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METHODIST COLLEGE ALUMNI HONOR MARGARET FOLSOM

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—The Methodist College Alumni Association recently presented its Outstanding Faculty Award for 1998 to Dr. Margaret Folsom, professor of biology and director of the Division of Science at Methodist College. Brian May '92, MCAA 1st vice president, presented the award to Dr. Folsom Oct. 3 at the College's annual alumni banquet.

Dr. Folsom joined the Methodist faculty in 1973. A native of Plano, Iowa, she was named Professor of the Year in 1992. She holds bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Northern Iowa and a Ph.D. from N. C. State University. A comparative physiologist/toxicologist with particular interest in the insects, she has taught at least ten different science courses at Methodist and has secured several major grants for the Science Department in recent years.

The popular and witty professor is noted for nurturing science majors and helping them gain admission to graduate school and medical school. Her students describe her as "an excellent and thorough teacher who is willing to work with every student to ensure success and mastery of the subject matter." Dr. Folsom keeps in close touch with science alumni and tracks their latest accomplishments.

Dr. Folsom is also a good sport. At Homecoming 1997 she was the top vote getter in Tri Beta's pig-kissing contest and kissed the piglet not once, but twice (once for a photographer), during halftime at the football game.

Her colleagues in the Science Building persuaded Dr. Folsom to attend the alumni banquet on the pretext that Dr. Linda Sue Barnes was to get an award. She was completely surprised when her name was called. "I am grateful for this honor," she said afterward. "I accept with gratitude to my former students. This is a great way to celebrate my twenty-fifth year of teaching at Methodist."

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PUBLIC INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 9, 1998

Bill Billings
Director of Public Relations

REV. MICHAEL SAFLEY RECEIVES DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD FROM METHODIST COLLEGE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—The Methodist College Alumni Association has awarded its Distinguished Alumni Award for 1998 to The Reverend Michael W. Safley, Class of 1972. Lynn Carraway, MCAA president, presented the award to Reverend Safley Oct. 3 at the College's annual alumni banquet.

Reverend Safley is president of the Methodist Home for Children—Child & Family Services and lives in Raleigh. The agency which he heads employs over 300 and operates twelve group homes for children across North Carolina, as well as emergency homes, emergency shelters, and seven juvenile detention facilities. Under his leadership, MHC has started a fund drive to build a Child and Family Enrichment Center adjacent to its Raleigh headquarters; this facility will provide care for up to 140 children and serve as a resource for churches and communities seeking local child care solutions.

Prior to assuming the MHC presidency in July 1997, Reverend Safley served ten years as vice president of student affairs/dean of students at Methodist College. An ordained elder in the North Carolina Conference of the United Methodist Church, he was chaplain and area supervisor to MHC from 1975 to 1978 and was a member of the agency's board of trustees from 1985 to 1992.

A native of Durham, N.C., he previously served in the N. C. Conference as pastor of the Middleburg Charge for four years and associate director of the Council on Ministries for five years. He holds a Master of Divinity degree from Duke University and a B.A. in English and History from Methodist College.

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PUBLIC INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 15, 1998 Bill Billings
Director of Public Relations

METHODIST COLLEGE NAMES RESIDENCE HALL FOR DR. RICHARD PEARCE

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—The Methodist College Board of Trustees honored Dr. Richard W. Pearce and his wife, the late Neva Brock Pearce, Oct. 15 by naming a residence hall at the college in their honor.

Dr. Pearce was the second president of Methodist College, serving from 1973-83. Before coming to Methodist, the Deland, Florida resident served as academic dean and vice president at Florida Southern College. Born in Illinois, but reared in Hendersonville, N. C., Dr. Pearce earned B.A. and MA. degrees in history from Stetson University and a J.D. degree from Stetson Law School.

The residence hall that honors Dr. and Mrs. Pearce was built in 1994 and houses 56 women. It was formerly known as East Hall.

Dr. Pearce, now 74, was present for the naming ceremony, as were his brother Bill, his son Richard, daughter Karen, and other family members and friends. He has visited the campus periodically in recent years and received an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree from the college in 1991. His wife Neva died in 1993.

The Reverend Dr. Bill Lowdermilk, a Methodist College trustee and former vice president who worked closely with Dr. Pearce, offered a brief tribute. Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, college president, read the inscription on a dedicatory plaque and assisted Dr. Pearce in unveiling the letters "Pearce Hall" recently installed over the main entrance.

In his tribute, Dr. Lowdermilk said Dr. Pearce decided for forego a formal inauguration as president and went without a pay raise for five years because Methodist College finances were very tight. Under Richard Pearce's tenure, he said the president's home was built on campus, government construction loans were renegotiated, enrollment doubled, and major energy conservation measures were undertaken to reduce operating costs.

PEARCE HALL

Dr. Lowdermilk said Dr. Pearce had helped many students financially, had established three scholarships at Methodist, and had made generous gifts to the college's "Come of Age" and "Expanding the Vision" capital campaigns.

He said Dr. Pearce was especially proud that he was able to present Methodist College degrees to both his wife and his mother while serving as president. He said his former boss was also an active and highly regarded United Methodist lay leader, and made quality residential life a top priority of his administration.

"Dick Pearce embodied truth, honesty, and integrity," said Dr. Lowdermilk. "He taught me that money is only as good as the use to which you put it."

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METHODIST COLLEGE FOUNDATION INSTALLS NEW OFFICERS

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—The Methodist College Foundation installed new officers and directors for 1998-99 Oct. 13.

Mrs. Sara O'Hanlon, a civic volunteer, is the Foundation's new president. Other officers for the coming year are: vice president, Mrs. Lou Tippett, owner of Business Best; secretary, Mrs. Beth Birch, Smithboro Furniture; and treasurer, Mr. Hank Debnam, associate area director for program services, Cumberland County Mental Health Center. The immediate past president is Mrs. Anna Hodges Smith, vice president of Hodges Associates.

New members of the Board of Directors are: Cynthia Allen, medical records director, Cumberland County Mental Health Center; Jeffrey Cobb, area vice president, First Citizens Bank; Eva Hansen, executive director, Cumberland County Partnership for Children; Danny Highsmith, vice president & general manager, Beasley Broadcasting/WKML-FM; Carolyn Averitt Lancaster, co-owner, Ken Lancaster Real Estate; Marian Moorman Morgan, partner, Morgan Constructors, LLC; Mary Erwin Olive, president, Olive Glass & Marble; John "Chappie" Petree, financial services officer, Centura Bank; Clyde Sessoms, president, Sessoms Properties, Inc.; Meredith Player Stiehl, assistant financial officer, Player, Inc.; Peggy Townsend Vick, program consultant, The LSV Parnership, Architects & Planners.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 16, 1998 Bill Billings
Director of Public Relations

PHI ALPHA CHAPTER INDUCTS 16 CHARTER MEMBERS AT METHODIST COLLEGE

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—The Methodist College Chapter of Phi Alpha, an honor society for social work majors, inducted sixteen charter members Oct. 13.

The following Methodist College students were inducted:

From Fayetteville: Darlene Allen, Glenn Carter, Jennifer Cavill, Debbie Chavis, Peggy Graves, Leona Larregui, Nancy Novack, Catrina Powers, Vernell Sharpe, Nicole Tower, Edryce Tucker, Yei Zigbuo.

From Stedman, NC: Deanna Smith

From Lumber Bridge, NC: Marlies Kellermann

From Charlotte, NC: Ratarsha Thompson

From Sudbury, MA: Elizabeth Connors

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PUBLIC INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 27, 1998

Bill Billings
Director of Public Relations

METHODIST COLLEGE ENROLLS 1,972 STUDENTS, A NEW RECORD

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—Methodist College enrolled a record 1,972 students for the Fall 1998 semester, an increase of 7.8 percent over Fall 1997's 1,828 students. Fall enrollment was up 144 students over last year and beat the previous all-time high of 1,848 students (Fall 1994) by 124 students.

Day enrollment increased 3 percent over last fall's 1,291 to 1,332, while evening enrollment grew by 19 percent, from 537 to 640. The college set new records for day enrollment, number of freshmen, and number of residential students.

Rick Lowe, vice president for enrollment services, reported that the college enrolled 587 new students, seven more than last fall. The new students include: 398 freshmen (41 more than last fall), 163 transfers, 23 re-admits, and three visiting students. The number of returning students was 745, up 34 from last fall.

A record 701 students are living on campus this fall, compared to 645 on Drop/Add Day last year. There are 511 male resident students and 190 females.

Methodist College set another record this summer by enrolling 825 students, 6 percent more than the preceding summer. The total unduplicated headcount for 1997-98 (fall, spring, and summer semesters) was 2,135 students.

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PUBLIC INFORMATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 27, 1998

Bill Billings
Director of Public Relations

BOOK SIGNING AT METHODIST COLLEGE TO FEATURE WORKS OF THREE PROFESSORS

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—The Faculty Collegiality & Development Committee at Methodist College will sponsor a book-signing Monday, Nov. 2 for two current faculty members and a former faculty member who have recently published books.

The authors will give brief background presentations about their books and answer questions. The book-signing will take place at 11 a.m. in the Mallett-Rogers House on campus and the public is invited.

Dr. Lloyd Bailey, professor of religion, has published *The Heritage of the Toe River Valley*, the second in a series of regional histories about an area consisting of Avery, Mitchell, and Yancey counties in western North Carolina. The 667-page book includes sketches of historical events from the 1700s to the present, along with genealogical sketches of families and individuals. It was published by Walsworth Publishing Co. of Marceline, Missouri.

Dr. JoAnn Parkerson, professor of education, is co-author with Donald H. Parkerson of *The Emergence of the Common School in the U. S. Countryside.* This book examines the social and historical roots of the primary school movement in the rural North during the mid-19th century. It contains 196 pages and was published by The Edwin Mellen Press of Wales.

Dr. Neal R. McCrillis, former assistant professor of history at Methodist and currently an assistant professor at Columbus State University in Georgia, is the author of *The British Conservative Party in the Age of Universal Suffrage*. The 304-page book chronicles the party's strategy for winning the support of new women voters during the 1920s. The publisher is Ohio State University Press.

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