

The Decree

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Cox named Academic Dean

By TEQUILA MOORE

Dr. Mary Ruth Cox was recently named the new Vice President and Academic Dean of North Carolina Wesleyan College.

She was also given a tenured appointment as professor of English.

Cox comes to the school from Hobart and William Smith College where she held the position of Assistant Provost.

Cox received her undergradu-

ate degree at Indiana Wesleyan College. She went on to receive her Ph.D. in English at Oklahoma State University. She held several positions at Bartlesville Wesleyan College. These positions were English, humanities, and writing professor, and she became the Chairwoman of Humanities.

In 1991, she was the Assistant Dean at University of Minnesota, Morris. She later relocated in 1993, where she held her admin-

istrative position at Hobart and William College.

In her speech during Opening Convocations on Sept. 9, Cox noted that the year the Class of 2000 earns their degree "will be the year that all of humankind will cross a significant boundary of time that holds both great promise and great uncertainty."

Noting that Wesleyan is a liberal arts college, Cox said that liberal arts "is a type of education that helps ensure that the citizens

of a free society know enough, and understand enough, and question enough, and learn to be responsible enough, to remain free."

Cox told students that the faculty, staff, and program of the college "are dedicated to the task of helping each (student) develop as a free citizen in the world, ready to assume leadership and responsibility wherever you choose to live and work in the next century and the next millennium."



DEAN MARY RUTH COX

Dunn Center to host state dance group

The North Carolina Dance Theatre, North Carolina's only professional ballet company, will perform this Friday at 8 p.m. in the Dunn Center for the Performing Arts.

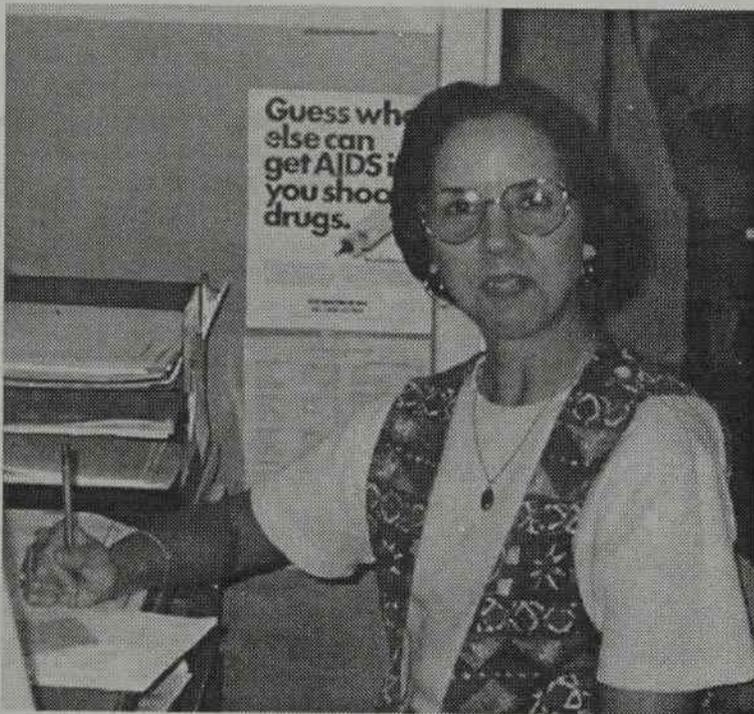
Tickets are \$14 for the reserved section, \$12 general admission, and \$10 for students and senior citizens.

The Dance Theatre's program will include four contemporary dance pieces: Salvatore Aiello's "Piano Concerto #1," danced to music by Keith Emerson of Emerson, Lake & Palmer; John Clifford's "Fantasies," to music by Ralph Vaughn Williams; "Escargot," choreographed by Louis Falco, known for his work on the movie "Fame;" and "Rubies," a dance for two choreographed by George Balanchine, danced to the music of Igor Stravinsky.

The company has historically stood at the forefront of the national dance scene. In addition to successful New York appearances and two European tours, North Carolina Dance Theatre has performed at major dance festivals, including the Spoleto Festival in Charleston, S.C.; the American Dance Festival; and the Aspen Dance Festival.

Currently the company is under the leadership of Artistic Director Jean-Pierre Bonnefoux and Associate Artistic Directors

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LEAVING — Jane Wampler, working at her desk in the Wellness Center, is due to leave in November. (Photo by Karolyn Braun.)

Wampler to leave state next month

By MONICA ALSTON

Wesleyan's Wellness Center staff members have experienced considerable turnover with the absence of Dr. Evans Harrell, the psychologist who left during May this year, and now the announcement that the nurse's secretary and good friend, Mrs. Roberta J. Wampler, is leaving Wesleyan in November to move out of state.

Mrs. Wampler is better known throughout Wesleyan campus as Jane, her middle name. It has been

four years since she came from Harrisburg, Pa., in August of 1992 to join her many friends of faculty, staff, and students she's created thus far.

When asked of the influence that Wampler has had on the center, Student Life counselor Betty Ann Whisnant described her as a "wonderfully talented coworker with the ability to make students feel at ease."

Describing her work experi-
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Gibbons shares from unfinished work at reading

By JESSICA BROWN

Author Kaye Gibbons read from an unfinished, never-before heard manuscript before a crowd of about 200 people in the Powers Recital Hall on Sept. 24.

She filled the hour-long reading with humor which the audience enjoyed.

An award-winning writer, Gibbons has written five novels, *Ellen Foster*, *Sights Unseen*, *A Cure For Dream*, *A Virtuous Woman*, and *Charms of An Easy Life*.

"What I write is realism. I write in my imagination to create reality," said Gibbons. She told the audience that she enjoys researching for her books, and that she researched the unfinished novel for a year. Three out of five of her works are set in history. Gibbons' novels all concentrate on language, which she feels is the heart of any work.

The manuscript she read was about Emma Garnett, a woman who grows up in the early 1800's in Chesapeake, Va. While reading, Gibbons would stop to explain how she came up with character names, mostly all of which

came from real people around the Rocky Mount area.

"Emma Garnett is my gynecologist's wife's name, and I like her so much that I named the main character after her," she said. She also joked early in the evening that "If I sign a book for you tonight and you have an interesting name I'll give you 50 cents for it."

In the story, Emma will eventually marry and move to Tarboro to begin a plantation with her husband, said Gibbons, although she has not yet written that far.

"I've put Rocky Mount in many of my previous books, and now I am going to move to Tarboro. I know nothing about it, and I am going to make it up," Gibbons joked with the audience.

Hallmark is currently working on production of a television special of *Ellen Foster*. Gibbons said she had no part in it, and that it is due out in early spring of next year.

After completing her current work, Gibbons plans to write a novel based on the Great Influenza Epidemic of 1917 and 1918