

PINNIX RAGLAND GIVES HER TWO CENTS

By Dalecia Carr

"Young, black women should aspire to be leaders of their generation", said Hilda Pinnix-Ragland, the last speaker in the 2012-2013 Chancellor's Distinguished Speakers.

It is essential that women display confidence, competence, and courage, what Pinnix-Ragland defined as the three Cs.

"Confidence is the belief in one's self, she said.

Competency is the ability to resist spending money on something unnecessarily, Pinnix-Ragland said.

It is extremely important to have the ability to manage one's expenses, she said. She instructed her audience to "Google the net worth of an African American Women, "and tell me what you get," she said.

The answer: \$5, she said emphatically.

Sure enough, a Google search of the net worth of African American women is \$5, according to a report, "Lifting as We Climb: Women of Color, Wealth

and America's Future," cited in the March 28, 2012, Pittsburgh Post Gazette. The report was conducted by the Closing the Gap Initiative, located in Oakland, Calif.

Quite often students acquire debt while in college by spending money on material things. She stressed that everyone should be conscious of what they are spending their money on and ask himself or herself, "Do you really need what you are spending?"

Pinnix-Ragland told the crowd of more than 100 people at Seabrook Auditorium March 13, that everyone should work on their franchise, better known as their brand.

Pinnix-Ragland graduated from N.C. A&T State University in 1977, magna cum laude, with a Bachelors degree in Accounting. She received a Masters in Business from Duke University in 1986. She is currently the Vice President of the Northern Region for Progress Energy. Progress Energy is a Fortune-500 electric and energy company, which is located in Raleigh, North Carolina.

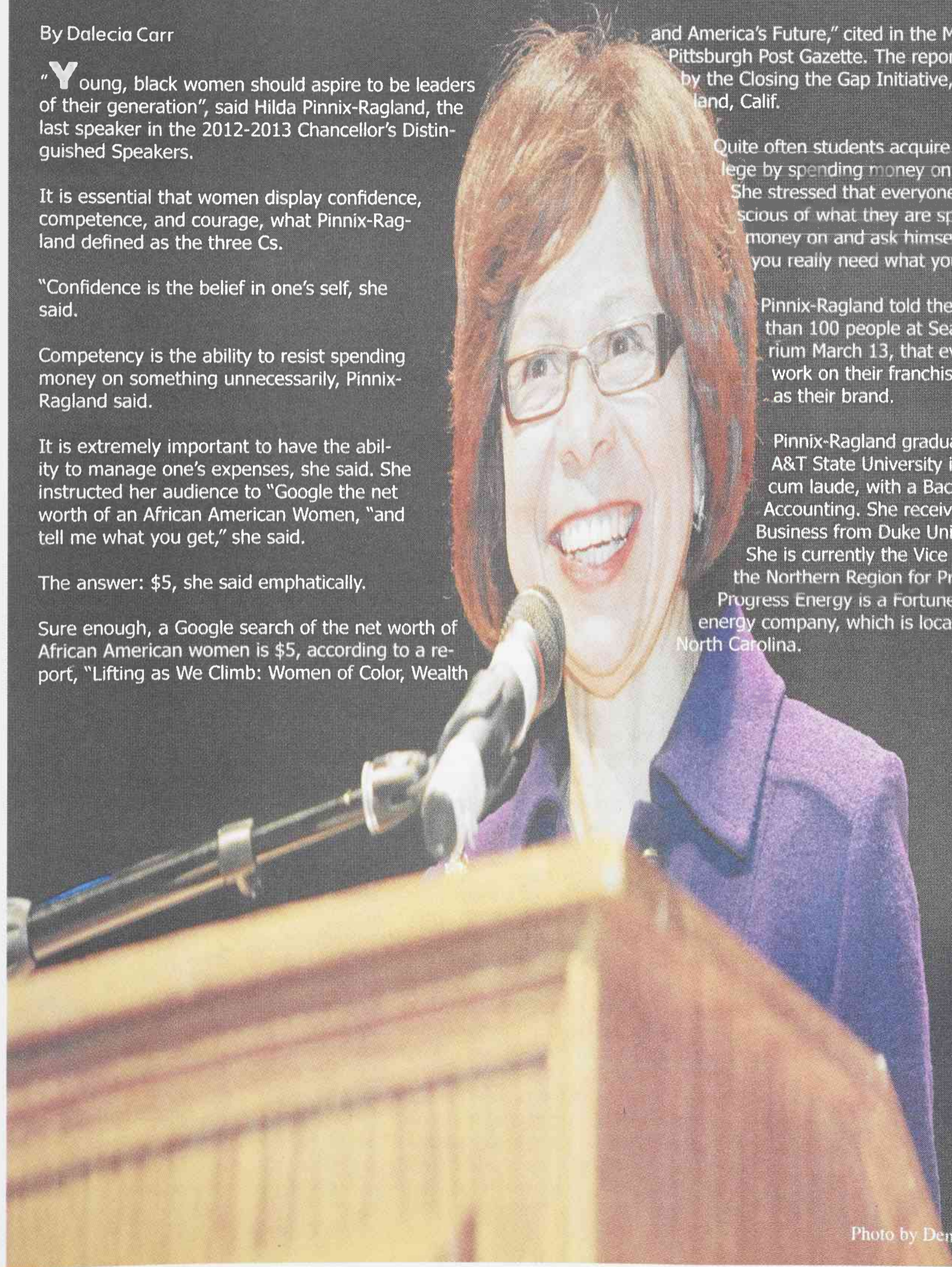


Photo by Dennis McNair