

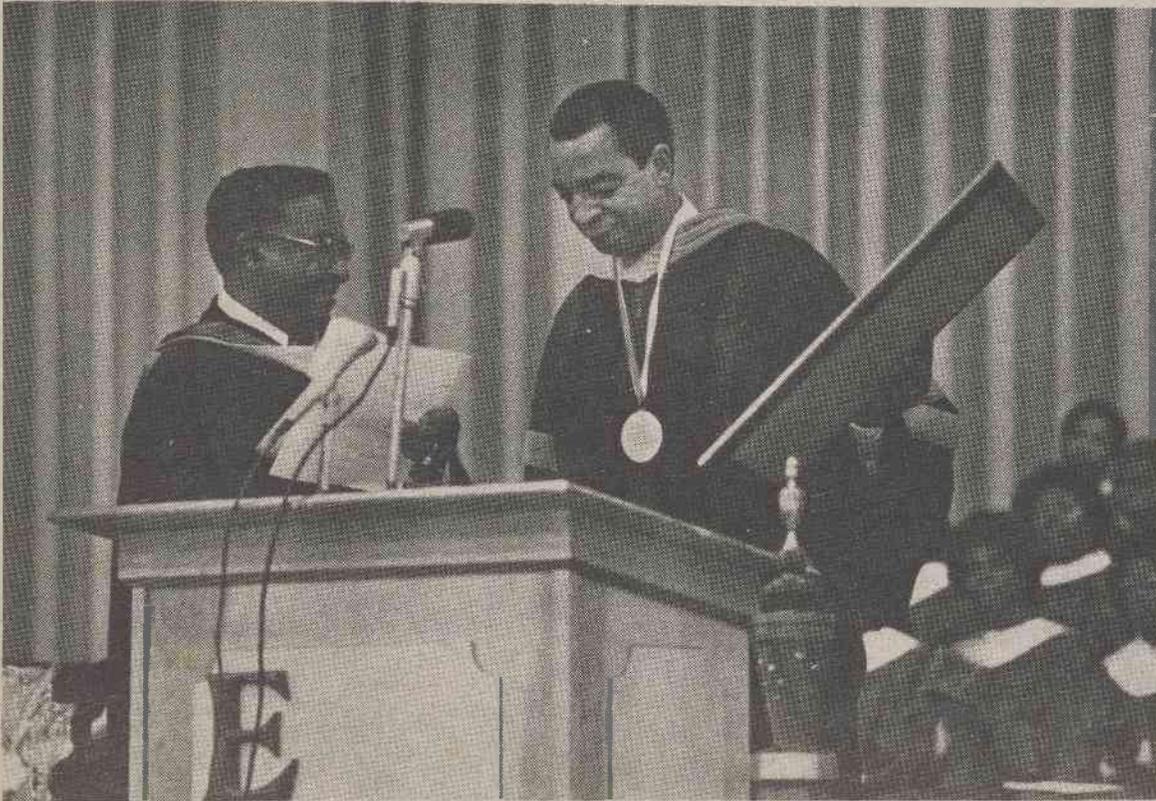
THE COMPASS

[Vol 42 # 11] "Together we will find the right direction"

Fall 1980

Elizabeth City, N.C.

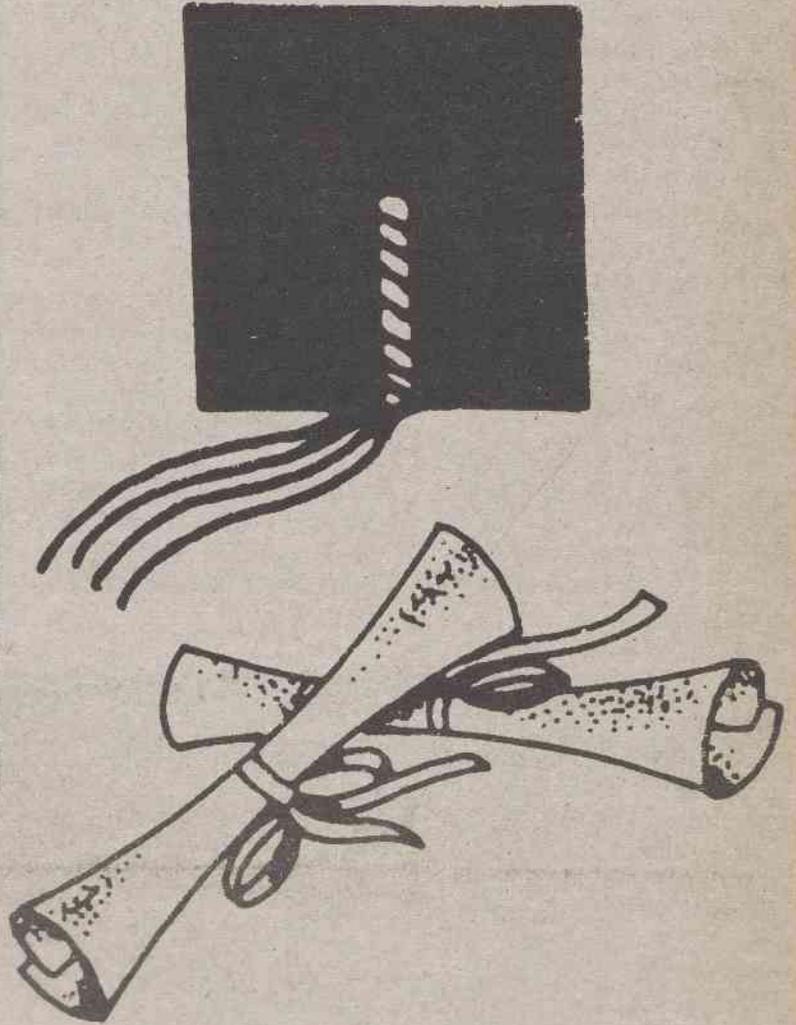
Final Edition



During opening ceremonies on Oct. 15 for ECSU's new graduate school, Dr. Kermit White, chairman of the ECSU

Board of Trustees, gives the University of North Carolina Board of Governor's document authorizing the

graduate program to University Chancellor Marion Thorpe.



ECSU's Grad Center a reality

DAILY ADVANCE REPORT

On Wednesday Oct. 15 dedication of the new graduate facility at Elizabeth City State University ends a long struggle by university officials to offer a program leading to master's degrees.

Final approval of the program for advanced education degrees was received in June from the University of North Carolina Board of Governors.

At the present time, students enrolled in the program are attending classes in existing university facilities but money has been appropriated for the con-

struction of a Continuing Education Center between Edgewood Drive and Weeksville Highway.

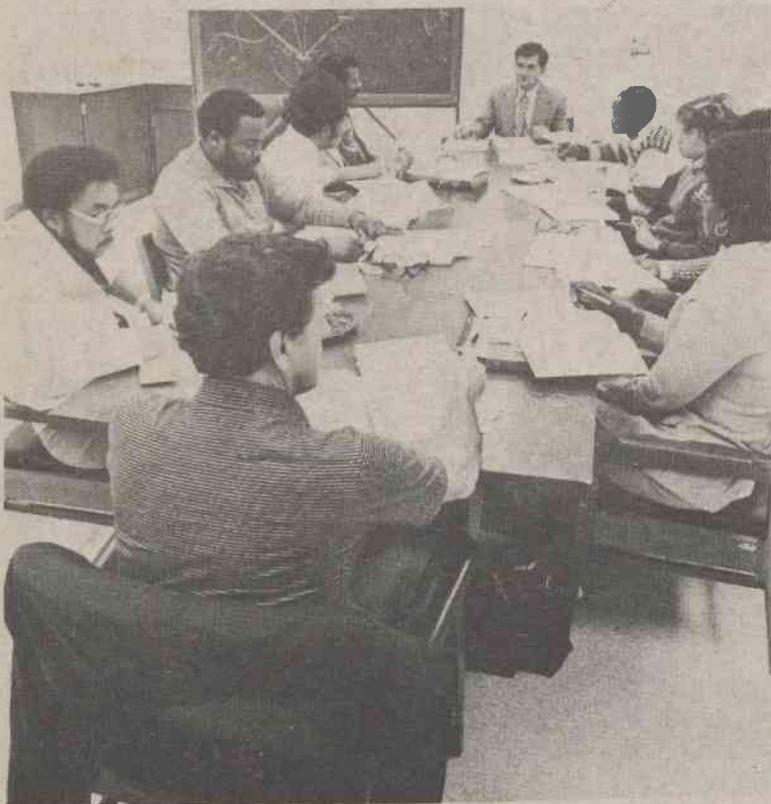
Instructors for this semester's courses included faculty members from East Carolina University, North Carolina State University and UNC-Chapel Hill.

University spokesmen anticipate a fully self-sufficient program within two years.

A primary force behind the establishment of the graduate program in the Northeast was a study which showed low rankings of local school systems based on the number of teachers holding advanced degrees.

With school districts in the Albemarle area vying for the coveted Southern Association of Schools and Colleges accreditation, university officials also saw the need for a graduate program. Accreditation requirements include a healthy 35 percent of faculty members holding master's level degrees. Percentages in the Albemarle area have ranged from 9 to 15 percent in the past.

The estimated construction cost of the facility is \$2 million. Officials hope to begin construction in early 1981 with the doors expected to open for the fall 1982 semester.



Dr. Robert E. Wenig from N.C. State University presides at one of ECSU's

new graduate studies courses — Philosophy of Occupational Education.