Miss Nelms is a graduate of Elon College. Her hobbies include swimming, arts and crafts, biking, tennis, racketball, cooking, and music. During the past summer she served as coordinator

of the swimming program sponsored by the Red Cross in Suffolk.

"She has a pleasant personality," said Dean Clayton Lewis. "I am impressed by her enthusiasm."

Doug, a Chowan College graduate of 1976 with an associate degree in business administration, will represent Chowan at college and career day programs in the secondary schools in North Carolina.

After graduating from Chowan, Doug transferred to Atlantic Christian College and received the B.S. degree in business administration this past May. During his days at Chowan, Doug was active in intramural sports. He was employed as a group leader for the Youth Conservation Corp before joining the admissions staff. Dean Lewis stated, "Doug is committed to the purpose of Chowan College."

Even as the director praises the whole of the *Animal House* cast, he's most effusive about Belushi. Critics, Landis says, "dismiss the performance by saying he's gross and outrageous, where I conceive of that character as kind of a cross between Groucho Marx and the Cookie Monster. Belushi is the only character in the whole piece who does things that are literally inhuman."

### Press Service Added By Smoke Signals

This year Smoke Signals has subscribed to the College Press Service which provides timely news stories about college and matters of interest to college students.

CPS also offers features on entertainment and sports and a variety of cartoons.



Resident Assistants Gena Gantt, of Belk Hall (left), and William Ross, of Mixon Hall, work on welcoming signs to greet new students. Photos by Cindy Lee.

## Drama Mama's Here and Working Hard

### First Stage Production Planned For Campus Showing in October

By JANE BRIDGFORTH  
The desk sign reads "Sandy Boyce, Drama Mama." It identifies Chowan's new English and drama instructor.

Ms. Boyce says she became seriously involved in drama when she started working with Edenton Little Theater in high school. She decided then that if she was going to spend her life working, it was going to be fun.

She attended UNC-Greensboro and then transferred to UNC-Chapel Hill. She has a major in speech communication and a minor in drama.

Ms. Boyce says, "Teaching and directing are my first loves and since I am teaching, I am having a really good time here at Chowan."

She hopes to have a major and minor production this year and that she can learn to identify students in the campus workshop.

She also hopes to have a spring workshop and to have more courses next year and, eventually, a full curriculum.

The first short play will be "Love Is Better Than The Next Best Thing." This involves skits, scenes, poetry and songs that surround romance.

This short play is tentatively scheduled for the second week in October. Ms. Boyce says that it highly entertaining for college level students.

Auditions for the major fall production will be open to the student body and the faculty.

Anyone and everyone interested in backstage or onstage work can contact Ms. Boyce in Daniel Hall room 115.

Ms. Boyce has been very encouraged by the administration, faculty and students. Says Ms. Boyce, "Everyone has shown such an interest."



New drama teacher, Ms. Sandra Boyce, portrays enthusiasm as she leads a class discussion. Photo by Guy Conaway

## "Animal House" Boss Takes Aim at Critics

By PETER KLEM

(CPS)—John Landis, the 27-year-old director of *National Lampoon's Animal House*, has a face almost engulfed by shaggy dark brown hair, a beard, and dark hornrimmed glasses. But somewhere under there lies a brash exuberance that matches his frequently-wild film. And, like his film, John Landis doesn't shy away from raising his voice.

During a recent lunchtime interview he was angry about attacks from critics whom he felt were ill-informed, if not patently corrupt. One critic—for the *San Francisco Chronicle*—even wrote an interview with Landis that Landis swears he never gave.

"You have to realize that I have just spent two weeks going all over the country. I have met, I guess, by now—seriously—250 local critics, journalists, television personalities."

"At the end of two weeks—this happened in Baltimore, Maryland—a reporter asked me a stupid question, and I realized, 'I'm no longer going to be charming.' And I told him: 'That's an asinine question. Go back and do your homework. Don't waste my time.' He was so upset! I've now decided the policy is to be polite, but totally straight."

Well, he almost made it. When asked, for the umpteenth time, what *Animal House* star John Belushi is really like, Landis now tells reporters: "Well, John's a junkie, and if you can't get heroin, you know, you become violent..." *The Inhuman Belushi*

But Landis is unabashed in his admiration for Belushi's talents. He's awestruck by Belushi's ability to quote great chunks of dialogue from classic films. Belushi can rattle off entire scenes from *Death of a Salesman*, and play both roles of the "back seat of the car" scene ("I coulda been a contender...") from *On The Waterfront*.

Landis, meanwhile, is on to other things. His next project is *The Incredible Shrinking Woman*. I will star Lilly Tomlin and an adolescent male gorilla who speaks in sign language.

To assuage that kind of critical opinion, Landis has taken to attending *Animal House* showings to soak up audience reaction. "It was wonderful to see how different audiences understand different things. I've seen audiences respond purely on a scholastic level, only to the jokes concerning school, of which there are many."

He likes to also point out that *Animal House* a picture about affluent white college kids, is attracting large numbers of black viewers. All this sometimes leads Landis to pontificate about his movie: At first, I was concerned about how truly subversive the movie is, but I feel much better about it now.

"The movie takes place in 1962," he explains. "1962 was a seminal year for the United States. It was the last year of the fifties. In the movie are hints of what is to come: the sixties, which are probably one of the healthiest times in our country's history."

A curse on film schools  
That such a film should be popular now puzzles Landis. He's not a big fan of the seventies, when we're "sinking

## Morality Seminar Tuesday

Chowan College has received a grant of \$1,800 from the North Carolina Humanities Committee to sponsor a series of community discussions this fall.

The subject of the five-seminar series is "Morality in American Society." Guest scholars discuss current problems in our society and suggest possible solutions to these problems. Selected panelists from Hertford County respond to the lectures and a question and answer session by the audience follows each lecture.

The third in the series will be held on Tuesday, September 26, by Dr. Henry Landesberger, Professor of Sociology at UNC-Chapel Hill. Dr. Landesberger will speak on the "Culture of Poverty."

On October 3, Dr. Milton McLaurin, Professor of History at UNC-Wilmington, will speak on "The Morality of Labor Unions." And, Dr. John Maiolo, Chairman of the Department of Sociology at East Carolina University will speak on October 10, on the subject of "Job Satisfaction Among Poor Minorities."

The previous lectures were held on September 12, when Dr. Elisha P. Douglas, Professor of History at UNC-Chapel Hill spoke on "Puritanism and Individual Responsibility." And on September 19, when Dr. Waldo Beach, Professor of Christian Ethics at Duke University spoke on "The Influence of Affluence."

The programs are sponsored by the Chowan College Humanities Committee and are held in Robert Marks Hall Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend and participate in the discussions. Refreshments will be served following the program.



JOHN LANDIS

slowly into the pit. We've got people like Anita Bryant being lionized."

Nor does Landis, born in Chicago, like the way filmmakers are being made in the seventies. Landis himself worked his way up to being a director ("I've done everything you can do on a movie except make-up and hair"). At age 21, he directed his first feature, a monster movie satire called *Schlock*. From there he went on to *Kentucky Fried Movie* and *Animal House*.

He never did attend film school, as many of today's young directors have. "Most of the film schools I've visited are really stupid. The horrible old maxim, 'Those who can't, teach,' is almost always true. Arthur Knight is a buffoon. His book, *The Liveliest Art*, is the most inaccurate book I've ever read about the film business."

But of course Landis wants to extend his point even further: "It's true. I think film schools really hurt people. It's destroyed Coppola's career. Lucas can't get a job."

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It's  
still  
true.

environmental  
action  
foundation

In Grandma's day, nothing was wasted. She knew the value of conservation and recycling. We need these practices now more than ever. Our booklet is packed with ideas about how to reduce waste. For a free copy, just clip out the coupon.

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