

# Letter from the president

At the October meeting of the State Board of Community Colleges, considerable discussion occurred among those attending about enrollment trends and funding for the 58 colleges in the system.

A system report indicated at least 44 community colleges had increased enrollment during fall 1991.

Only 7 have had an enrollment decline during the past 2 years.

Wayne Community College is somewhere among the top 15 statewide in percentage of growth with record enrollments for the past 2 years.

The faculty and staff of WCC are certainly pleased to see that more and more people are making this school their first choice for pursuit of their educational goals.

At the same time, a sagging economy and underfunding at the state level have presented WCC and other community colleges throughout North Carolina with difficult circumstances and serious challenges.

The challenge of maintaining excellence with inadequate resources will continue to place a strain on the system, and already the State Board is considering some hard choices.

## Board continued

Kannan said each component--faculty, staff, and students--will vote on its representatives to the committee except for the at-large members whom the Board will select.

The position vacancy announcement was published November 12, 1991, with a January 3 deadline for receipt of applications.

The Screening Committee will review all applications and select approximately 15 candidates for the Board to consider.

The Board then will choose 3 or more applicants and invite them for interviews.

If enrollment growth generates a need for considerably more funding, and if the General Assembly cannot fill that need, will such alternatives as enrollment caps or still more tuition increases become part of WCC's future?

Right now, nobody knows the answers.

We do know, however, that WCC will strive for quality regardless of our circumstances, and that the same dedication to learning that has earned respect for WCC for the past 3 decades will continue to maintain our reputation for quality in the years to come.

We will continue to press for aid in solving our under-funding problem.

The Trustees and others at the college have worked hard to gain the support of our legislative delegation.

We need to continue to keep our legislative representatives informed about our services and our problems.

With their understanding, we will come a lot closer to solving our long-term funding problem.

**THE VOICE  
NEEDS YOU!**

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If interviews yield no suitable candidate, the Board starts the process over.

After the interviewing process the board is ready to vote.

It takes the majority of board votes to elect the president.

In October at the national meeting in Biloxi, Mississippi, of the Association for Community Colleges Trustees, Board members were "aggressive" in making other states aware of WCC's vacancy and its advantages, Kannan said.

Already Kannan has had inquiries from Texas, Arizona, and Oklahoma as well as from South Carolina,



Lobbyist Mary Ann Stallings explains her role to American National Government students. PHOTO: KEVIN GURLEY

# Lobbyist defines role

By KEVIN GURLEY

On October 17, 1991, lobbyist Mary Anne Stallings spoke to Betty Turner's American National Government class on the South Campus at 10:00 a.m.

She defined a lobbyist as one who represents a special interest group, in her case the North Carolina Association of Educators (NCAE)

NCAE has a membership of 4000 student members, 13,000 retired members, and 42,000 active members.

According to Stallings, some people have misconceptions about who lobbyists are and what they do.

Rather than being big spenders, they earn their money according to the group they are lobbying for and how well they do their job.

She said it is possible to make a living as a lobbyist although most do not make high salaries.

She said the only difference between lobbyists and private citizens is that lobbyists are paid to address certain issues.

To become a lobbyist, one must be a citizen of the United States and pay a \$75.00 fee, although showing interest in lobbying would be sufficient.

Stallings' interest in lobbying resulted from her teaching experience.

At the end of her lecture she handed out the NCAE Legislative Agenda which listed issues NCAE wanted to address.

## Forecast

According to Yvonne Goodman, Personnel Director at WCC, the next 5 years could show quite a turnover in personnel.

She said that a survey of personnel revealed 33 faculty and staff will be eligible for retirement either by age or by having attained 30 years of service.

Already announcing their intention to retire by December 20 are Virginia Lancaster, Library Aide; Cathy Frazier, Coordinator, Directed Studies; and Shirley Surratt, Secretary, Student Services.

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