

# Appalachian

STATE UNIVERSITY

- Health, wellness and safety
- Connect NC
- Research awards - \$12.9 million
- Michael Eric Dyson on campus
- Commitment to diversity



Sheri N. Everts, Chancellor

# Inside Appalachian

news and notes from the university



## Providing a 'welcoming and safe' campus

On her first day in office, Tuesday, March 1, University of North Carolina President Margaret Spellings shared the following with the system's faculty, staff and students:

*Our public universities have an economic and a civic imperative to help many more people—particularly people of color and those from first-generation and low-income families—achieve at much higher levels.*

*Achieving this goal begins with ensuring that our campuses are welcoming and safe places for students and faculty of all races, religions, ethnicities, sexual orientations, and gender identities to live and learn and work alongside one another.*

Keeping Appalachian a “welcoming and safe” place requires constant vigilance, exploration and innovation. Assuring the wellness, health and safety of our students, faculty and staff is one of our top priorities.

Our community cares and is committed to action, as is the university system. With the leadership of Dean of Students and Associate Vice Chancellor of Student Development JJ Brown, along with recently appointed Director of Wellness and Prevention Dr. Alex Howard, Appalachian offers a plethora of opportunities and resources for our Appalachian family.

One of Dr. Howard's goals is to establish a system of data collection and analysis that will inform the actions of his office and the university. “Instead of creating programs and services because we think we should,” he explained, “we need an understanding of what is occurring within the student body.” To that end, last fall Dr. Howard engaged in a deep dive of data assessment around students' health and wellness issues – drug use and abuse, interpersonal violence, and mental and sexual health.

The sample was relatively small—1,144 students—but the survey involved face-to-face engagement with most of the participants. Dr. Howard will be sharing those results with the campus at large in town hall style gatherings in April. Open discourse and exchange is the foundation for change and expect these discussions to inform and direct us. We are, in Dr. Howard's words, bringing truth through data.

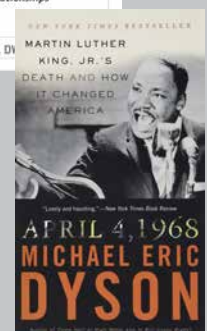
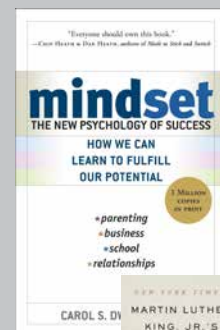


Dr. Alex Howard

## University bookshelf

Chancellor Everts recently shared “Mindset, the New Psychology of Success” by Stanford University psychologist Carol Dweck with her Cabinet. Dweck's fresh and insightful look into the power of developing a fluid (not rigid) mindset is a practical tool for anyone who manages people—parents, teachers, coaches, supervisors or leaders. A good read all around.

“April 4, 1968: Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Death and How it Changed America” by Michael Eric Dyson, explores King's legacy since his assassination. Dyson will be on campus Tuesday, April 12. The audio version of Dyson's book is particularly compelling as Dyson narrates in a voice and cadence that, at times, is eerily like King's.



## On the road

Over the past two months Chancellor Everts and other university leaders traveled across the state speaking to various stakeholders about the Connect NC bond referendum March 15.

North Carolina voters voted to approve a proposed \$2 billion bond referendum. More than \$980 million of the bond revenues will fund improvement and expansion projects across the University of North Carolina system, including \$70 million earmarked for the new Beaver College of Health Sciences facility on our campus.

Health, wellness and safety is not an insular issue but one that extends far beyond Appalachian and its communities. Any examination of the issues surrounding health and wellness reminds us of the dire need for health care professionals who can serve on campuses, in our rural communities and in our cities.



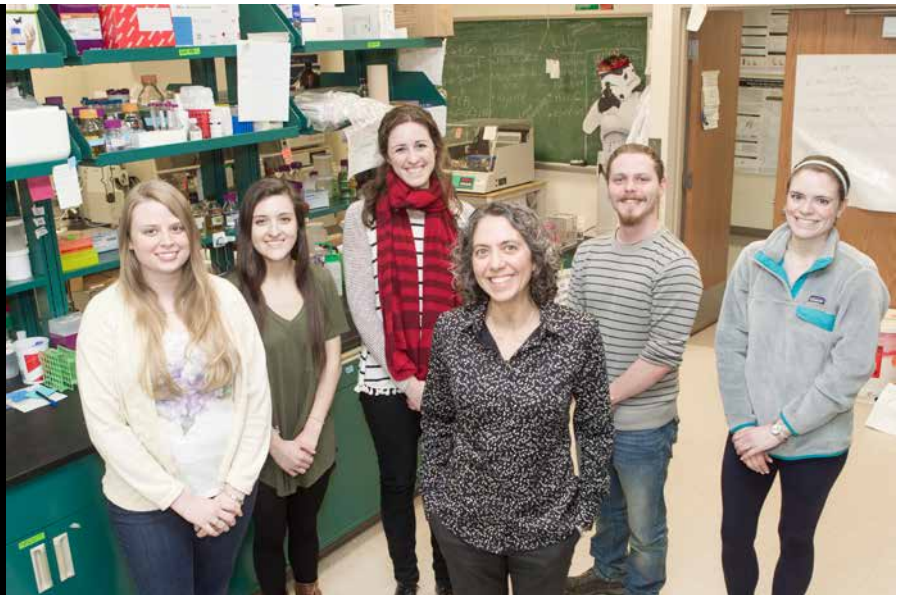
*Ann Goodnight, left, with Chancellor Sheri N. Everts, at a Connect NC bond event at the Umstead Hotel in Cary. Goodnight, and her husband, James, founder of analytic software giant SAS, hosted the event. According to an article in the Triangle Business Journal, Ann Goodnight's name has become synonymous with education. She is an avid supporter of Appalachian State University and of the bond issue. "We are so fortunate to have people like Ann in our corner," said Chancellor Everts.*

*Dr. Ece Karatan  
and her class*

## Faculty spotlight

Kudos to Dr. Ece Karatan for being awarded her second National Institutes of Health grant for her research on cholera. Like Dr. Karatan, so many of our faculty are drawn to our campus because of the amazing location and then stay because of the myriad research opportunities. In fiscal year 2015, Appalachian received \$12.9 million in external funding for research, instruction and outreach projects that benefit citizens of the state, region and beyond.

**Read more: [orsp.appstate.edu/sites/orsp.appstate.edu/files/ytd\\_15\\_0.pdf](http://orsp.appstate.edu/sites/orsp.appstate.edu/files/ytd_15_0.pdf)**



## In the media

Recently Chancellor Everts joined Neal Charnoff, NPR reporter at WFDD (Winston Salem and Boone), to discuss diversity initiatives at Appalachian. You can listen here: [www.wfdd.org/story/appalachian-state-chancellor-says-school-making-progress-diversity](http://www.wfdd.org/story/appalachian-state-chancellor-says-school-making-progress-diversity)

In a related item of interest: Appalachian welcomes Sonyé Randolph. Following a national search, Randolph has been hired to serve as Appalachian's first full-time equal opportunity/ Title IX investigator in the Office of Equity, Diversity and Compliance (EDC). Welcome Sonyé!



*Sonyé Randolph*



## On campus

As part of our commitment to increasing the diversity of Appalachian's student body, members of the Chancellor's Student Advisory Board for Diversity Recruitment hosted a postcard-writing event Feb. 10 in Plemmons Student Union. This event was attended by more than 100 students, faculty and staff who penned heartfelt, hand-written notes to students of color who have been admitted to undergraduate programs at Appalachian, encouraging them to "choose App" for their college experience.

In 2014, Chancellor Everts introduced the Faculty Club—an opportunity for faculty from across campus and faculty emeriti to join in a relaxed and informal setting designed to generate an atmosphere of community and collaboration. Because of the wonderful camaraderie it created, last fall the chancellor launched Staff Connect to nurture and build professional relationships beyond the boundaries of departments or previously established professional ties. These gatherings have afforded the staff, faculty and administration the chance to learn more about our Appalachian community, its concerns and points of pride.

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## University Changes *promotions, new faces, farewells*

Change is expected and embraced on our campus. New staff, administration and faculty bring fresh ideas and enthusiasm to our community. Sadly, valued members of our Appalachian family move on to new horizons, adventures and experiences. We welcome our newest members and extend our best wishes to those who are departing. Look for new faculty listings in September and January; retirements and relocations in June.

### **New faces**

Brooklyn Watts, University Program Associate  
Ruby Oliver, Food Services Technician  
Karin Doudna, Administrative Support Associate  
Justin Powers, Food Services Supervisor  
Derena Bradley, Business Services Coordinator  
Adam Trivette, Food Services Technician  
Kortni Hollars, Building & Environmental Services Technician  
LeAnne Reese, Accounting Technician  
Scott Gambill, Public Safety Officer  
Jacob Crabtree, Public Safety Officer  
Michelle Bowers, Academic Advisor  
John Wall, Director, Materials Management

### **Farewells**

John Sawyer, Director of Development for HSOM  
Amber Miehke, Assistant Volleyball Coach  
Steven Breiner, Director of Learning Technology Services  
Wilma Wilcox, Food Services Technician  
Patrick Sweet, Facilities Superintendent  
Linda Richards, Administrative Support Specialist  
Rebecca Nicholson, Public Communications Specialist

Larry Laing, Facilities Maintenance Tech-Mechanical Trades  
Vickey Isaacs, Administrative Support Specialist  
Ricky Presnell, Associate Vice Chancellor Finance & Administration  
Gayle Closs, Accounting Technician  
Claudia Ward-Eller, Program Manager

### **Changes**

Victor Hamby, Horticultural Specialist  
Clinton Coffey, Business & Technology Application Specialist  
Summer McClain, Technology Support Analyst  
Karen Main, Business & Technology Application Specialist  
Sharon Corum, Building & Environmental Services Technician  
Brandy Harmon, Administrative Support Specialist  
Bethanie Campbell, Academic Advisor  
David Jamison, University Controller  
Nicole Bennett, Director of Research Institute Env., Energy Economics  
Samuel Click, Building Environmental Services Technician  
Randy Combs, Building & Environmental Services Supervisor