

# CAREERS

## Briefs

### USPS is most trusted, says study

The premier privacy trust study in America has cited the U.S. Postal Service as sixth among 200 of the "Most Trusted Companies for Privacy."

For the fifth year in a row, the U.S. Postal Service has been recognized by the Ponemon Institute for its best practices in safeguarding U.S. consumers' personal information among private sector companies. This year, the Postal Service moved up one position from last year's listing.

"Over our 230-year history, the U.S. Postal Service has placed a very high premium upon the security of the mail," said Delores Killeter, USPS vice president and Consumer Advocate. "We jealously guard the valued trust and respect we've painstakingly earned from our customers," she added.

The study asked more than 6,000 adult-aged U.S. consumers which companies they thought were most trustworthy in handling their personal information responsibly. Of the 706 companies consumers cited, 211 businesses made it to the final list of most trusted. Number six on that list is the U.S. Postal Service.

"Consumers want to do business with brands they believe they can trust," said Dr. Larry Ponemon, chairman and founder, Ponemon Institute. "We believe our study is a strong indication of which brands have best earned that trust."

The Institute has also cited the Postal Service as the "Most Trusted Government Agency" for four years in a row. Increasing its privacy trust score every year since the survey began four years ago, the Postal Service has been recognized as the government agency that is best able to keep consumers' information safe and secure. Those scores are expected to be released early next year.

### Green picked for national council

Forsyth Technical Community College Dr. Gary M. Green has been chosen to serve on the Education Council for the Manufacturing Institute.



Dr. Green

The newly-formed Council is made up of 25 educators from across the country, representing K-12 schools, community and technical colleges, as well as four-year colleges and universities. The Council will focus on creating new educational programs to help American workers prepare for the higher skill levels required in manufacturing jobs today. By expanding

and enhancing the abilities of the workforce, the Council's efforts are intended to help American companies successfully compete in world markets.

The Manufacturing Institute created the Council to develop initiatives to close the skills' gap that is developing as a result of retiring baby boomers, to aid young people and transitioning workers find new careers in the manufacturing sector, and to ensure that U.S. manufacturers can lead the world in innovation, productivity and excellence.

### UNC Charlotte earns coveted teaching designation

UNC Charlotte has been selected for a prestigious 2008 Community Engagement elective classification by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

The designation recognizes institutions that have internalized and sustained their commitment to collaborate with communities through teaching, research, and outreach.

"From the beginning, this University has had a rich history of community involvement," said Owen Furuseth, Associate Provost for Metropolitan Studies and Extended Academic Programs at UNC Charlotte. "We now work with private corporations to expand the reach of our engagement while also deepening our existing relationships."

UNC Charlotte is joined by Appalachian State University, East Carolina University, North Carolina Central University, UNC Greensboro, UNC Wilmington, UNC Pembroke, and Western Carolina University among the 119 institutions honored with the classification this year.

### FedEx and UNCF Scholarship Initiative

**FAIRFAX, Va.** - FedEx Corp. has awarded a \$331,800 grant to UNCF—the United Negro College Fund to establish the FedEx/UNCF Scholarship Initiative.

The new program targets deserving minority students by providing scholarship opportunities for high school seniors entering historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs), including the 39 UNCF member schools. The program also supports UNCF's "HBCU Empower Me Tour," featuring actor/author Hill Harper of "CSI: NY." The program motivates young people to achieve academic excellence and exercise personal responsibility by helping them focus on building financial knowledge and assets so they can chart their own destiny.

The FedEx/UNCF Initiative will award five, four-year scholarships for each of the 2009, 2010, and 2011 academic years and support the efforts of UNCF's awareness programs impacting high school and college students. FedEx has been an active participant in this year's HBCU Empower Me Tour, which began in September at Howard University and will continue through May.

## Business school to get facelift

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The School of Business and Economics at Winston-Salem State University is slated for a facelift.

Constructed in 1984, the R. J. Reynolds Center's \$408,567 renovation will be made possible by a U.S. Department of Education Title III grant, which helps schools better serve the needs of their students.

School of Business and Economics Dean Jessica Bailey applied for the competitive grant. She says the renovations are greatly needed.

"This activity will involve the renovation of the main lecture hall, selected classrooms, hallways, stairways, and the bathrooms in the building," said Bailey.

The building was constructed with a \$3.1 million dollar gift from the State of North Carolina, R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Company and other



The R. J. Reynolds Center was built in 1984.

donors.

As the School of Business and Economics prepares for the ten-year reaffirmation of its accreditation in 2010, it

faces the reality of a building in need of repair and renovation. A consultant's report in 2006 pointed to the need to invigorate the physical envi-

ronment of the school in order to meet reaffirmation standards.

The renovations are scheduled for Spring 2009.

## WHO SAYS PEOPLE DON'T GET SECOND CHANCES?

Deferred Prosecution Program is providing some with fresh start

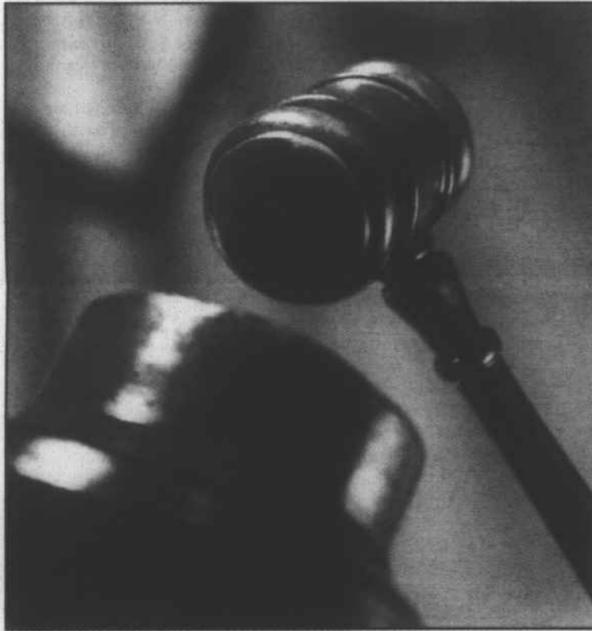


Artrese Ziglar  
Guest Columnist

This is the latest in a series of monthly articles by members of the Winston-Salem Bar Association, an organization made up of mostly African-American lawyers.

One day, Chris and his friends decided to have some fun by going through neighborhoods and knocking down people's mailboxes. The friend in the passenger seat took a baseball bat and damaged about 20 mailboxes in a local area. Police soon arrested all three boys and charged them with injury to real property, a misdemeanor. Even though Chris had not destroyed any of the mailboxes, under the law, he may still be convicted based on his assistance to his friend who did knock the mailboxes down. Chris does not have a criminal record and he does not want to get one now for something he regrets.

While Chris is a fictional character, this kind of situation happens more often than not. A person is influenced by a bad friend, is in the wrong place at the wrong time, or simply makes a bad decision, and is now charged with a crime. Fortunately, our



legislature understands that no one is perfect and offers an option to avoid a criminal conviction for most misdemeanors and lower class felonies. It is called deferred prosecution.

North Carolina General Statute Section 15A-1341 permits what is known as the "Deferred Prosecution Program."

This program allows a first time offender to admit responsibility, but also prove his/her good conduct to the court. In return, the

court will show leniency and the charge will be dismissed.

Under the program, a person must complete certain conditions within a specific period of time, which is usually six months. The conditions most often consist of community service, payment of fines and fees, no other criminal charges, and, in certain circumstances, completion of treatment at a local facility. If all preconditions are met within the allotted

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Blake Morant

## Legal services for the poor aided by grant

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

The Wake Forest University School of Law will use a grant that it has received from the Legal Aid Society of Northwest North Carolina to support programs and initiatives that benefit people in low income communities.

The Society's gift of \$465,605 will create the Legal Aid Society Endowed Fund at the law school.

The Legal Aid Society of Northwest North Carolina, the state's first legal aid society, sold its building in 2007 and wanted to give the proceeds to the law school, according to the Board President Cal Adams, who works at Womble Carlyle Sandridge & Rice.

"We wanted to keep the money in the community and we've always had a very close relationship and strong connection with the Law School," Adams said. "We're excited about what Dean (Blake) Morant is trying to do with the pro bono clinical programs. It seemed to be the perfect fit."

Morant says that the school will put the gift to good use.

"We are thrilled that the Legal Aid Society has chosen to contribute to the Wake Forest School of Law in such a magnanimous way," said Dean Morant. "This generous gift will expand the Law School's ability to provide legal services to the poor."

Legal Aid Society Board Member Bill Spry, who practiced law in Winston-Salem for nearly two decades, said the goal of the board was to see the money go to providing legal services to those who can least afford it.

"We wanted the money to continue in some way to serve the mandate of the Legal Aid Society," Spry said. "We hope the Law School can use the money to fund clinics to provide legal aid to the poor."

## Future tech-whiz earns perfect GPA

BY BRITTANY HANEY  
SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

**GREENSBORO** - Karlen Marshall, a computer science major at North Carolina A&T State University, was recently named the university's highest ranking student. Marshall earned a perfect grade point average and was recognized for her hard work at N.C. A&T's 2008 Fall Commencement Dec. 13 at the Greensboro Coliseum.

The Portsmouth, Va., native said she began focusing on earning all A's after her first semester at the institution.

"I made a 4.0 during the first semester of my freshman year. After viewing my grades, I was very surprised," she said. "I felt like I had to keep working hard to make the same grades every semester. If I would've gotten a 3.0, I think I would have settled. When I got all A's, I felt motivated to keep my grades and continue striving for success."

Her dedication and work ethic quickly impressed her professors, classmates and administrators.

"God is so good," said Dr. Vernon Dozier, chairperson of the computer science depart-



Chancellor Stanley F. Battle presents Karlen Marshall with her degree during the recent graduation ceremony.

ment. "Karlen has truly been a blessing to our department. She has worked extremely hard over her academic career here at A&T. We, in the computer science department, are proud of her accomplishments and praise

God that she will become a part of our graduate program in the spring."

Marshall has a wide range of accomplishments. After completing rigorous courses in her

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