

# NEWS & OPINION

## Jefferson-Pilot Award Winner Dedicated to Students, Colleagues

By Jenna Davis  
Decree Staff Writer

"Very surprised" was Dr. Nancy Floyd's response when asked how it felt to be given the 2007 Jefferson-Pilot Award. Dr. Floyd is the business division chair and has been ever since her first year at Wesleyan in 2000.

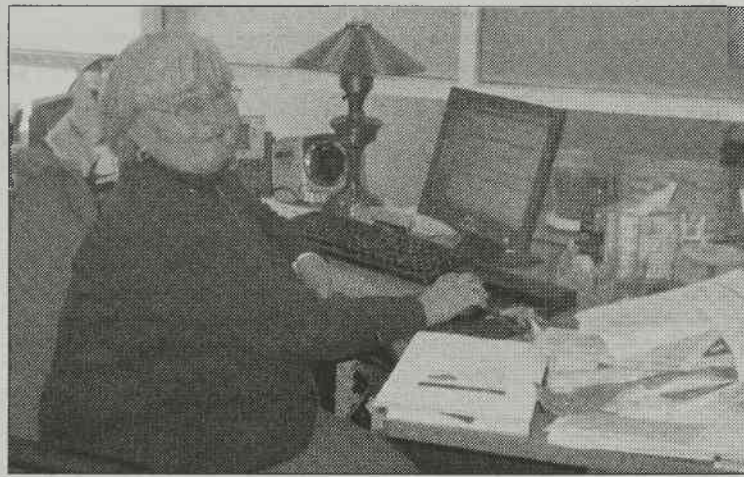
The Jefferson-Pilot Award is the highest honor NC Wesleyan College bestows upon a tenured professor. Dr. Floyd is very excited about this award, and has a couple of ideas in mind for next spring's presentation to the Wesleyan community, one of the award's requirements.

One of her ideas involves the business and professional women of Lawrence, Massachusetts from 1850-1925. "I was interested in this topic because no one's ever really written about the professional women (in Lawrence)," she said. Lawrence is a textile town. Many women of this period worked in the textile mills, but Dr. Floyd wants to go further than that. She plans to discuss the women who pursued higher education and professional careers.

Her other topic is on the time she spent in Russia. Dr. Floyd was part of a group, called Partners with Russia, that brought together professors from both Russia and the United States. The group's purpose was to bring back the borders that once used to stop or limit the flow of information over the Internet, especially across international borders. They have been working on developing systems that are capable of stopping electronic data at international borders. There is a lot of information that countries do not want freely accessed or carried out of the country, so these borders are to stop the free access of pertinent information from falling into the wrong hands.

Ever since 1992, Dr. Floyd has been traveling back and forth to Russia working with the Partners of Russia. Also while in Russia, Dr. Floyd exchanged cultural information with some of the Russian teachers. This exchange included discussion about marketing skills and entrepreneurship. "I loved Russia and the people that I worked with," Dr. Floyd said. "It was a great experience."

While she has been at NC Wesleyan College, she has been an effective division chair, and her co-workers and students speak highly of her. Travis Kivett, a junior, stated, "Her business class is an interesting class. She's a really good teacher. I really enjoy her class." Another student, senior Brian Vaughn, stated, "She is always willing to help a student understand the



Dr. Nancy Floyd

Decree Photo by Kathleen Penrod

concept of an assignment, whether it's during class or in her free time."

Dr. Floyd has been very influential on her students, as well as her fellow faculty members, over the past seven years. According to accounting instructor Jackie Lewis, "She's been a great mentor to me as a newer faculty member. She is very dedicated to her students and to the business division as a whole." Another faculty member, Kathleen Wilson, assistant professor of business, stated, "Dr. Nancy Floyd has given tireless service to the college. She loves interacting with students inside and outside the classroom."

There are many responsibilities of a business division chair such as developing class schedules and making sure adjunct and full-time faculty have all of their credentials. While division chairs are not allowed to serve on committees, they are a part of the Dean's Council.

When asked about the favorite part of her job, Dr. Floyd responded, "I really like the students; they are very friendly. And I like my division."

Dr. Floyd was raised in Lawrence, Massachusetts and lived there most of her life until she went to UNC-Chapel Hill and received her BA in English. Next she went to Boston University and received her MBA, after working as a programmer for several years.

Dr. Floyd has been with North Carolina Wesleyan College ever since the fall of 2000, and she was made the chair of the business division a few months after her arrival. However, Dr. Floyd has not always been a teacher. One of her fondest times was spent in Fishersville, Virginia.

In Fishersville, Dr. Floyd was employed as an information technology expert at the Woodrow Wilson Rehab Center. In the 1970s, the Rehab Center

was running a series of experiments in which Dr. Floyd as well as a professor from the rehab center trained several high IQ severely disabled students to be programmers. "I worked with quadriplegics, paraplegics, multiple amputees, as well as blind and deaf students," she said. Dr. Floyd was at the rehab center for five years, and she has served on the Advisory Board and the Curriculum Board.

After leaving the Rehab Center, Dr. Floyd moved to Dan River Industries, a textile company in Danville, Virginia, where she was the training director. While at Dan River Industries, Dr. Floyd went back to school at Virginia Commonwealth University and received her PhD in computer information systems.

After some time with Dan River Industries, Dr. Floyd finally found her calling as a teacher at Eastern Mennonite University. There she taught computer information systems for ten years, and wrote three text

books: "Essentials of Data Processing," "Essentials of Information Processing," and "Principals of Information Processing." After leaving EMU, Dr. Floyd joined the staff of NC Wesleyan College.

Dr. Floyd is a part of the CBFA (Christian Business Faculty Association). In her spare time, she enjoys reading, swimming, and spending time with her three kids and two grandchildren. She is also a dedicated fan of the NC Wesleyan sports teams.

The Jefferson-Pilot Award is given in recognition of scholarship, teaching, and community service. This award is funded by the Jefferson-Pilot Life Insurance Company, and the candidate is selected by the President of the college after being nominated by the Jefferson-Pilot Nominating Committee. According to Dr. Jay Stubblefield, last year's recipient, it is a very meaningful award because winners are selected by their peers.

## Official Crime Statistics Reported

Based on the campus crime report submitted to the Department of Education, NC Wesleyan has released the following statistics for the year that ended August 31:

Type of Offense	On-Campus	Off-Campus	Public	Residence Halls	Total
Murder/Non-Neg. Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Sexual Assault	0	0	0	0	0
Non-Forcible Sexual Assault	0	0	0	0	0
Robbery	1	0	0	0	1
Aggravated Assault	2	0	0	0	2
Burglary	1	0	0	0	1
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	3	0	3
Arson	0	0	0	0	0
Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0
Hate Offenses	0	0	0	0	0
Type of Arrest					
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	0	0	0
Drug Abuse Violations	0	0	0	0	0
Illegal Weapons Possession	0	0	0	0	0
Disciplinary Action/Judicial Referrals					
Illegal Weapons Violations	2				2
Drug Abuse Violations	1				1
Liquor Law Violations	16				16

Notes:

On-campus refers to the main campus, and residence halls are a subset of this. Off-campus refers to other properties owned or controlled by the college. Public refers to property adjacent to the college property.

## OPINION

### New Alum Says Students Have Not 'Ruined NCWC'

By Kelvin Clark  
Decree Staff Writer

"Alum Says Students have Ruined NCWC," was the headline of the letter to the editor written by Mr. Brandon G. Cyrus, 2004 Alum. Are you serious? "Ruined?" Besides being the biggest misnomer of the century, in addition to being utterly flawed, it's a personal insult. Now, Brandon, you and I are friends and I have a great deal of respect for you; and I will also take this opportunity to offer you my sincerest commendation on your new job! Congratulations! However, you are wrong in your assumptions.

You are measuring NCWC with the wrong standards. NCWC will NEVER be the NCWC you remember because times are different

now. It is the onlooker's biggest fallacy, and you and many others are guilty, to say "Things were different when I was there." Despite the fact that you may have a point, it's irrelevant. Hell, NCWC is different today than it was my freshman year, which was your senior year; so I definitely understand where you are coming from, but again it's futile!

Now indulge me for a moment: you say your beginnings were that of an introvert; socially isolated, always wearing Polos, tucked-in, and creased Dockers. Well, guess who dressed that way freshmen year and still does senior year? Yours truly. Further, you allude to your top-notch scholastic and social achievements and again guess what, I can do the same and even a little more: I am also a member of Omicron Delta Kappa, in addition to three other honor societies—Pi Gamma Mu, Psi Chi, and Phi Alpha Theta. I have also received the Corbitt-Rushing Scholarship for Outstanding Performance in Political Science and History, plus I was given the history department's highest award: The Most Outstanding History Major Award.

With regard to social involvement, I have been President of the SGA, NCWC Music Club (who you performed with), Vice-Chairman of the Student African American Brotherhood. I also received the James B. Hailey and Sarah S. Tullos awards for outstanding leadership/service. Finally, on top of that, on Saturday, December 8th, I'll be graduating from the "Little Duke" and heading to the "Big Duke" in January. I did not mention these things to flaunt my successes but to suggest that, before you say students are ruining NCWC, make sure you know who is still here and what they are achieving. For instance, did you notice the article about Ms. Shelly King's accomplishments in Washington, D.C. as a summer intern to Senator Elizabeth Dole?

Finally, you are now alumni. So I ask that you please focus your attention on the activities of this group. One of NCWC's major weaknesses is not the lack of leadership amongst the current student body, but the lack of financial support from alumni. Now this may be due to NCWC's youth as a college but nonetheless, it is something that needs improvement.

Brandon, you obviously have a great deal of love for NCWC and so do I; so instead of harping on our inadequacies, remedy them. Help offset the \$450,000.00 deficit, be the President of the Alumni Association, give more (especially since you now are earning more money than you could have ever dream of, as you mentioned), visit more, or become the new Director of Development. But please, do not judge NCWC through the lens of your time but through those of the present. I truly hope that this response does not upset you but invigorate you, not to write a backlash article or send me hate mail, but to readjust your thinking.

## OPINION

### Wishing You A Very Merry Commercial Christmas

By Jessica Autumnne Smith  
Decree Senior Staff Writer

Christmas, like so many other things today, isn't what it used to be. It seems that Christmas, at least in recent years, has gotten too commercial. Buy, buy, buy, spend, spend, spend; it's all anyone thinks about any more. Many, or rather most, stores had holiday merchandise, (decorations, lights, bows, wrapping paper, gift baskets, and such) on the shelves way back in October. Even before Halloween! It used to be you didn't see Christmas stuff until after Thanksgiving. But most retailers figure, the longer the stuff is out, the more people will buy. Sort of the opposite of "out of sight, out of mind."

Television advertisements proclaiming Christmas specials and 'Great Gift Ideas' have been running since the end of October and the first week of November. One is particularly galling, at least to me. There is a certain Best Buy commercial, in which a typical family is told they can open presents after they visit their grandma. They pull up to the house, roll down the windows and wave; then someone says, "We're done here."

Grandma's on her own." The underlying message seems to be that things are more important than family.

It's not just Best Buy. Sears's slogan this year is "Don't just give a gift, grant a wish." I remember last year it had been "Wish big." Wal-mart's radio commercials state the fact that "The more money you save, the more Christmas you can give."

It's upsetting. Christmas used to be, is supposed to be, about the

birth of Jesus Christ, peace on Earth, goodwill toward men, coming together with friends and family in a spirit of love and celebration. Christmas is the evergreen scent of the trees and wreaths, the smell of the fresh baked (slightly burnt) sugar cookies, the glow of the lights, the bells and the constant Christmas music in the background. Christmas is all the things you cannot buy. (And don't say you have to buy the lights and the tree and the cookie dough; I realize this and it is beside the point.) Christmas is a feeling, a spirit, a joy that comes from giving, not getting.

Even when the Grinch "stole Christmas," — a classic and one of my all time favorites — he didn't. It came anyway. "It came without ribbons, it came without tags. It came without presents, or boxes, or bags... Maybe Christmas doesn't come from a store. Maybe, Christmas, perhaps, is a little bit more."

Hope you remember the important things this holiday season, and have a joyous Christmas Day. And until next semester, good luck on your exams, have a safe break, and Happy New Year. J



A Christmas tableau from the recent "Lighting of Wesleyan."

## Corrections/Clarifications

In response to a page-one article that appeared in the November 16 issue of the Decree: The Admissions and Financial Aid offices did not receive an increase in resources during the recent budget adjustments. Two positions were eliminated and the operational budget was reduced. The statement which has been misinterpreted is that more emphasis has been placed on recruitment.

We have in fact put more recruiters in the field by seeking to add a new part-time regional representative position in the Virginia/Maryland area, and moving an existing position to an admissions counselor. These changes have resulted in a decrease in budget for the enrollment management area, but more recruiters on the front line.

—Gary Sherman, Vice President for Enrollment

## THE DECREE

since 1960 "of, by, and for the Wesleyan community."

### STAFF

#### Senior Staff Writers

Jessica D. Jones  
Jessica Smith  
Christine Werfelman

#### Staff Writers

Kelvin Clark  
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#### Sports Writers

Mikey Case  
Brock Griffin  
Jade Johnson

#### Staff Photographer

Kathleen Penrod

#### Associate Art Director

Kathleen Penrod

#### Faculty Advisor

Dr. William Grattan  
171 Braswell  
Phone: 985-5336  
Email: WJGrattan@ncwc.edu

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To suggest an article, or submit an opinion piece or letter to the editor, send an email attachment (Microsoft Word) to: WJGrattan@ncwc.edu. Note that the Decree staff checks all submissions for accuracy and edits in accordance with acceptable grammar and punctuation as well as AP Style.

#### Corrections

The Decree corrects mistakes of substance. If you would like to request a correction, send an email to WJGrattan@ncwc.edu, or call 985-5336