



Pembroke State University
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Pembroke State University's \$1.7 million Title III project moving forward

"I am very pleased by what I see and hear as of the development of plans to get this major project underway. It is very important to us." These were the comments of Chancellor Joseph Oxendine speaking recently of the progress of Pembroke State University's Title III Program, for which PSU is receiving \$1.7 million from the U.S. Department of Education over a five-year period. This is the largest grant ever received by PSU.

The goals of the grant are: 1. to enhance the oral and written communication skills of PSU students in today's information-based high tech economy by providing funds for instructional programs and computer equipment; 2. to increase the retention of students by providing a campus-wide networking system, enabling faculty to access student academic records for better advisement purposes, thereby making for a more effective orientation and advisement program; and 3. improving the infrastructure of the PSU Grants Office, thereby increasing external fund-raising support for instruction, faculty research, and public service.

"We are off and running on the project, which formally began Oct. 1," said Oxendine, adding, "An enterprise of this magnitude takes a while to get going fully."

The coordinator of the Title III Program has been appointed in the person of Jacqueline (Jackie) Clark, who will have a two-office complex in the D.J. Lowry Center plus her former office there.

"The coordinator is in place," said Oxendine. "Space has been provided for her office area, and furniture is being ordered."

The chancellor said a 10-member advisory council has also been appointed for the program. "The council is chaired by Dr. Thomas

Leach, chair of the PSU Department of Communicative Arts. Other members of the committee are: Dr. Prudence Precourt, vice chancellor for development and university relations; Neil Hawk, vice chancellor for business affairs; Dr. Diane Jones, assistant vice chancellor for student affairs; Dr. Sylvester Wooten, director of continuing education and summer session; Jo Ann Pearson, director of university computing and information services; Dr. Jose D'Arruda, chair of the Physical Science Department; Dr. Bob Schneider, chair of the Political Science Department; Dr. Bob Britton, professor of communicative arts; and Terrance Brewton, a PSU student from Pembroke. Of these Leach, Pearson, D'Arruda and Schneider were members of the team that prepared PSU's Title III grant proposal. An ex officio member of the council is Dr. Bill Gash, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs.

"This council will help to provide guidance, policy and feedback as to how things are going and how they ought to evolve," said Oxendine, who also pointed out the council members are not persons involved in the administration of the project.

The chancellor said the secretary-to-the-coordinator's position has been established and has been advertised. "Computer equipment has been purchased for the project management," he added.

It was noted that Clark and Dr. Bill Gash, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs who is Clark's supervisor, recently attended a Title III conference in Washington, D.C., to gain information about how other people do it," noted Oxendine.

In discussing the enhancing of oral and written communication across the PSU curriculum, Oxendine said virtually every PSU academic department will get a new computer

purchased by Title III funds to be used to support this Title III Program.

He also noted that the position description for the writing lab director of the program has been submitted to the Personnel Office for approval. "The coordinators of University orientation and academic advising have been established, and procedures to fill those positions are underway," said chancellor.

"Tracking and retention software is being ordered and coordinated with the Registrar's Office and the Computer Center," said Oxendine. "An installation team has been developed to coordinate the action track system. The team will include such persons as the director of institutional research (Dr. Warren Baker), the director of counseling and testing (Dr. Gwen Simmons), the Title III coordinator (Jackie Clark), etc."

Speaking of the Grants Office, Oxendine said, "The Office of Grants is complete, and computer equipment and necessary texts have been ordered and received for that office. A secretarial position has been established and is in the process of being filled."

Early in January, the chancellor said faculty computers will arrive, faculty training will be available, faculty personnel will be brought on board, computer workshops will be available, additional baseline data will be collected, and several other things going on.

Oxendine said that base-line data is being collected concerning the faculty's attitude toward PSU student oral and written communication skills. "All faculty are being surveyed as to their opinions about the quality of our students' oral and written communication skills. We are going to base our Title III program on that as we seek to enhance the quality of the communication skills of our students."

Native Intelligence: A column by Jack D. Forbes

Native American Studies University of California, Davis

THE REAL INDIANS ARE HERE!

A San Francisco newspaper ran an advertisement with big letters: "Wild Indian discovered in downtown San Francisco." I felt like calling up the New Delhi restaurant to complain about the ad's stereotype. But then it occurred to me that these were "real Indians" from India poking fun at "Indians".

In 1980 there were 361,544 Indians from India in the United States. By 1990 their numbers had mushroomed to 815,447, an increase of 126%. And these numbers do not include Pakistanis and Bangladeshis, both of whom are also Indians by virtue of being derived from pre-1948 India. If this trend continues, the number of "Real Indians" will catch up with the Bureau of the Census' figures for U.S. derived "American Indians" sometime between 2000 and 2010. (By 1980 Asian Indians already outnumbered Native Americans in the northeastern U.S.) Large numbers of "Real Indians" are also migrating to Canada and have been present in Trinidad, Guyana and other parts of the Caribbean for years. Many of these Caribbean "Indians" are also moving north to the U.S. and Canada.

In any case, the "wild Indian" of the San Francisco ad was certainly not a Lakota, not a Delaware!

Who are the "real" Indians then? Ironically, the immigration of a million or so Asian Indians to North America comes at the precise time when some indigenous people are trying to deny "Indian" status to persons who are not recognized as such by a federally-recognized tribal or band government or who lack some document which identifies them as being "Indian".

But are any of us (who are of indigenous American descent) really Indians anyway? Should we fight over a name which is claimed by the more than 700,000,000 people of India, by their government, and by millions of Indians living overseas from South

Africa to Fiji to Britain? The name "Indian" is derived from "India" which in turn comes from "Indos", an ancient Greek and Roman name for the area now known as Pakistan and India. "Indos" comes from "Indus," the name of the mighty river of western India (now Pakistan).

When Columbus sailed westward from Spain in 1492 it was his intention to reach India and especially that eastern part of India which he called "indian extra gangem" or India east of the Ganges River. This vast region included Southeast Asia, the East Indies, China and Japan. So when Columbus reached the Bahamas he began to call our relatives "Indios" in Spanish and "Indos" in Latin. This name became "Indiani" in Italian and "Indian" in English.

But the Spaniards for several centuries believed that "India" or "the Indies" included the entire area from the mid-Atlantic westward to old India and the Arabian Sea. Thus Filipinos, Hawaiians, Polynesians, Chinese and Japanese were all "Indios" to the Spaniards and to the Portuguese as well. The Inuit peoples of the north were every bit as much "Indians" as were any other peoples of Nova India (New India) or West India, alternative names for America.

Many Europeans writers simply called our ancestors "Americans" as well as indigenas (indigenous people), naturales (natural people) and autoctonos (autochthonous people), as well as using obnoxious names such as savages, tawnies, redskins, etc. More recently white writers have tried to baptize us with names such as "American Indians" and with such concoctions as "Amerindians" and "Amerinds".

"Amerindian" is popular with British writers who deal with the eastern Caribbean and Guyana, because of the large numbers of Asian Indians living there. "Amerind" to my mind is an especially ugly

acronym. Following this precedent we should, of course, refer to Eurams (European-Americans), Spanams (Spanish-Americans), Angcans (Anglo-Canadians), etc.

The problem with all of the combinations of "American" and "Indian" is that an increasing proportion of the "East Indians" living in the Americas are now born here and are, therefore, also entitled to use some combination of the two names. The "Real Indians" community in the U.S. seems to be using "Indian," "Indo-American" and "Indian American", the latter in the tradition of Italian American, German American, and so on.

Indigenous Americans have been trying to come up with better names for themselves for a long time, as when the peyote way people incorporated as the Native American Church early in this century. More recently terms such as "aboriginal," "indigenous" and "native" are being increasingly used, along with new and somewhat cumbersome names such as "First Nations People" and "Sovereign American Nations People". Also common now are "First Americans", "Early Americans" and, of course, Native Americans. Many South American native people are also using Abya Yala, a Cuna name for America. Thus Abya Yala People can also be heard at indigenous gatherings.

Faced with the continuing immigration from Asia, and faced with the need to become masters of their own identity by overthrowing the nomenclature of colonialism, the original peoples of the Americas will ultimately find an answer to this problem.

(Professor Jack D. Forbes, Powhatan-Delaware, is the author of Columbus and Other Cannibals, Africans and Native Americans and other books.)

REFLECTIONS by Alta Nya Oxendine

A NEW BEGINNING

On New Year's Eve I went with Jeff and Wanda Kay to the Watch Night service at Branch Street Church, in Lumberton. Pastor John Prine talked to us about making this New Year a real NEW BEGINNING in our relationship to Jesus Christ (our reason for celebrating Christmas) and with God, our heavenly Father.

"THE DEVIL MADE ME DO IT"

Sometimes we find it convenient to blame all our mistakes on the devil. Although I seldom heard any mention of the "Devil" or even much about "Sir" when I was growing up, there does seem to be an evil force in our midst subtly turning us toward the wrong road whenever such an opportunity comes up.

Several years ago, at the Madison

County (Montana) fair, I bought a little plaque done in calligraphy by Mother's artist friend, Phyllis Peterson, who has suffered all her life with a hip joint problem. I keep the plaque up for a reminder it says "Seven days without prayer makes one WEAK".

As guest speaker Tony Lee put it, during the New Year's Eve service, "When we go a week without reading the Bible," Satan will get to us. He went on to ask: "Am I going to continue to let Satan destroy me?"

On the other hand, we sometimes sing the chorus: "Read your Bible and pray every day and you'll grow, grow, grow!" I know this to be true, even though I am not in the habit of putting this into practice as much as I NEED to do, on a DAILY basis.

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Robert Scott Brown, a Kindergarten student at Parkton Elementary School, was honored when his art entry was chosen to grace the cover of the superintendent of the public school of Robeson County's official Christmas card for the 1993-94 school year.

Forty two principals in the county as well as other employees of the school system received the cards. Robert's entry was chosen from entries from all over the county from students in grades kindergarten through six and was submitted by his art teacher, Mrs. Deborah Richmann.

A Third Statewide High School?

Is the North Carolina High School of Social Studies a vision whose time has come? Looking for opportunities to improve public education in North Carolina, the founders of the North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics followed the trail of the North Carolina School of the Arts. Their young graduates test well, win awards, and build excellent records leading to career success. Could a high school for social studies and international languages serve a similar constructive purpose?

Might some of North Carolina's future bankers and business people be graduates of a proposed N.C. High School of Social Studies? Could a high-tech school of social studies and international languages graduate future leaders in civic affairs, education, public health, law, national security, protection of the environment, and other public policy topics? Or will the proposed school fail to materialize because of concerns about elitism, diversion of funds, and "brain drain" from high schools around the state?

The North Carolina High School of Social Studies Foundation sponsors full and fair public discussion of the issues. Questions of equity and excellence need to be debated and resolved. In the next few years, many citizens will be invited to meet and confer and decide about this school. Directors for 1994 were elected at

the annual meeting at the Burwell School in Hillsborough. The Foundation's new president is David K. Stamey of Haywood County, a social studies teacher at Tuscola High School, where he is department chairman. The newly-elected vice president is J. Alfred ("A") Baldwin of Carboro, a social studies teacher at Chapel Hill High School. He is a specialist in 20th century American history. In 1991, Baldwin chaired a study group to begin planning curriculum for the proposed statewide school.

Members of the leadership team who were elected by the Foundation's directors include Ken Badgett of Dobson in Surrey County, Willis Nichols of Hallsboro in Columbus County, Dr. Aline Riddick of Sunbury in Gates County, Dr. John Rimbey of Lumberton in Robeson County, and Dr. Eula Spaulding of Clarkton in Bladen County. Badgett is a graduate student of local history at Appalachian State University. Nichols teaches social studies at East Bladen High School. Dr. Riddick is assistant superintendent of public schools. Dr. Spaulding is director of guidance at a Bladen County high school.

The Foundation meets Saturday, January 8, at 10 a.m. in the Burwell School, 309 North Churton St. Hillsborough. This meeting is open to the public. For information, call John Rimbey at (910) 738-9000.

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There's good reason for many in Robeson County to consider Dr. Frank Worlax as an old friend. After all, he is a native son. Born and raised here and educated at Pembroke State University. His medical education took him to Duke University for a period of time, but after completing his internship and residency there,

Dr. Worlax came back home. Since 1979, he has been in private practice. And since March, he has focused his skills here at Doctor's Urgent Care Centre. Here, he is able to care for friends, family and neighbors when they need him most... whether it's day or night.

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