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Fruitt named new director of Durham site

Dr. Jane Bergman Fruitt is the new Director of the Durham ADP site, which opened in September.

Fruitt has more than 20 years of practical experience in education at all levels. Her A.B., M.Ed., and her Ph.D. in curriculum and instruction are all from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She has also taken courses in Meredith College's MBA program. She has extensive experience in supervision, administration, teaching/training, and program development.

Previously, Fruitt worked as an instructor at UNC-CH in the School of Education, supervising student teachers. She was a supervisor in the Wake County Public Schools. She was academic dean and an instructor at Phillips Junior College (formerly King's College) for 10-1/2 years. She has also been an instructor at Wake Tech Community College.

Raised in Greensboro, she lives in Raleigh. She has two sons, John, 23, a college senior, and Robert, 22, who is a taxidermist.



GETTING READY — Seniors recently tried on caps and gowns in preparation for the college's first December commencement exercises, set for Dec. 12 in Minges Auditorium.

First December commencement exercises slated

North Carolina Wesleyan College will hold December commencement exercises on Saturday, Dec. 12, in the Minges Auditorium in the Dunn Center for the Performing Arts.

A total of 174 students are eligible to participate, 122 of whom are December graduates and 52 are students who graduated in August.

The exercises will begin with a baccalaureate service at 10:30 a.m. in the Leon Russell Chapel. The baccalaureate speaker will be Rev. Jim Noseworthy, director of the Office of Annual Conference Relations, Public Policy, and Publications for the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry of the United Methodist Church. His office is located in Nashville, Tenn.

The service will be followed by a brunch reception in the Dunn Center Lobby and Gallery at 11:30 a.m.

The commencement exercises will begin at 1:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Dunn Center.

This will be the first time in N.C. Wesleyan's history that the College has held a December commencement.

In the past, students with enough credits to graduate in December have waited until May to take that walk across the stage and shake the president's hand.

Because there is limited seating in the Minges Auditorium, the commencement will be a free ticket event.

There are a limited number of tickets available from Carletta Dudley, (252) 985-5138.

Cullinane named Honors Program director

Dr. Robert Trullinger, vice president for Academic Affairs, has announced that Dr. Michael Cullinane will be the new Director of the Honors Program at Wesleyan.

Trullinger said, "Dr. Cullinane will officially take over at the beginning of the Spring Semester, but will begin working with the program immediately."

Cullinane, an assistant professor of mathematics, is in his second year at Wesleyan. He received his B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in Mathematics, all from The University of New Hampshire.

Cullinane says he "was attracted to the college because of the emphasis on teaching and the relatively small student enrollment." He went on to add, "There is a great deal more professor-student contact at Wesleyan than existed at UNH."

Dr. Cullinane doesn't anticipate any changes in the Honors Program for next semester.

"Down the road I will probably propose some changes, but I'm really not sure right now what they might be," he said. The current program is under review and Honors students are playing a part in the review, he said.

"Vice-President Trullinger and I want to be sure that Honors Program students have a voice in any such changes," Cullinane says. "In fact, we are currently in the process of finding out from the students what information they need regarding the program, the kinds of activities in which they would like to participate, and the directions in which they would like to see the program move."

The Honors Program is made up of unique courses that are specifically designed to academically

challenge the talented students enrolled in the program. Students will delve deeper into an Honors course than normally covered in a regular class.

"Honors courses and honors option courses usually require a student to be rather deeply engaged with course topics," says Cullinane. "I think most Honors Program students are ready to face such a challenge... in fact I think most of them relish such an opportunity."

Additionally, the Honors Program provides the opportunity for faculty members to pursue special subjects with the program's students.

Some recent course offerings in the Honors Program include JUS-415 American Justice System Reform, ENG-112 English Composition, Freedom and Its Enemies, Film and Politics, and

But Is It Art? There is one Honors course offered during the January term, REL 394 Religion and Science and one in the Spring Semester as well, HUM-101 Introduction to Humanities.

According to Cullinane, there are 36 students currently enrolled in the Honors Program.

"I would encourage any student interested in finding out more about the program and its eligibility criteria to contact me," he says. "We would love to have all eligible students actively involved in the program."

North Carolina Wesleyan's Honors Program is a member of national, regional, and state organizations, which hold annual conferences. Every honors course is marked as such on a student's transcript. Additionally, those students completing the entire program, with a 3.0 GPA in honors

courses, receive special recognition on their degree, as well as on their college transcript.

Cullinane notes, "The rigor of Honors Program classes and the critical thinking skills they help students develop can assist students in achieving post-baccalaureate goals such as attending graduate or professional school."

He adds, "Employers and graduate school admissions officials are likely to look favorably on a student's involvement with the Honors Program, as such involvement represents a willingness on the part of the student to work hard even when faced with challenging and complex issues and problems."

Anyone interested in finding out more about the Honors Program at Wesleyan can contact Dr. Cullinane at 985-5149 or send email to mcullinane@ncwc.edu.