

# Judith Bailey picked for WSSU interim position

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

Judith I. Bailey, an academic leader with a distinguished, innovative career as president of two state universities and provost and vice president for Academic Affairs at a third, was recently named interim assistant vice chancellor for University Advancement at Winston-Salem State University.

Prior to joining the staff at WSSU, Bailey served as senior director of Enrollment Services at East Carolina University in Greenville. She has also worked at the University of Maine, Northern Michigan University and Western Michigan University.

In 2007, Bailey opened her own firm, JHBailey Associates, consulting with colleges, universities, and non-profit organizations.

In the same year, she was named a Senior Fellow in government relations and policy analysis at the American Association of State Colleges and Universities in Washington, DC.

Bailey, a native of Winston-Salem, has received a number of gubernatorial appointments and served on numerous community and corporate boards.

Bailey and her husband, Brendon, live in Clemmons.



Bailey

## Land

from page A1

to Goler AME Pastor Dr. Seth Lartey.

Johnson believes the land swap proposal makes sense for everyone concerned.

"I think it's a win for the neighborhood," she said. "There's not another skilled nursing facility in the area; it is one of the human service needs that is (currently) not being met."

For years, local members of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. had their sights on the land that Goler now wants. The sorority had planned to build an assisted living facility there. But since the death five years ago of Barbara Phillips, a local AKA who once served as the sorority's national president, that plan has deteriorated.

The city has an option to sell the land directly to Lutheran Services, leaving Goler out of the equation. Some city residents, including Marva Reid, a local community activist who has lobbied for years for the city to build a park and swimming pool in East Winston, Reid said the land next to the YMCA is better suited for the city's proposed recreational project because she doesn't like the idea of children having to cross the street to get to the park from the Y.

Reid wants the Council to get more input from the public before a decision is made.

"I just thought it was unfair for people to take liberties without consulting the majority of people," she remarked. "...we just want that area over there to remain (in the city's possession)."

Goler purchased its land in the mid-1980s with the intentions of building a new church there, but church leaders later opted to stay downtown and help with the area's revitalization. Earlier this year, the church began talks with the Lutheran Council on Aging, which was looking for a location to build a \$10 million nursing home. The AME Zion and Lutheran churches have a history of collaboration, according to Lartey, and desired to make the project a joint effort.

"These two denominations want to not just talk about working together for the good of the community, but to act tangibly," Lartey said. "We entered into a contract ... to work as a mutual partnership."

It was discovered that the Goler land is not suitable for the nursing facility because it is in a flood plain and would require a costly retaining wall in order to be viable. The price of the wall put the project over budget, Lartey says, and the two groups began searching for other options.

This spring, the city regained ownership of the land after plans for the assisted-living facility fell through. Goler and the city



Marva Reid



Patrick Hairston

on it and they can't sell it."

Hairston believes taxpayers will miss out on potential dollars that could come through the sale to the Lutheran Council if the swap takes place. Like Reid, Hairston said he would ultimately prefer for the city to utilize the land it already has for recreational purposes.

"We're losing park land when we've been asking for a swimming pool (in the area) for some time," he remarked. "There's enough land on this side of town that the Lutherans could build somewhere else if they wanted to."

Lartey believes that if the proposal is OK'ed, it would greatly benefit the community at large, by creating jobs and providing a nice facility where seniors from the immediate area can be close to loved ones. He says he will continue to work for a solution.

"As long as I'm here in Winston-Salem, I'm going to fight and do whatever is necessary until our children and our youth and our elderly get their fair share of what they deserve," Lartey declared. "Prayerfully, all of us will get on board."

The City Council will have to approve the proposal in order for it to go into effect. Discussion on the issue will continue at the Finance Committee meeting slated for Monday, July 13 at 4 p.m. at City Hall. The meeting is open to the public.

began discussing the possibility of a swap at that point.

Political activist Harold Hairston doesn't like the land swap proposal either. He believes the city should sell the land directly to the Lutherans, if at all. He sees the deal as a way for Goler to escape the expense of being invested in land that it cannot use.

"Goler is stuck with a white elephant," he commented. "They can't build

## GOP

from page A1

And just last week, Audra Shay, the vice president of the Young Republicans, found herself on the hot seat, after commenting affirmatively to a posting from one of her Facebook friends that read "Obama Bin Laden [sic] is the new terrorist... Muslim is on there side [sic]... need to take this country back from all of these mad coons... and illegals."

Shay has denied that she was agreeing with the post, despite her response: "You tell 'em Eric! lol." She says she only read the first part of his post and not the more inflammatory parts.

Political commentator and Charlotte resident Lenny McAllister wasn't convinced by Shay's explanation. He railed against her in a posting on his Web site, lennymcallister.com, and on the young, black GOP site HipHopRepublican.com. McAllister, who is considered a rising star in the GOP, said that he was "appalled" that Shay "could support and encourage antiquated, racist language and behavior that has aided in ripping apart the Republican Party and America for decades."

"...To be so glib with offering support of a sentiment displayed in a public forum (such as Facebook) that vilely uses hateful and racist language either shows inexcusable lack of insight to the impact of the sentiment or a shared valued system with the implied message therein," he wrote.

McAllister's words were powerful enough to garner a personal apology from Shay, a Louisianian who was a top contender to be elected president of the Young Republicans.

McAllister, who has authored a book on the dichotomy black Republicans often feel, would prefer to talk about the good things about his party instead of being sidetracked by racial controversies.

"I have a historical obligation to make sure that all Americans have access to all facets of the American governmental system. African Americans (and) young people do not feel they have

equal access to the Republican Party," said McAllister, whose book "Diary of a Mad Black PYC (Proud Young Conservative)" will be released later this month. "...I would prefer not to take on these battles ... but if in 10 years, America is better because of it, then that's where I'm going to hang my hat."

Newly-elected N.C. GOP Vice Chair Dr. Timothy Johnson pointed out that unsavory comments have been made by those on both sides of the political aisle in the past. He believes the growing number of African-Americans in power positions within the GOP has led to a diminished tolerance for such racial rhetoric.

"I think black Republicans are holding (their party members) more accountable," he remarked. "We're not just voters, we're party leaders and elected officials... historically, we haven't seen that (in the GOP)."

White Republicans have also expressed their disdain for racist language and attitudes. In the case of Shay, several of her own friends immediately took her to task on Facebook for her comment.

Even Fleming El-Amin, chair of the Forsyth County Democratic Party, says he believes such incidents are indicative of only a small segment of the Republican Party.

"It's still politics, you know? It's desperation politics. Anyone who stoops to that level misrepresents what I think the constituents want to see," he commented. "...but we can't overlook these things. We have to address them when they occur and we have to let people know that we won't tolerate these things."

While Johnson vehemently disagrees with the racially charged comments of late, he says he feels his energy is best spent in bettering the party for everyone.

"I'm not going to spend too much of my time sitting here fighting ... they're not going to change their minds because I said something," he commented. "I spend my energy really focusing on what is right (in the party) ... at the end of the day, we're all Americans."



Johnson

## Martin

from page A1

size of the campus. He led the school in its efforts to become a Division I sports institution, a transition that has stalled in the years since his departure because of funding issues and other concerns.

Chancellor Donald Reeves, who succeeded Martin, has endured considerable criticism for everything

from his leadership style, which some say is too standoffish, to the school's costly move to Division I.

Martin declined to comment about the criticism being leveled at Reeves or on the direction WSSU has taken since he left. But he still believes that making the transition to DI is the right move for WSSU.

"I still think it was a great decision," he stated. "If I were there ... I would have continued the effort."

A&T is Martin's main concern these days. Increasing the visibility of



Aggie well-wishers greet Dr. Martin and his wife, Davida.

the school and its programs are chief priorities.

"We have enormous potential here, in terms of the types of degree programs we have, both graduate and undergraduate."

As a framework, we have a great place to begin," he commented. "...We can build on those things to very quickly rise to a level of significant competitiveness with our peers."

Declining enrollment has been a problem for A&T in the past, but Martin says the school has begun to rally.

"We've gone through our valley, and we're now beginning to see positive growth. Last year, there was a trend upward," he said, noting that the school had seen a three to five percent increase in enrollment in the 2008-2009 year.

Though his previous two

appointments have been relatively short-lived, Martin says he has no intentions of vacating his current position anytime soon.

"It is my intent to be here for 'awhile,'" he stated. "...I'm excited about being here, and I see ... the opportunity as being something that will excite and challenge me for some time, which is something that I need."

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