

## Letters of congratulations ...

### From Martin Lancaster President, N.C. Community College System

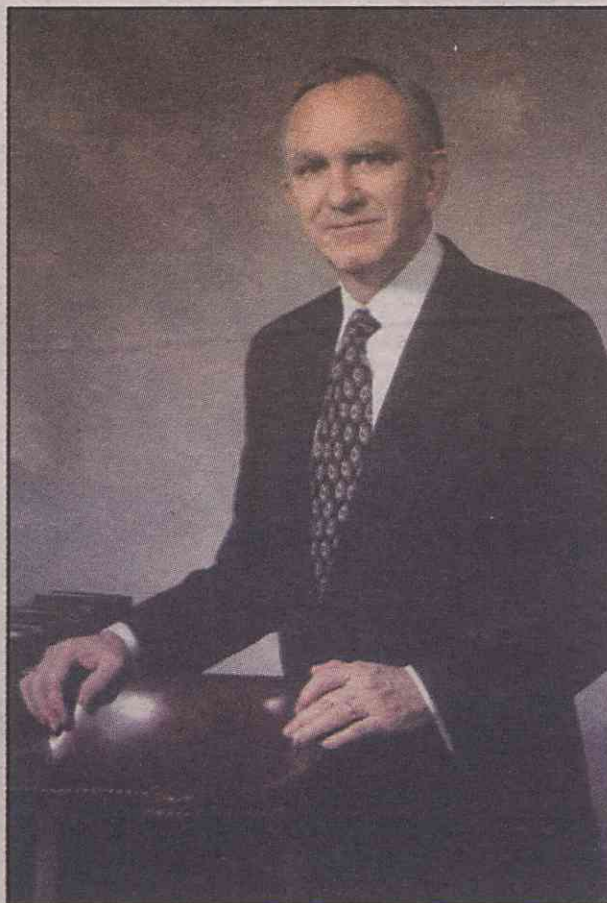
Dear Friends  
of Wayne Community College:

Please accept my hardest congratulations on the celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Wayne Community College. No single institution in Wayne County has had a more profound impact on the economic success of the county and the improvement of the lives of the people who have benefited from its program during this half century.

In the early days, Wayne Industrial Education Center and Wayne Technical Institute provided important training to help farmers and farm workers make the transition from farm to factory. As Wayne County's economy evolved, the educational needs of her people changed; Wayne Community College embraced a wide variety of other academic programs, including college transfer, which made it possible for our family and friends to obtain the very best education and thus prepare themselves for enhanced economic opportunity. As Wayne County recruited a myriad of industries, Wayne Community College has always been there to provide the customized training to attract those companies and make them successful.

During a significant period of that 50-year tenure, my wife, Alice was a part of the very fine instructional staff at Wayne Community College.

I commend that fine faculty on the excellence of their instruction during this half century. I am very proud to have been



able to contribute in my own ways to Wayne Community College's success as a state legislator, Congressman, and now President of the North Carolina Community College System. Clearly, the trustees, administrators, support staff, and faculty have always been the key to success of the institution and the educational success of the students. From president to custodian, the college has been "just what the doctor ordered" for tens of thousands of people from Wayne County who desired a better life for themselves and their families. I thank and commend all who had a part to play in these 50 years of "education that really works."

With kindest regards, I am  
Sincerely,  
H. Martin Lancaster

### From Dr. Ed Wilson President, Wayne Community College

As we begin the celebration of Wayne Community College's (WCC) 50th anniversary, it is timely to reflect on the impact of our college on Wayne County.

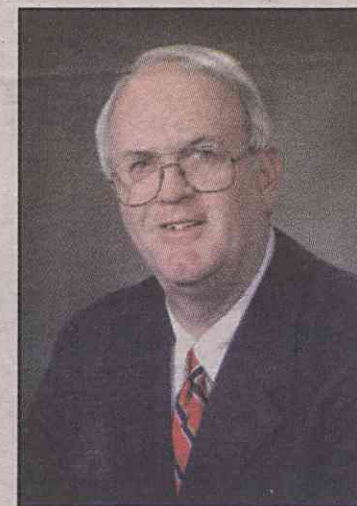
The most tangible evidence is the economic impact of the college and its students. In 2004, Community College Benefits, Inc. estimated the figure at \$141.3 million. What an impact!

Just think about the thousands of people who take one class or more every year. In 2005-06 it was 14,251 individuals, among them 322 high school and GED graduates and 480 students who matriculated from curriculum programs. We really don't know the total number of people touched by WCC, but I can imagine the number is astronomical.

WCC was one of the original 13 Industrial Education Centers - the institutions that ultimately grew into this state's community college system.

Three current community colleges began as satellite campuses of Wayne. James Sprunt, Sampson and Beaufort were birthed by WCC.

More than 60 percent of the 1,200-plus community colleges in our nation today were created



after 1957.

Why WCC is important to Wayne County is clearly demonstrated as I walk through parking lots in our area and see the stickers on our cars for students, faculty and staff of the college. Ask anyone, what is one of the things in Wayne County of which they are the most proud, and the answer is usually WCC.

As we celebrate our 50 years of service, you, our faculty and staff and those who preceded you, are responsible for this legacy.

Let's celebrate and then rededicate ourselves to continue to be "where our futures grow".

## PERSONAL INJURY / AUTO ACCIDENT



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