

# Brown University administrator excited about her move to WSSU

*Allen named school's next provost*

BY LAYLA FARMER  
THE CHRONICLE

Dr. Brenda Allen got to know Winston-Salem State a little better earlier this week during a visit to the university.

The sprawling campus will become her second home next year when she officially becomes WSSU's next provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs.

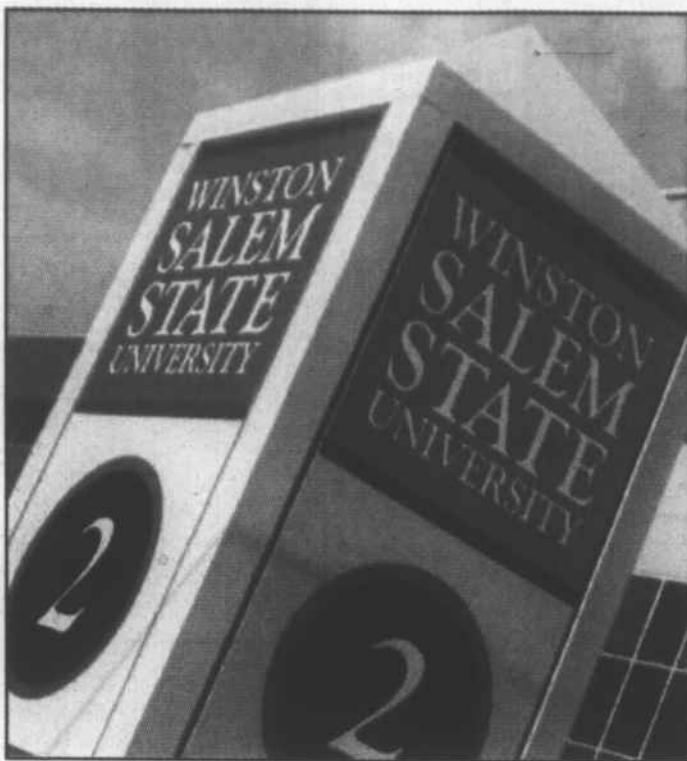
"It's the best holiday gift I've gotten in a long time," Allen said of landing the job after the university conducted a national search. "It's a wonderful feeling ... to be chosen by a place that you really value."

She succeeds former Provost Pedro Martinez, who served in the role from February 2006 until earlier this year. Juliette B. Bell, a former Fayetteville State University administrator, has been serving as interim provost since September.

In an email to the WSSU community, Chancellor Donald Reaves says the school has found the right fit in Allen.

"The search committee and I sought the right person to assist me in leading this institution, and we found that person in Dr. Allen," commented Reaves. "I am excited about her selection and look forward to working with her."

An alumna of Howard University, Allen currently serves as associate provost and director of Institutional



Diversity at Brown University in Providence, R.I. She is slated to assume her new position on July 1, 2009.

"I am absolutely thrilled that Brenda Allen has agreed to join the leadership team at WSSU," stated Reaves. "We are indeed fortunate to have been able to attract and recruit Dr. Allen to WSSU. I am sure that she will provide the critical leadership that this university needs as it continues its transition from an exclusively undergraduate university to a graduate level institution..."

Reaves is also a former member of Brown University's administrative team. Though their paths had never crossed prior to her applying for the position at WSSU, Allen says the chancellor's reputation preceded him.

"I was really attracted to Reaves as a leader," she stated. "(And) I'm really attracted to this institution."

Allen began her academic career as an undergraduate at Lincoln University, a historically black establishment in Lincoln, Penn. She says it was there that her abiding love for higher education began.

"My own life was hugely transformed by ... having gone to a place like Winston-Salem State University," she said. "I found that it was how much (the professors) pushed me (and) praised me ... that really built in me that motivation to learn. I came to understand why learning was so important."

Despite spending a significant portion of her career at Ivy League institutions, Allen says she longed to return to the



Dr. Allen

HBCU circuit.

"I made the decision about six years ago that I would like to pursue the administrative side of higher education," she explained. "HBCUs were high on my list (of potential employers). Winston-Salem State is one that seemed to be strong and doing a good job... I just saw it as an ideal move."

Having a background that is steeped in the HBCU experience has allowed her to better understand the important role such schools play in society, Allen says.

"I come with a profound appreciation for the educational mission of Winston-Salem State University," she declared. "I think you have to have that in order to be successful in this job."

When she makes the move to Winston-Salem in the summer, Allen will be accompanied by her 15 year-old niece, Zijai King, whom she has reared from an infant.

"We see this as a life move. It's not just a professional move for me; it's a family decision," Allen said. "We're very excited."

## News Clips

**A&T expects state funds for several construction projects**

North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University will receive state construction funding for several projects.

Gov. Mike Easley recently said that he is fast-tracking \$722 million in state construction projects in an effort to create jobs and stimulate North Carolina's economy. The projects will go to the Council of State for approval Jan. 6, Easley's office said. A&T is set to receive more than \$22 million for its Horse Barns, Upper Piedmont Research Station and construction of its General Classroom Instruction Facility.

University officials are excited about the recent announcement and look forward to the benefits it will offer both students and faculty.

"North Carolina A&T State University strongly supports the recommendation of Governor Mike Easley to fast-track \$722 million in state construction in an effort to create jobs and stimulate North Carolina's economy," said Dr. Alton Thompson, A&T interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs. "For A&T, it would mean approximately 71,000 new square footage of academic instruction and laboratory space for all of our students. This multidisciplinary and multifunctional academic classroom building would greatly enhance our efforts to respond to the UNC Tomorrow recommendations to maintain our historic commitment to excellence in teaching and to undergraduate education."

**Highway Patrol's canine unit being overhauled**

North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety Secretary Bryan Beatty and

Colonel Walter J. Wilson, Jr., commander of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol, have announced the department has completed the review of the State Highway Patrol's policies, procedures and protocols for the canine unit.



Beatty

The current canine program has been dissolved and preparations to rebuild the unit are now underway.

"The Highway Patrol's canine program has proven to be effective in interdicting drug trafficking on our highways and that important work needs to continue," said Beatty, who ordered the review earlier this year. "I ordered the review of our Highway Patrol Canine Unit to identify areas which needed improvement and draw upon best practices of other statewide law enforcement agencies."

**Project Homeless Connect receives grant from American Express**

The local Ten Year Plan to End Chronic Homelessness has received a grant from American Express to assist with Project Homeless Connect - a one-day, one-stop event designed to improve and coordinate access to critical services for individuals who are homeless or on the brink of homelessness. It will be held April 15, 2009 at the Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum Annex. Both the Ten Year Plan and Project Homeless Connect are coordinated by United Way of Forsyth County.

Project Homeless Connect serves about 450 people every year with the assistance of over 200 volunteers. In addition to providing participants with food, clothing, hair cuts, and other personal care opportunities, Project Homeless Connect allows individuals to connect with such key providers as Social Security and the Department of Social Services as well as mental health, housing, health care and employment services.

# Burke will address WSSU graduates tomorrow

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Mayor Pro Tempore Vivian Burke will address hundreds of graduates, their families and friends tomorrow (Dec. 19) at Winston-Salem State University's Fall 2008 Commencement. The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held at 4 p.m. at Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum.

A member of the Winston-Salem City Council since 1977, Burke represents the city's Northeast Ward and is the longtime chairwoman of the Public Safety Committee. Burke is a retired guidance counselor and Industrial Education Coordinator of the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County School System. She has had work experience at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. She is a former Regional Manager for the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Resources in Mooresville and is a former Program Coordinator for "Another Chance," a continuing education program formerly housed in the Division of Lifelong Learning Winston-Salem State University.

In July 2002, the Vivian H. Burke Endowment was established at WSSU, to honor her work in promoting minority entrepreneurship in the School of Business and Economics.

Burke received her bachelor's degree from Elizabeth City State University and her



Burke

master's degree from North Carolina A & T State University. In February 2002, Livingstone College conferred upon Burke the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters. In Dec. 2004, Winston-Salem State University conferred upon Burke the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters.

Although a smaller affair

than the school's May Spring Commencement, the Fall graduation ceremony has grown by leaps and bounds since the school started it in 2001. The event has gotten so popular, that for the past few years it has been held at the coliseum, where the Spring events takes place, having outgrown the sanctuary of a local mega-church.

www.lowesfoods.com

### CASH OFF!

The more you redeem, the more you save!

**\$10.00 off when you redeem 10,000 greenpoints**

\$1.00 off when you redeem 1,000 greenpoints

This ad good Wednesday, December 17 through Wednesday, December 24, 2008

**OPEN Christmas Eve until 6pm**

**CLOSED Christmas Day**

We will reopen at 7:00am Friday December 26.

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <p><b>1.39</b><br/>pound<br/>limit 2 per customer with additional \$25 purchase<br/>with card save at least \$1.50 lb</p> <p><b>Gwaltney premium spiral sliced smoked ham</b><br/>whole or half honey glazed or half brown sugar</p> | <p><b>7.99</b><br/>pound<br/>limit two per customer<br/>with card</p> <p><b>Angus beef whole tenderloin</b><br/>aged for tenderness</p>           | <p><b>3 for 9.99</b><br/>with card</p> <p><b>Pepsi products</b><br/>selected 12 pack 12 oz cans<br/>save at least \$5.99 on 3</p> |
| <p><b>4.99</b><br/>each<br/>5 lb box<br/>with card</p> <p><b>juicy clementines</b><br/>product of Spain</p>  | <p><b>6.99</b><br/>pound<br/>with card</p> <p><b>Angus beef standing rib roast</b><br/>semi-boneless oven ready</p>                               | <p><b>2.99</b><br/>each</p> <p><b>Dole golden pineapple</b><br/>whole or cored<br/>save \$2.00 each</p>                           |
| <p><b>buy one, get one free</b></p> <p><b>8 count mini croissants</b><br/>from the bakery</p>  | <p><b>0 for \$5</b></p> <p><b>Green Giant vegetables</b><br/>selected 11 - 15.25 oz cans<br/>save \$7.50 on 10</p>                                | <p><b>buy one, get one free</b></p> <p><b>Breyers ice cream</b><br/>48 oz<br/>regular price: \$5.49 YOU PAY: \$2.74</p>           |
| <p><b>5.99</b><br/>each<br/>with card</p> <p><b>Folgers coffee</b><br/>27.8 - 34.5 oz or dunkin donuts coffee 11 - 12 oz<br/>Folgers decaf coffee 33.9 oz can<br/>save at least \$2.00 each</p>                                      | <p><b>8.99</b><br/>pound<br/>with card</p> <p><b>Carolina raw jumbo shrimp</b><br/>wild product of USA 16 - 20 ct<br/>save at least \$4.00 lb</p> |   |

Have a Story Idea?

Let us Know

news@wschronicle.com