

CAREERS

Briefs

A&T researcher receives UNC's highest faculty honor

Jagannathan Sankar, Distinguished University Professor of mechanical and chemical engineering and White House Millennium Researcher at North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University, received the O. Max Gardner Award on Friday, April 9 from the Board of Governors of the multi-campus University of North Carolina. Recognized as one of the world's leading authorities on the development of advanced biomaterials and smart structures, Sankar's work has enormous potential for improving medical implants and surgical procedures and enabling advances in adaptive engineering, construction safety, and homeland security.



Sankar

The awards, given annually since 1949, were established by the will of Gov. Oliver Max Gardner to recognize faculty who have "made the greatest contributions to the welfare of the human race." It is the only award for which all faculty members of the 17 UNC campuses are eligible. Recipients are nominated by their chancellors and selected by the Board of Governors. The 2010 award carries a \$20,000 cash prize and was presented by Board of Governors Chairman Hannah Gage and Gardner Award Committee Chairman Fred Mills of Raleigh.

A member of the NC A&T faculty for the past 27 years, Sankar's scientific interests began at the University of Madras in his native India, where he earned an undergraduate degree in metallurgical engineering. He then earned a master's degree in materials engineering at Concordia University in Canada and a doctorate in metallurgy and materials engineering at Lehigh University in Pennsylvania. He joined the NC A&T faculty as an assistant professor immediately after earning his Ph.D. in 1983, and rose rapidly through the academic ranks.

Youth Villages named one of nation's best nonprofits

Youth Villages has been named one of the 50 Best Nonprofit Organizations to Work For in the United States by The NonProfit Times and Best Companies Group.

The private nonprofit organization provides help for children with serious emotional and behavioral problems and their families throughout North Carolina from offices in Asheville, Hickory, Greensboro, Raleigh-Durham, Concord, Greenville, Charlotte, Pinehurst, Wilmington and Fayetteville. The most recent office was opened in Fayetteville in March.

The annual survey and award program was designed to identify, recognize and honor the best places of employment in the nonprofit sector. Other organizations honored include the American Heart Association, the Boys & Girls Clubs of America, Lance Armstrong Foundation and Keep America Beautiful Inc. The complete list is at www.BestNonProfitsToWorkfor.com.

Youth Villages has helped more than 1,600 children and families in North Carolina since 2005. The organization provides intensive in-home Multisystemic Therapy to children and families and Transitional Living services for teens aging out of the foster care system. Eighty-three percent of children who completed their Youth Villages MST program were successful a year after discharge, meaning they were living at home or in a home-like environment.

This year, Youth Villages' 2,300 counselors, teachers and staff will help more than 15,000 children with serious emotional and behavioral problems and their families.

Local crime scene techs graduate from "Body Farm"

Two crime scene technicians have completed a ten-week training program at the University of Tennessee National Forensic Academy, popularly referred to in books and on television as "the body farm."

Meredith D. Dwyer and Jennifer A. Chludzinski graduated from Class 26 at the academy March 19. Their attendance was financed through a Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant.

Dwyer and Chludzinski are the first crime scene technicians in the Winston-Salem Police Department to attend the National Forensic Academy. They join an elite group; only 437 people have completed training there.

Students complete 400 hours, including 170 hours of classroom instruction and 230 hours of field exercises at a special three-acre plot where human cadavers have been placed to help forensic technicians learn how to gather evidence from bodies left to decompose under different conditions. The training facility became known as "the body farm" after Patricia Cornwell featured it in her 1974 novel by the same name.



Wake brings home world championship

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Four Wake Forest University undergraduate accountancy and finance students have won the KPMG Global Case Competition in Athens, Greece.

KPMG is one of the world's most respected accounting firms. It sponsored the competition, which took place April 7-9 and included teams from 11 countries.

The WFU team - senior Andrea Kensy of Upper Holland, Pa.; juniors Swayze Smartt of Dallas, Texas, and Zachary Zimbile of Allenwood, N.J.; and sophomore Louis Brotherton of Seattle, Wash. - represented the United States in the competition. They competed against teams from France, Sweden, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, Norway,



Undergraduate business students from Wake Forest University, Zach Zimbile (left to right), Louis Brotherton, Andrea Kensy and Swayze Smartt are named world champions after winning the KPMG Global Case Competition in Greece.

Canada, Spain, Luxemburg and the Czech Republic.

"I am extremely proud of this Wake Forest student team for their tremendous accomplishment, and our talented fac-

ulty for their unmatched commitment to share their knowledge and help students excel and become leaders amongst their peers," said Business Dean Steve Reinemund.

The Wake Forest team qualified for the international competition by winning the national round of the KPMG Global Case Competition last January.

"These students represented Wake Forest and themselves extremely well," said Yvonne Hinson, Wake Forest Schools of Business associate professor of accountancy who directs the undergraduate and graduate accountancy programs. "We could not possibly be more proud of Andrea, Louis, Swayze, and Zachary. Their hard work has certainly paid off and we look forward to celebrating with them when they return."



Donna A. James has made a name for herself in corporate America.

Aggie to Aggies

Alumna James to give commencement address

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

N.C. A&T State University has begged one of its own to give the school's spring commencement address next month.

Donna A. James, managing director of Lardon & Associates, will keynote the Saturday, May 8 event, which is free and open to the public. It will start at 8:30 a.m. at the Greensboro Coliseum. The university will be graduating more than 1,000 students.

The Washington, D.C. native graduated from A&T in 1979. She has more than 25 years of diverse leadership and management experience at the highest corporate levels. James has been a trusted resource and advisor for senior business leaders on issues related to governance, new business development, strategy, financial and risk management and leadership development.

Lardon & Associates is a Columbus, Ohio-based advisory firm. As the managing director of the company, James serves as the corporate director for many public companies, including three in the Fortune 500. James serves on the board of directors for prestigious brands such as Coca-Cola Enterprises, Conoco Inc., Limited Brands and Time Warner Cable.

She is the former president of Nationwide Strategic Investments, a division of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company. In Columbus, James founded the Center for Healthy Families, a non-profit focused on transforming the lives of pregnant and parenting teens and their children. She has also been a strong advocate for stroke awareness. James suffered a mild stroke more than five years ago when she was in her late 40s.

In 2005, she was named by Black Enterprise Magazine as one of the top 75 in Corporate America, as well as being a 2007 inductee into the National Historically Black Colleges and Universities Hall of Fame and a 2008 inductee into the Junior Achievement Business Hall of Fame in 2008.

James is the wife of attorney Larry James. They are the proud parents of two adult children, Christopher and Justin. They have five grandchildren.

LWS announces changes

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

Leadership Winston-Salem (LWS) has a brand new logo and new board members.

LWS aims to educate, connect and energize tomorrow's leaders by guiding them through nine monthly sessions that cover virtually everything there is to know about the city - from its government structure to its artistic roots.

According to Woodbine, the locally-based brand-revitalization agency that designed the new LWS logo pro bono, the new design represents the passion, fluid motion, change and collaboration involved in "Igniting Community Leadership."

The newly-appointed board members are Maria Aristizabal, Child Care Services for the YMCA; Dr. Jessica M. Bailey, School of Business & Economics at Winston-Salem State University; Maureen M. Hall, Woodbine; Dr. James C. Hash Sr., St. Peter's

Church & World Outreach Center; Thomas E. Ingram, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center; Linda Jackson-Barnes, City of Winston-Salem; Michael L. Suggs, Goler Community Development Corporation; and Karl F. Yena, long-time community volunteer.

The newly-elected officers are Chairman John R. Bost, Mayor of Clemmons and president of Master Counsel Associates; Vice Chair Pamela D. Corbett, Spectrum Psychological Services; Secretary Kathy Goliszek, Carolina Urological Associates; Treasurer Eric A. Aft, United Way of Forsyth County; and Immediate Past Chair David P. Barksdale, NewBridge Bank.

All the officers and new board members are all alumni of Leadership Winston-Salem.

For more information about LWS, go to www.leadershipws.org.



LEADERSHIP WINSTON-SALEM

Igniting Community Leadership

SAINTLY HONORS



Sgts. Mark Todd and Kimberly Munley wear medals presented by St. Gabriel Possenti Society Chairman John Snyder (right) during a recent ceremony at the American Police Hall of Fame in Titusville, Fla. The police officers became heroes last November when they helped to bring down a gunman who opened fire on a military base in Fort Hood Texas. The Society is a pro-gun organization that promotes public awareness of St. Gabriel Possenti (who has been designated by The Vatican as the patron saint of hand guns) and honors those who use hand guns to defend the public. According to Catholic history, St. Gabriel Possenti used his guns to save an Italian village from a band of terrorists in 1860.

Food Bank program produces more chefs

CHRONICLE STAFF REPORT

A crop of new chefs are making names for themselves at eateries throughout the city. The latest class of Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest North Carolina's Triad Community Kitchen program graduated recently after completing ten weeks of culinary training under the skilled tutelage of Chef Jeff Bacon.

Most of the students enrolled in the program are either unemployed or underemployed and referred to the program by Second Harvest partners like Goodwill Industries of Northwest NC.

In addition to learning skills that will make them automatically employable in a variety of food prep and service capacities, the program incorporates instruction and activities designed to help students improve their level of workplace readiness. Also, through the program, students give back to Second Harvest Food Bank by preparing vacuum sealed, ready-to-heat meals that are distributed to some of the 380 non-profit partner agencies that depend on food from Second Harvest to feed residents.

With this group of graduates (The Xi Class), 208 students have completed the Triad Community Kitchen program since it began in July 2006.



Front row, from left: Roberto del Campo, Roozi Aubin, Kennethe Crowell, Paula Lewis, Bo Biggs, Wallace Jackson, Shawn Bennett; Back row, from left: Chef Jeff Bacon, Kelly Greene, Ashford Lowery, Michael Boston, Scott Randell, Robert Whitlow and Harry O'Neal.