

# UNCG continues to shrink black-white graduation gap

SPECIAL TO THE CHRONICLE

For the second time in three years, UNCG has made a short list of American colleges and universities excelling at shrinking the graduation gap between white and black students.

In a new report by The Education Trust, an education watchdog group, UNCG was noted among schools that have maintained an equitable success rates for white and black students. In data from 2010, less than one percentage point



Brady

separated the six-year graduation rate for white students, 53.1 percent, from that of black students, 52.3 percent. Graduation rates for both student demographics have increased from 2004, when the rates were 51 percent and 51.5 percent, respectively, an indication of the success of university-wide efforts to boost the graduation rates of all students.

"This recognition by The Education Trust reaffirms the work of UNCG's faculty and staff in support of student success," said UNCG Chancellor Linda P. Brady. "UNCG is committed to enhancing the student experience through

learning communities and residential colleges, mentoring programs, academic support services, service-learning opportunities and other high-impact practices. Student success is the responsibility of every member of the UNCG community."

UNCG is the most diverse institution in the UNC System, with more than 40 percent of undergraduates identifying as a racial or ethnic minority. For the 2012-13 academic year, 28 percent of the undergraduate student body identified as African American. UNC Wilmington, Appalachian State University and N.C. State were also recognized in The Education Trust brief.

## Cancer

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Patients are encouraged to be more proactive in analyzing power and authority within the health care system. Patients are also encouraged to work with a patient navigator, who has comprehensive training in cancer issues, health literacy and communication techniques.

Healthcare providers will be given ongoing data about patients' treatment progress according to race to immediately flag any disparity. Also, a real-

time electronic registry will be built to alert caregivers when a patient has dropped out of care so that contact can be established to resume care before it is too late.

In addition to decreasing racial disparities among cancer patients, ACCURE also has the potential to define technologies that, if widely

applied, can help resolve disparities in cancer and other chronic illnesses along the lines that the American Association for Clinical Oncology envisioned (the Rapid Quality Reporting System) and create sustainable change within cancer care systems.

This study is a continuation of the exploratory research managed by the Greensboro Health Disparities Collaborative and conducted from 2006 to 2009. The earlier project sought to understand more about the reasons for disparities between African-American and white breast cancer patients.



Eng



Dr. Ed Reynolds (center) poses with Wake Forest employees (clockwise, from top left): Wesley Harris, Kevin Smith, Brian Johnson, Jerry Staples, J. Matthew Williams, Dr. Nate French, Dwight A. Lewis and Harold R. Homes, associate vice president and dean of Student Services. Law School Dean Blake Morant was also present.

## Reynolds

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recalls returning home from church to find nickels, dimes and dollar bills that had been quietly slipped into his pockets by anonymous supporters and being showered with homemade cookies and treats from African American employees on campus. Reynolds said the outpouring of support he received left an indelible mark on him.

"When you go through this experience, I think you are grateful for the community that supported you and what you do is you want to encourage others, you want to bring others forward with you," he remarked. "You recognize the responsibility you have to other black people."

Despite the tumultuousness of the era, Reynolds said his time at Wake Forest

was largely uneventful. He was shepherded by Chaplain Ed Cristman and Reynolds' seven suite mates from Taylor Hall, whom he said were "very protective" of him. Reynolds said he remembers his time at the university fondly and was honored to be a part of the Faces of Courage celebration.

"It's humbling that there is recognition for the fact that you came 50 years ago and it's something that is encouraging that, in a way, the effort that you made with the support of many people has not been in vain," he declared. "Together, a group of black people have had a significant impact on the integration of Wake Forest."

Faces of Courage will continue during Family Weekend with a Sept. 29 talk on diversity and inclusion led by Dr. Barbee Myers Oakes, assistant provost for

Diversity and Inclusion. For more information, visit who is spearheading the <http://facesofcourage.wfu.edu> Faces of Courage events.

## Luncheon

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on Seven, an innovative "one-stop shop" where victims can file for a Domestic Violence Protective Order and receive information about available services.

While awareness and services have increased, so have the number of domestic violence calls in Forsyth County over the past five years. The Winston-Salem Police Department and Forsyth County Sheriff's Office responded to more than 7,000 such calls in 2011. The Children's Law Center served 32% more children in 2011 than 2010. The Shelter admitted 14% more women and children in 2011 than in 2010, and they are staying longer.

Most recently, Rivers played Jack Reese on NBC's acclaimed series "Life." He is best known for such film

classics as "Blood in/Blood Out," "The Mask of Zorro" and "The Distinguished Gentleman."

He played under the legendary Coach Bobby Bowden at Florida State and was drafted by the Miami Dolphins in 1978. In 1999, Rivers became a leading activist in the cause of preventing violence against women and children. As the national spokesperson for the National Network to End Domestic Violence, he uses his own harrowing story of surviving a home where abuse took place on the level of torture to raise awareness about what he considers our greatest yet most curable social disease.

To find out more information or to register for the Home Free event or any others during Domestic Violence Awareness month, log onto [www.fsifamily.org/events.cfm](http://www.fsifamily.org/events.cfm).



Donna Dyess Robinson Consultant

"My people are destroyed for a lack of knowledge."

Hosea 4:6

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