

CPCC President Has Challenge Of Meeting Demands

Meeting the swift changing demands of the economy and of society will be the college's biggest challenge, according to Central Piedmont Community College's newly inaugurated president.

"Tomorrow's 'manpower training' will be increasingly 'brainpower training,'" Dr. Ruth G. Shaw told an audience of more than 1,500 educators, elected officials, dignitaries and friends of the college at the inaugural ceremony recently.

Pointing out that two-thirds of North Carolina jobs may be information and service related within the next three years, Dr. Shaw said those jobs will demand skilled employees who can read and write well, who can use computers and who can reason. Responsibility for teaching those skills, she said, lies



Dr. Ruth G. Shaw

with Central Piedmont and the other 57 community colleges in the state.

"Every major report on the North Carolina economy points to education as imperative to our economic growth—some would

say our economic survival," she said. "Economic papers issued by Governor Jim Martin and Lieutenant Bob Jordan call on the state's community colleges to lead in training and retraining our workforce."

Dr. Shaw, 38, became the second president in the 23 year history of the college in July 1986, following the retirement of Dr. Richard Hagemeyer. She came to the college from the presidency of El Cen-

tro Community College in Dallas, Texas. She started her career in education as an English teacher in the North Carolina Community College system 17 years ago.

To meet the demands of the future, Dr. Shaw predicted the college will look

ies are among the lowest in the nation.

"We must be vigilant to assure that we do not train tomorrow's workers for yesterday's jobs on equipment that's past its prime," she said, adding that a technology building planned at CPCC can "demonstrate that we will make good our

promise to deliver world-class technical training."

Ties with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools and UNC-Charlotte also will be strengthened, she said, to ensure a smooth path through the public education system.

An example of that cooperation, Dr. Shaw said, is a new program now in the planning stages that would give high school students a better foundation for the college-level training needed for jobs in today's technology.

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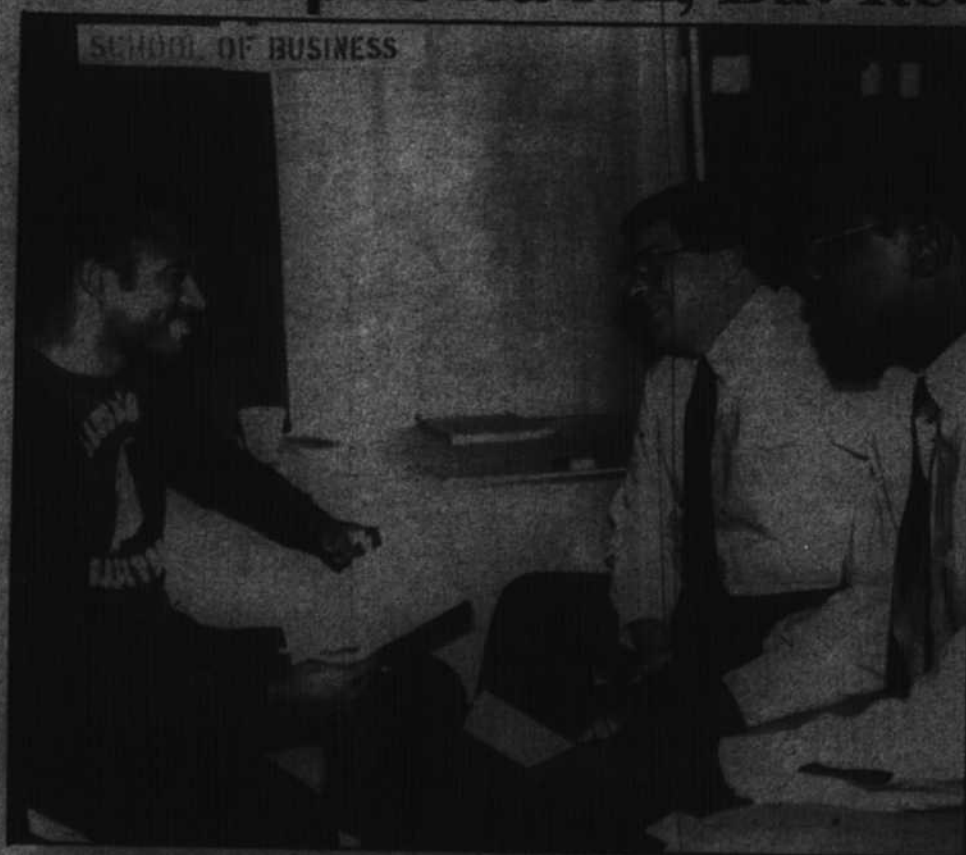
at ways to expand the role of its learning centers in taking classes into the neighborhoods of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. She also called for higher salaries for educators in North Carolina, where teacher salar-

NCCU Grows In Sophistication, But Retains Personal Touch

While North Carolina Central University has grown in size and sophistication, it remains small enough to provide the personal relationships and sense of community that so enhance the educational process. Nearly two-thirds of the faculty hold doctoral degrees and nearly all faculty members are involved in teaching and counseling undergraduates.

In this climate, exceptional students are provided the opportunity to display their talents broadly and experience leadership first hand. Students who might become lost or discouraged at larger universities receive an education to meet their specific needs.

The campus community is becoming more diverse. White enrollment is now 12 percent in the undergraduate programs; 28 percent in the graduate programs and 50 percent in the professional programs. The enrollment of the School of Law is



NCCU chemistry graduate student, Leondas Worsley, left already has scholarly publications credits.

equally divided between black and white students and between men and women. One-third of the faculty is white and many faculty come from other nations.

Both the university's academic pro-

grams and its campus facilities continue to grow. Nearly one-third of the undergraduates are enrolled in the School of Business Administration, which now admits new students directly and because

of demand accepts only one out of ten who apply.

The school is gradually reducing its enrollment to 1,000 students to ensure high quality standards including a more manageable faculty/

student ratio

A new computer science major is being put into place in the mathematics department.

The School of Law, which offers the only evening degree program in the state, moved into its new facility in 1978. New buildings have recently been dedicated to accommodate growth of the Criminal Justice, Public Administration and Nursing programs—each having experienced significant growth in numbers during the last decade. A new physical education and recreation complex is also nearing completion.

The expanded scope of the university's programs parallels increasing diversity in educational needs and goals among North Carolina Central University students.

The Academic Enrichment Center, for example is geared to high school underachievers, offering smaller classes, tuto-

rial assistance and individual counseling. A high percentage of students enrolled in the center have gone on to successfully complete their college careers.

Racial minorities constitute less than 6 percent of health care professionals in the United States and North Carolina Central University's Health Career program is designed to facilitate entry of students into a broad spectrum of health-related fields.

North Carolina Central University, already a comprehensive university, is rapidly becoming a research-oriented university. Our scientists, for example are studying the potential of a native American plant for rubber production.

North Carolina Central University is an important asset to Durham and the state.

Half of the University's alumni live in North Carolina.