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PUBLIC INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 4, 1997 Bill Billings
Director of Public Relations

BRISTOL-MYERS SQUIBB MAKES \$1,000 GIFT TO METHODIST COLLEGE P.A. PROGRAM

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—Bristol-Myers Squibb recently made a \$1,000 gift to the Methodist College Physician Assistant Program.

Colton Vallery, the pharmaceutical firm's regional manager, delivered a check and an ongoing commitment to the program Aug. 26. College President Elton Hendricks; Mr. Ron Foster, Program Director; and Dr. Chris Aul, medical director; accepted for the College.

"We want to support the P.A. program at Methodist," said Vallery, "both now and in the future. It will mean a great deal to southeastern North Carolina."

Mr. Foster said Bristol-Myer Squibb's initial gift will be used toward the purchase of a satellite communications link for the new Health Sciences Building. "This will give our P.A. classes access to teleconferences and other forms of distance learning available in the field of health education," said Foster.

- Dave Kize Campus Distribution: __Dr. Hendricks/_Dr. DeLapa/_Gene Clayton/_Jay Dowd/_Doug Little/_Switchboard Methodist College Office of Public Relations Topic Fall Ensollment

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PUBLIC INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE September 4, 1997 Bill Billings
Director of Public Relations

METHODIST COLLEGE ENROLLS RECORD NUMBER OF DAY STUDENTS

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—Methodist College began the Fall 1997 semester by enrolling a record 1,291 students in the regular day program. That was 19 students or two percent more than last fall.

An additional 410 evening students brought total enrollment to 1,701, compared to an opening figure of 1,709 for Fall 1996. Evening enrollment was down 47 students from last fall's opening figure of 457, but more students are expected when Fall Term II of Evening College begins Oct. 13.

Rick Lowe, vice president for enrollment services, reported that the College enrolled 580 new students, 15 more than last fall. The new students include: 357 freshmen (25 more that last fall), 186 transfers, 15 re-admits, and four visiting students. The number of returning students was 711, up 14 from last fall.

As of Sept. 2, the last day to enter fall day classes, 645 students are living on campus, compared to 643 on Drop/Add Day last year. There are 467 male resident students and 178 females.

Methodist College set another record this summer by enrolling 777 students, 10 percent more than the preceding summer. The total unduplicated headcount for 1996-97 (fall, spring and summer semesters) was 2,195, compared to 2,313 for 1995-96.