

Graduation ends 137th year

Dr. Ira D. Hudgins of Franklin, Va., and Dr. Norman A. Wiggins of Buies Creek, were the featured speakers as Chowan College closed its 137th year Sunday, May 12.

Hudgins, who retired in 1983 after 32 years as pastor of Franklin Baptist Church, spoke at the Baccalaureate Service. Wiggins, president of Campbell University and the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, was the afternoon Commencement speaker. Both programs were held in the Helms Center.

Dr. Wiggins is a graduate of Campbell College; Wake Forest College, magna cum laude; Wake Forest College School of Law, cum laude; and Columbia University School of Law with two law degrees. He also completed the University of North Carolina School of Business Administration Executive Program. He was granted the honorary LL.D. degree by Gardner-Webb College.

Served on Faculties

He has served on the faculties of trust and banking schools in Texas, Louisiana, Illinois, and in North

Carolina at Brevard College and Campbell. He also served for 12 years at Wake Forest University, rising to the positions of professor of law and general counsel.

He also has experience as a trust officer with The Planters National Bank and Trust Company in Rocky Mount. At Campbell, he also serves as professor of law and member of the trust faculty.

Dr. Wiggins has served in numerous leadership positions in educational, legal, business and civic fields on the local, state, regional and national levels. He has served as president of the American Association of Presidents of Independent Colleges and Universities, National Association of College and University Attorneys, and Independent College Fund of North Carolina. He is currently serving his second term as president of the North Carolina Association of Independent Colleges and Universities.

Convention Officer

Wiggins is a former member and chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Sunday School Board of the

Featured Speakers at Commencement



DR. IRA D. HUDGINS



DR. NORMAN A. WIGGINS



Former Graphic Arts Students

Frank Edwards, left, president-elect of the Alumni Association and an alumnus from the Class of 1958, talks with Robert McClellan, who completed his graphic arts studies in 1971. Edwards is owner and general manager of Walker-Ross Printing Company, Rocky Mount, and McClellan is quality control coordinator for Duke Power Company's printing operation in Harrisburg.

Southern Baptist Convention and currently president of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina. He is also the author of a number of scholarly publications and is editor of the North Carolina Will Manual.

A native of Burlington, Wiggins served four years in the U. S. Marine Corps. He is married to the former Mildred Harmon, a former public school teacher who holds degrees from Wake Forest and Columbia University.

Numerous Honors

He has received many honors including "Tar Heel of the Week" by the Raleigh News and Observer, and "Alumnus of the Year", once by the Wake Forest School of Law and twice by the Timberlake Chapter of Phi Alpha Delta Legal Fraternity of the Wake Forest Law School. He is listed in a number of "Who's Who" publications, including "Who's Who in America."

Dr. Wiggins has also received the Distinguished Leadership Award by the North Carolina Bankers Association's Trust Division, the Religious Heritage of America Award for Outstanding Community Service, and the Distinguished Service Award from the Harnett Boy Scout District.

Holds Several Degrees

Dr. Hudgins received the B.A. degree from the University of Richmond, B.D. from Crozer Theological Seminary, M.A. from the University of Pennsylvania, and the honorary D.D. degree from the University of Richmond.

His former pastorates have included the Leesburg Baptist Church, Leesburg, Va., and the First Baptist Church, Kennet Square, Pa. He also served as a U.S. Army chaplain.

His community service has included educational, religious, health and scouting fields. He is a past president of the Franklin Rotary Club and Franklin P.T.A., and serves as chairman of the Franklin Senior Citizens. He received the Silver Beaver Scout award from the Old Dominion Area Council in February, 1985.

Active Retirement

Since his retirement, Hudgins has been active as a mission volunteer with the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board for eight months in West Germany. He is presently the interim pastor at the West End Baptist Church, Suffolk, Va.

His local denominational activities have included moderator of the Blackwater Baptist Association, president of the Blackwater Baptist Pastors' Conference, and chairman of major committees of the Blackwater Association since 1951.

He has served Virginia Baptist in many capacities including vice president, Virginia Baptist General Association; president,

Virginia Baptist Pastors' Conference; chairman of the Executive Committee of the Virginia Baptist Board; trustee of the Virginia Baptist Historical Society since 1965 and former president; and trustee, Religious Herald Board, 1975 to present.

His service includes trustee of the Radio and Television Commission and the Annuity Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, former alumni president, and current trustee chairman of Crozer Theological Seminary; and present trustee of the University of Richmond.

Chowan Advisor

Dr. Hudgins, a Washington, D. C., native, is an advisor at Chowan, where he has taught New Testament and led a Religious Emphasis Week. He has contributed articles, book reviews and Sunday School lessons to *Religious Herald*, feature historical articles to *Chronicle*, and biographical sketches to *Southern Baptist Biography*, Numbers I and II.

He is married to the former Janet Drake Carter of Leesburg, Va., and they have four sons.

Honors Band selected

Some of the area's finest junior and senior high school band musicians were showcased when the 110-member All Roanoke-Chowan Honors Bands presented concerts in McDowell Columns' Turner Auditorium in February.

The concerts were the climax to the two-day workshops for the students from seven area schools sponsored by Chowan's Division of Music and Pearson Music Co.

Jack Pindell of Wilmington served as guest conductor for the junior high workshop and Thomas Goolsby of Greenville for the senior high workshop.

Professor of Music Bob Brown, the coordinator, said the bands were formed from the top band member from Northampton West, Murfreesboro, Ridgely, Ahsokie, Bertie and Gates County School.