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www.methodist.edu

MEDIA RELEASE
January 23, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE HOSTS
SPRING CONVOCATION**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Terri Moore Brown, chair of the Department of Social Work at Fayetteville State University and a Methodist College alumna, will speak at Methodist College's spring convocation on Monday, February 2, 2004 at 11 a.m. in Reeves Auditorium. The event celebrates Black History Month and is free and open to the public.

A professor and lecturer, her speech is titled, "Rising to the Challenge: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow." In her talk, she will explore the purpose of Black History Month and recognize the many contributions of black Americans. "I think it is important that we reflect on the contributions of all ethnic groups," Brown said. "There are so many benefits of working and living in a multicultural society."

Brown has more than 11 years of collegiate and university leadership and teaching experience and seven years of practice experience. She is a certified clinical social worker and a member of the National Association of Social Workers.

A Fayetteville native, Brown graduated from Seventy-First High School and currently lives in Raleigh. Before joining the faculty at Fayetteville State University, Brown held positions at Campbell University and Methodist College. While at Methodist, she was instrumental in obtaining accreditation for the undergraduate social work program from the Council on Social Work Education.

Brown earned her bachelor's degree in social work and sociology from Methodist College, her master's of social work from East Carolina University and her Ed.D. in higher education administration from North Carolina State University. She has been recognized for teaching excellence and for building high-performing, collaborative teams.

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MEDIA RELEASE
January 29, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

CONGRESSMAN TO LEAD METHODIST COLLEGE FUND DRIVE

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – North Carolina Congressman Mike McIntyre will lead more than 150 community volunteers as they canvass Cumberland County on Tuesday, February 10, 2004, seeking support for Methodist College’s annual fund. The Loyalty Day drive is a tradition that predates the college’s opening in 1960. A group of citizens, that was later named the Foundation Board, pledged to raise yearly operating funds to offset budget demands. Through the years, the Foundation Board has raised more than \$7 million for the College.

“To preserve the rich tradition of excellence at Methodist College, we need the community’s help,” said Mike McIntyre, 2004 Loyalty Day chairman. “Local citizens and businesses are encouraged to support Methodist through our Loyalty Day fund drive. By giving generously, we can demonstrate our strong support for the positive values that Methodist College represents in higher education.”

This year’s goals are to expand the College’s donor base and to raise \$150,000. Donors are encouraged to make a three-year commitment with the understanding that the College will not solicit them during the pledge period.

Each member of the Foundation Board recruits a team of up to 10 volunteers. Volunteers will assemble for breakfast at the college and then make calls on friends and businesses in the area for contributions. A wrap-up celebration will be held that afternoon at 6 p.m. at the Airborne and Special Operations Museum.

“I am excited to be part of a dynamic academic institution that provided a first-class education while challenging the students to develop depth of character,” said Heather Dunbar, director of the College’s annual fund. “Since first coming to Methodist College, I’ve witnessed a culture of learning, nurturing and acceptance.”

This year’s Foundation Board members are Dave Foster (a 1976 graduate), president; Kevin Bunn, vice president; Jim Sills, treasurer; Ellis Felton, immediate past president; Charles Barkley; Bill Bowman; Karen Corne; Col. Joseph Currin; Greg Edge; Louis Feraca; Robert Grover; Brett Herrman; Mike Heyward; Marian Hodges Adams; Brett Hulsey; Brad Hurley; Paul Jones; Carolyn Lancaster; John Malzone; Bill Martin; Jack McGinley; David Nichols; Tom Phelps; Jodi Vasquez and Ben Wilson.

-CONTINUED-

The Beasley Broadcasting Group and Cumulus Broadcast House have donated public service announcements which will air on multiple radio stations before the drive. Print advertising and other publicity is also planned. Contact Heather Dunbar at 630-7169 for further details.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 6, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

METHODIST COLLEGE TO HOST 1ST STUDENT AM GOLF TOURNEY

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – The public is invited to participate in the first Student Am Golf Tournament to be held at Fayetteville’s Baywood Golf Course on Wednesday, Oct. 8th. The cost is \$60 per person for the captain’s choice tournament which shotgun starts at 12:30 p.m. and will conclude with a cookout at 5:30 p.m.

The tournament is not a typical fund-raising event. Instead, the tournament will be an educational experience for both Methodist College students enrolled in the Professional Golf Management (PGM) program and the public.

Methodist College’s PGM program is one of only 14 in the nation accredited by the PGA of America. Students in the program are not average golfers; a handicap of eight or better is required to enter the program. This tournament will allow teams to choose whether they want a PGM student playing as a member of their foursome. Interested individuals may also register for five free golf lessons given by PGM students each spring.

Founded in 1986, the PGM program leads to a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration or marketing. Students enjoy internships at such prestigious locations as Pinehurst Resort and Country Club, Carolinas PGA Section and the Homestead Resort. The program boasts 100 percent job placement for students who wish to work in the golf industry.

The tournament is hosted by the College’s Board of Visitors, a volunteer group charged with fostering public participation in the life of the college. “Methodist College is a true resource for the community, and the board wanted to showcase the wonderful talents of the students there by throwing this tournament,” said Steve Driggers, immediate past chair of the board and area director for SunCom. “This fun-filled tournament will give the public the opportunity to meet some of Methodist’s brightest students – accomplished golfers who will, upon graduation, be the future leaders of the golf industry.”

Those interested may contact Robin Davenport, director of development, at (910) 630-7200 or rdavenport@methodist.edu. The registration deadline is October 3rd. Monarch Sponsorships may be purchased for \$100, which includes one player and sponsor recognition.

Papa Jack’s Catering is providing the barbeque while Valley Auto World, Inc. is sponsoring a hole in one prize of a Mazda Protégé. There will be prizes for the top three teams, closest to the pin and for the longest drive. Participants will be treated to plenty of door prizes, giveaways and more.

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MEDIA RELEASE
February 9, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE OPENS
THE SPITFIRE GRILL IN FAYETTEVILLE**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – The Methodist College Theatre Department will present the regional premier of *The Spitfire Grill*, a new musical based on the film of the same name, in Reeves Auditorium, February 26 - 29. The “onstage/backstage” performances will include intimate arena staging with limited seating. The band will feature well-known local folk musician Jon Parsons.

The play tells the story of Percy, a young woman just out of prison, who decides to start a new life in a small Wisconsin town that she knows only from a photograph. She is taken in and given a job by Hannah, the owner of the Spitfire Grill. The Grill has been for sale for years, but there are no takers in the depressed town. Percy suggests to Hannah that she raffle it off for a \$100 entry fee and an essay on why the contestant would want the Grill. Soon mail is arriving from all over the country by the wheelbarrow-full, and Hannah and Percy are faced with some tough choices. They also find that the contest has given the town new hope.

The film was written and directed by Lee David Zlotoff and earned the Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival in 1996 as well as a Christopher Award in 1997. In November 2000, the musical version received its world premiere at the George Street Playhouse in New Brunswick, NJ, and was subsequently produced Off Broadway by Playwrights Horizons. It has also received the 2001 Richard Rodgers Production Award from the American Academy of Arts & Letters.

Evan Bridenstine, assistant professor of theatre, will direct the production, with musical direction by Betty Neill Parsons and scenery and lighting design by Paul Wilson. The cast includes seasoned local performers Marianne Parker as Percy and Heather Gilroy as Hannah. Parker and Gilroy have appeared together in the Methodist College productions of *Godspell*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris* and, most recently, *Step on a Crack*.

Show times are at 8 p.m. Thursday through Saturday, February 26-28, and at 2 p.m. on Sunday, February 29. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults, \$7 for students and seniors, and \$5 for children. Due to mature language and some descriptions of violence, the production is not recommended for young children; the film was rated PG-13.

For more information, visit www.methodist.edu/Theatre/season.htm or contact Evan Bridenstine at 630-7104 or ebridens@methodist.edu.

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MEDIA RELEASE
FEBRUARY 17, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

MULTI-PERCUSSIONIST RICHARD GRIMES TO PERFORM AT METHODIST COLLEGE

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – The second concert in the Friends of Music at Methodist Performing Arts Series is scheduled for Tuesday, March 2, 2004 and will feature multi-percussionist Richard Grimes. The concert will be in Reeves Auditorium on the Methodist College campus at 8 p.m. and will feature a pre-concert lecture at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Students, high school age or younger, will be admitted for \$5 each.

The Performing Arts series was designed to bring an eclectic mix of artists to the Fayetteville area, said Jane Gardiner, head of the Music Department at Methodist. “By presenting these exciting artists to the Fayetteville area, we are adding a new dimension to the cultural life of Cumberland County,” she said.

Grimes will be accompanied by his ensemble of two additional percussionists and two cellists. The performance will incorporate original visual and sonic concepts that cannot be found anywhere else.

Grimes’ extensive mastery of ethnic, popular, and classical music, coupled with his intrinsic ability to meld the seemingly disparate genres into one have earned him countless distinctions from both the media and musicians alike. *Billboard Magazine* describes Grimes’ performances as being built out of “sparkling moments that defy classification.”

Having enjoyed very successful tours, including extensive performances in Western Europe, Central Europe and North America, Grimes has worked alongside a growing roster of talent, including artists such as the Goo Goo Dolls, mbirist Cosmas Magaya, and The Aquarium Rescue Unit. More information on Grimes can be found at www.richardgrimes.org.

Funding for the series was provided by the Friends of Music. This project is also supported by the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County with funds from the North Carolina Arts Council, the City of Fayetteville, the County of Cumberland and private contributions.

Call (910) 630-7100 for more information on this and other Methodist College offerings. Information is also available at www.methodist.edu/music.

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MEDIA RELEASE
February 19, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE THEATRE DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS *STEP ON A CRACK***

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – The Methodist College Theatre Department will present Susan Zeder's *Step On A Crack* November 21 - 23, 2003 in Reeves Auditorium. Ticket prices are \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors and \$3 for children. Show times are 7:30 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, and 2:00 p.m. on Sunday.

Step On A Crack is considered a modern classic of theatre for young people. The play centers on ten year-old Ellie Murphy, who is living happily with her widowed father, Max. Their time together is spent bowling, eating TV dinners, and creating magical toys out of junk rescued from Max's salvage yard. But all at once things change. Max remarries, and Ellie now has a stepmother, Lucille. Ellie tries to find a way to deal with her real-life problems through her imaginary friends Lana and Frizbee. They act out Cinderella, Snow White, prison breaks, even Ellie's own funeral where, "Everyone is really sorry for all the mean things they did to you." Only by running away and discovering what it is *really* like to be alone does Ellie begin to come to terms with herself and her own need for a mother.

Zeder has been recognized internationally as one of the nation's leading playwrights for family audiences. She is the winner of a lifetime achievement award from the Children's Theatre Association of America and a three-time winner of the Distinguished Play Award of the American Association of Theatre for Youth. She is known for the depth and dimension of her child protagonists and the sensitive handling of contemporary themes and issues.

For more information, visit <http://www.methodist.edu/Theatre/season.htm> or contact Paul Wilson, head of the Methodist College Theatre Department, at 630-7105 or pwilson@methodist.edu.

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MEDIA RELEASE
FEBRUARY 23, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE
TO DEDICATE “CHRIS’ HOUSE”**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC -- Methodist College will honor the life and work of Christopher “Chris” Ryan, former director of student activities, by re-naming Union Station, a student center, Chris’ House. Ryan passed away unexpectedly on the campus in the fall. Media are invited to attend the re-naming ceremony this Saturday, February 28, 2004, at 5 p.m. at Union Station, which will be followed by a cook-out.

Ryan worked at Methodist for more than 16 years in various positions within student life, student employment and residence life. He was instrumental in the development of Union Station as a student facility featuring a coffee shop, conference room, lounge areas and an outdoor deck.

Originally located at the front of campus, the house was moved to its present location in 1995. Built in 1950, the house was part of the campus’ original property and later housed the dean of students.

On September 24, 2003, Ryan was stung by an insect while attending a Methodist women’s soccer game. His death was determined to be a result of an allergic reaction to that sting. In October, the Student Activities Committee (SAC), which Ryan advised, requested that the Board of Trustees approve the facility name change to honor Ryan.

For more information, please contact George Blanc, vice president for student development and services at (910) 630-7155.

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MEDIA RELEASE
February 25, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

METHODIST COLLEGE ANNOUNCES STAFF CHANGE, ADDITION

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Michelle Petty has been named the assistant director of college relations at Methodist College. She assumed her new role January 19th and is the College's former Perkins Loan coordinator. She has worked at Methodist since January 2001. A graduate of Methodist, Petty earned her bachelor's degree in business administration in 2003.

As the assistant director of college relations, Petty oversees all booking of college facilities by outside groups. Organizations wishing to rent campus facilities should call her at 630-7042. She is also responsible for supporting the college's marketing efforts.

In December, the Methodist College community welcomed Heather Dunbar as the director of annual fund and parents programs. As director, Dunbar oversees the college's Loyalty Day fund drive, and is responsible for all annual fund campaigns for the College. She also serves as the liaison between the college and the Parents Association.

A former compliance/quality improvement specialist, Dunbar most recently worked with Magellan Health Services in Columbia, MD. A Westfield, NY native, Dunbar is pursuing a Master of Science degree in Management, Healthcare and Information Systems from the University of Maryland University College.

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MEDIA RELEASE
MARCH 13, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

METHODIST FACULTY FEATURED IN SPRING CONCERT

FAYETTEVILLE, NC--The Methodist College Music Department and the Friends of Music at Methodist will host the annual spring faculty recital on Sunday, March 28, 2004 at 3 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium. Admission is free. The concert will also feature well-known local musicians Bill Ayerbe on violin, Jenny Renner on piano and Ted Zislis on percussion.

Two of the featured selections were composed by Methodist College faculty members Keith Dippre and Charis Duke. Dippre's piece entitled, *Pilgrim's Blues*, was commissioned this past fall for the Jonathan Edwards Tercentenary in Northampton, MA and is scored for piano, violin and cowbell. Charis Duke's piece, *Three Pithy Pieces for Piano*, was composed two years ago for a competition in England. It features three short contrasting piano works.

Other faculty who will perform include Jane Gardiner, piano, Freda Goodman, soprano, David Duke, tenor, and Mary Frances Boyce, viola. The audience will be treated to a variety of instruments, ensembles and musical styles including classical, Italian arias, opera, Broadway tunes, art song, musical theatre, and many more.

For more information, please contact Jane Gardiner, head of the Department of Music, at (910) 630-7158 or jgardiner@methodist.edu.

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MEDIA RELEASE
MARCH 30, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE PLANS
LEADERSHIP DEBATE**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – The Reeves School of Business at Methodist College will host a lyceum on March 30, 2004 to discuss an academic paper entitled, “Social Change Leadership Theory” presented by Willis Watt, director of the Professional Studies Division. Respondents to the paper include Roger Stancil, manager of the City of Fayetteville and Trevor Morris, professor of political science. The lyceum will take place at 7 p.m. in the Clark Hall Auditorium and is free and open to the public.

The discussion is part of the B.F. Stone Lyceum Series, which was started in 1998 with a gift from the estate of B.F. Stone. The mission of the discussions is to foster scholarly interaction among the faculty, students and the community-at-large.

Stone was an Elizabethtown, NC pharmacist, philanthropist and active layman in the United Methodist Church. The proceeds from his estate have also been used to endow student scholarships.

Immediately following the lyceum, there will be a reception in the Mallett-Rogers House. For more information, contact Joe Doll, professor of business administration, at (910) 630-7046, or Theresa Clark, professor of business administration, at (910) 630-7171.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 30, 2004

BILL BILLINGS
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

Fayetteville Rotary Club Awards Grant to PTM for Multicultural Tennis Program

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—The Fayetteville Rotary Club recently awarded a \$1,000 grant to the Professional Tennis Management (PTM) program at Methodist College to start a Junior Multicultural Tennis Program at Mazarick Park. The grant was announced by David Baggett, Rotary Club president, and Joe Doll, chair of the club's Junior Tennis Committee.

Jason Picone, a junior PTM major from New Berlin, Wisconsin, will provide tennis instruction to 12-24 "at risk" youngsters ages 8-14 for approximately six weeks, starting April 3. Picone will be assisted by Lorenzia Wright, director of tennis at Mazarick Park. The grant will support 100 hours of tennis instruction.

"The PTM Program is pleased to participate in the development of a multicultural tennis program for the youth of Fayetteville," said Pete Petersen, director of the PTM program at Methodist. The Fayetteville Rotary Club and Methodist's PTM program also jointly sponsor a junior tennis tournament each November.

Cutline for Pix of Rotary Club Presentation: The Fayetteville Rotary Club has awarded a \$1,000 grant to the Methodist College Professional Tennis Program to develop a six-week multicultural program for teaching tennis to at-risk youth this spring at Mazarick Park. L. to r., Frank Baggett, club president; Pete Petersen, PTM director; Dr. Elton Hendricks, college president; Jason Picone, PTM student instructor.



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MEDIA RELEASE
MARCH 31, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**ACCLAIMED JAZZ TRIO
TO PERFORM AT METHODIST COLLEGE**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – The third, and final, concert in the new Friends of Music at Methodist Performing Arts Series is scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, 2004 and will feature the Tony Monaco Jazz Trio. The concert will be in Reeves Auditorium on the Methodist College campus at 8 p.m. and will feature a pre-concert lecture at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Students, high school age or younger, will be admitted for \$5 each.

The Performing Arts series was designed to bring an eclectic mix of artists to the Fayetteville area, said Jane Gardiner, head of the Music Department at Methodist. “By presenting these exciting artists to the Fayetteville area, we are adding a new dimension to the cultural life of Cumberland County,” she said.

Monaco will be accompanied by Louis Tsamous on drums and Robert Kraut on guitar. The performance will feature Monaco's dynamic treatment of the classic Hammond B3 organ.

Monaco's CDs, “Burnin’ Grooves,” “Master Chops T,” and “Intimately Live at the 5:01” have achieved national attention, receiving favorable reviews in publications such as *Keyboard Magazine*, *Jazz Improv Magazine*, *Jazz Times*, *Jazziz* and *Downbeat*.

Funding for the series was provided by the Friends of Music. This project is also supported by the Arts Council of Fayetteville/Cumberland County with funds from the North Carolina Arts Council, the City of Fayetteville, the County of Cumberland and private contributions.

Call (910) 630-7100 for more information on this and other Methodist College offerings. Information is also available at www.methodist.edu/music.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 8, 2004

BILL BILLINGS

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

Darl Champion Sr. Wins Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award

FAYETTEVILLE, NC—Dr. Darl Champion Sr. received Methodist College's Teaching Excellence and Campus Leadership Award April 5 at the college's annual Awards Day Ceremony.

Now completing his tenth year of full-time teaching at Methodist, Dr. Champion is Associate Professor of Criminal Justice and Head of the Department of Justice Studies. The Teaching Excellence award consists of a plaque and a \$500 grant and is given annually to a full-time faculty member "who has made a distinct difference in the teaching climate of the college." A committee made up of former award recipients and the academic dean makes the selection from persons nominated by faculty and students.

"I was completely surprised," said the 2004 honoree. "It's very gratifying to know that your peers and students feel your teaching has made a real difference." The popular professor turns 57 April 9.

Dr. Champion holds a Doctor of Education degree from N.C. State University, an M.S. in Criminal Justice from the University of South Carolina, and a B.A. in Criminology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He joined the Methodist faculty as an adjunct instructor in 1992, after teaching criminal justice for ten years at Fayetteville Technical Community College. He has

also taught at Fayetteville State University, Pembroke State University, and the North Carolina Justice Academy. He co-authored a textbook entitled *Introduction to American Policing*.

The senior member of Methodist's Justice Studies faculty has lectured and published widely and is well-known among law enforcement professionals in North Carolina. He previously received teaching awards from Fayetteville Technical Community College, the University of Texas, First Union National Bank, and the North Carolina Criminal Justice Association. In the 1970s and 1980s, he served in the U.S. Army Military Police and worked on criminal investigations at Fort Bragg, Fort Gordon, and at the Army's Criminal Investigations Command in Washington, D.C. He attained the rank of major in the U.S. Army Reserve.

Dr. Champion and his wife Victoria have three grown children and attend MacPherson Presbyterian Church. His hobbies are reading, flying (he holds a pilot's license), coaching football, and writing.



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MEDIA RELEASE
APRIL 8, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE STUDENT
HONORED FOR ETHICS**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC -- Ryan Steele, a Methodist College senior from Rochester, IN, received the 2004 Lowdermilk Student Achievement Award from the Fayetteville Rotary Club and the Reeves School of Business at Methodist College February 23. The award is part of a joint club/college partnership to bring significant recognition to the Rotary Club's emphasis on business ethics through the Ethics and Values in Business Program.

Steele is the son of Joan and Wayne Steele. He is pursuing two bachelor's of science degrees in business administration and marketing with a concentration in Professional Golf Management. During the fall semester, Steele was also selected to receive *The Wall Street Journal Award* by faculty members from the Reeves School of Business. That award is given to an outstanding business student with the highest grade point average.

The Lowdermilk Student Achievement Award is presented to a Methodist College junior or senior who is judged to have most significantly demonstrated the ideals of Rotary during his/her college career. Faculty and staff nominate students who are then interviewed by a panel composed of Rotarians and college personnel. The winner receives \$2,000 and a certificate.

The award's namesake, William Lowdermilk, was employed at Methodist College for 32 years and advocated a strong values and ethics teaching mission for the college by serving as chair of the Ethics and Values Committee for many years.

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MEDIA RELEASE
April 13, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

METHODIST COLLEGE HOSTS LECTURE ON “WHEN RELIGION BECOMES EVIL”

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Charles Kimball, professor of religion and chair of the Department of Religion at Wake Forest University, will speak on the topic, “*When Religion Becomes Evil*” at Methodist College on Wednesday, January 28 at 7 p.m. in Clark Hall Auditorium. His book, with the same title, was named one of the “Top 15 Books on Religion for 2002” by Publishers Weekly. Kimball’s presentation is part of the annual Womack Lecture Series and is open to the public at no charge. There will be a book signing immediately following the lecture.

Since the September 11th terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, Kimball has been interviewed by more than 400 television and radio stations as well as major newspapers and broadcast outlets worldwide. He is a frequent lecturer and writer on issues related to the Middle East, Islam, Jewish-Christian-Muslim relations, and the intersection of religion and politics in the United States. He has authored three other books, including *Striving Together: A Way Forward in Christian-Muslim Relations; Religion, Politics and Oil: The Volatile Mix in the Middle East*; and *Angle of Vision: Christians and the Middle East*.

Before joining the Wake Forest faculty in 1996, Kimball taught at Furman University. Prior to that, he directed the Middle East Office at the National Council of Churches based in New York and has made more than 35 visits to the Middle East.

Kimball is a graduate of Oklahoma State University and holds a Master’s of Divinity degree from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. An ordained Baptist minister, he received his Th.D. from Harvard University in comparative religion with specialization in Islamic studies.

The Womack Lecture series strives to promote public awareness of religious scholarship by bringing an expert in the field of religion, philosophy, or ethics to Methodist College. The lectures are intended to raise moral and spiritual issues in the public consciousness and to provide an educational and cultural service to the community.

The series is named for Dr. Samuel J. Womack and Norma Womack. Dr. Womack was the college’s first instructor in religion and organized the Department of Philosophy and Religion. His wife, Norma, graduated from the College and served as a librarian until her retirement in 1988.

For more information on the lectures, contact Michael Potts at (910) 630-7072.

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PHOTO AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST



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MEDIA RELEASE

April 16, 2004

BILL BILLINGS

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**AN EVENING OF POETRY AND ART SLATED FOR FRIDAY, APRIL 23 AT
METHODIST COLLEGE**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – “An Evening of Poetry and Art” will be held Friday, April 23 at 7 p.m. in the Cape Fear Commons Community Building at Methodist College. Admission is free, and the public is invited. Directions to Cape Fear Commons will be available at the college Welcome Center near the main entrance.

English 325 (“Creative Writing: Poetry”) students Becki Buck, Christy Turner, Lynda Ward and Sean Wiggs will read their poetry and answer questions about their work. All are students of Robin Greene, associate professor of English. Their poems will include “def” poetry and hip-hop poems, as well as traditional and experimental styles.

Urban “cardboard” artist Ben Greene will show several recent works in which he explores the idea of art created on salvaged materials and the way that a quickly-executed piece can express a stream of powerful emotion.

A reception will follow the reading and show.

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MEDIA RELEASE

MAY 4, 2004

BILL BILLINGS

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**GENERAL HUGH SHELTON TO DELIVER COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS AT
METHODIST COLLEGE**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Retired U.S. Army General Henry Hugh Shelton will deliver the commencement address at Methodist College's 41st spring commencement May 8, 2004. General Shelton served as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1997 until his retirement in 2001.

A capacity crowd of 2,000 persons is expected for the commencement exercise, which begins at 2 p.m. in the March F. Riddle Center. Methodist College President M. Elton Hendricks will award degrees to approximately 150 seniors; he will also present two honorary Doctor of Humanities degrees: one to General Hugh Shelton and one to Louis Spilman, Jr., a retired Fayetteville businessman who was a member of Methodist's first graduating class, the Class of 1964.

Other activities planned for Methodist's 41st spring commencement include a 9 a.m. breakfast at the college president's home and a 10:30 a.m. baccalaureate service in Reeves Auditorium. The Reverend Woodrow C. Wells, pastor of First United Methodist Church in Cary, N.C., will deliver the baccalaureate sermon, which he has entitled, "Not Yet." A native of Fayetteville, N.C., Reverend Wells graduated from Methodist College in 1969 and from Duke Divinity School in 1972. Immediately following the commencement exercise, the Methodist College Alumni Association will host a reception for graduates and their families in Fanny Farmer Park adjacent to the Riddle Center.

Methodist's commencement speaker is a native of Tarboro, North Carolina, and received a bachelor's degree in textiles from N.C. State University. Now living in northern Virginia, General Shelton is currently the vice-chairman of the Board of Advisors and president of International Operations for M.I.C. Industries, Inc.

During his 38 years in the Army, Shelton served two combat tours in Vietnam, led Army units involved in the liberation of Kuwait during Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm in 1991, and led the U.S. Joint Task Force that restored democracy to Haiti in 1994. From 1991 to 1994, he commanded the 82nd Airborne Division and the XVIII Airborne

Corps, respectively, at Fort Bragg, N.C. In 1996, he was promoted to general and named Commander in Chief of U.S. Special Operations Command.

During his Army career, General Shelton championed quality of life initiatives for service members which included a major pay raise, pay table and bonus reform, and improvements in retirement and healthcare programs. He also worked to improve readiness and retention of American armed forces while crafting Joint Vision 2020, the roadmap for the Future Joint Force. He holds a master's degree from Auburn University and has attended Harvard University, the Air Command and Staff College, and the National War College.

General Shelton has received many military awards, including four Defense Distinguished Service Medals, two Army Distinguished Service Medals, the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal for Valor, and the Purple Heart. He was knighted by Queen Elizabeth II in 2001 and received the Congressional Gold Medal in 2002.

He and his wife, the former Carolyn Johnson, are the parents of three sons.

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MEDIA RELEASE
MAY 12, 2004

BILL BILLINGS
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**DR. SPENCER DAVIS NAMED NIMOCKS PROFESSOR OF BUSINESS AT
METHODIST COLLEGE**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Dr. Spencer G. Davis, associate professor of financial economics at Methodist College, has been appointed Nimocks Professor of Business, beginning July 1, 2004. Funded by an endowment from Mr. David Nimocks, Jr., the Nimocks Professorship is typically awarded for a five-year period.

Dr. Philip C. Williams, vice president for academic affairs at Methodist, said Dr. Davis will create and maintain a teaching center within the Charles M. Reeves School of Business. The center's mission will be to provide the Reeves faculty with opportunities to further enhance the quality of instruction. Presentations by outside experts will be a regular feature of the center, and when appropriate, will be open to the entire Methodist College community.

Dr. Davis joined the Methodist faculty in 2001. He holds a Ph.D. from Colorado State University, as well as M.A. and B.S. degrees from New Mexico State University, and previously taught economics at colleges in Utah, Missouri, and Colorado. Dr. Davis has written and lectured extensively about the Voluntary Simplicity Movement. He succeeds Dr. Jen Hsiang Lin, the first Nimocks Professor of Business and Director of the Institute for Business and Marketing Research within the Reeves School of Business.

During his tenure as Nimocks Professor of Business, Dr. Lin was charged with bringing technological enhancements to the business classroom, one of which was "Blackboard," the software used for teaching online courses at Methodist. Dr. Lin's annual outcomes assessments showed that business students perform better in courses supported with technology.

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MEDIA RELEASE

JUNE 8, 2004

BILL BILLINGS

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**MC HISTORY PROFESSOR TRACES METHODISTS' ATTEMPTS TO
SURMOUNT RACIAL DIVISIONS**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – The University of Missouri Press recently published *Methodists and the Crucible of Race, 1930-1975*, a historical monograph by Dr. Peter C. Murray, professor of history at Methodist College.

In his book, Dr. Murray describes how the American Civil Rights Movement forced leaders of the Methodist Church to grant African American Methodists equal status in the workings of the church. In 1844, the Methodist Episcopal Church split into northern and southern jurisdictions when Southerners refused to accept a General Conference position banning the ordination of ministers who owned slaves. In 1939, the northern and southern jurisdictions (Methodist Episcopal Church and Methodist Episcopal Church South) were unified, but the church maintained a separate Central Jurisdiction “for the 19 Negro annual conferences.” In 1964, the General Conference of the Methodist Church adopted a policy that all Methodist churches would be open to people of any race.

The son of a Methodist minister, Dr. Murray recalls growing up in rural South Carolina where African American Methodists and white Methodists generally worshipped in separate churches and denominations. Blacks generally belonged to the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) Church, the AME Zion Church, or the Christian Methodist Episcopal (CME) Church, while whites belonged to the Methodist Church, which became the *United Methodist Church* in 1968. While many African Americans were accepted at predominately white “Methodist Episcopal” churches in northern states, black ministers were not allowed to serve as elders, district superintendents, or bishops until 1920. Murray said he was troubled as a youth by this “serious discrepancy” between professed Christian beliefs and practices.

Dr. Murray’s book is an extension of his 1985 doctoral dissertation written at Indiana University—a history of the all-black Central Jurisdiction of the Methodist Church from 1940-67. “The book is written for historians first and United Methodists second,” said Murray. “I hope it will be used by academics in a sort of ‘classroom without walls.’ I also hope seminaries will use it.” The new book represents a decade of research that took Murray to libraries, archives, and conference journals at Emory University, Drew

University, Clark Atlanta University, Lake Junaluska, and Epworth by the Sea, St. Simons Island, Georgia. The University of Missouri Press sold Murray's book at a recent Methodist conference in Pittsburgh and will forward review copies to historical journals in the coming months.

Murray said the Supreme Court's 1954 *Brown vs. Board of Education* decision (declaring segregated public schools unconstitutional) and civil rights demonstrations aimed at desegregating public facilities convinced many Methodists that they could no longer conform to the norms of the South without consequences to its national membership. "The church changed with society, but it was careful and deliberate," noted Murray, "so as not to alienate or lose members from both sides, pro civil rights and segregationist. The Methodist Church began its decline in membership during the social turmoil of the 1960s, but this happened to all mainline denominations."

There is much evidence in Murray's book that racial attitudes among Methodists have softened over the last fifty years. At its 1956 General Conference, the church approved an amendment to its constitution to abolish the all-black Central Jurisdiction and desegregate the church. "It was ratified in 1958 by two-thirds of both white and black jurisdictions," said Murray. "In 1964, the Northeast Jurisdiction became the first to accept an all-black annual conference that had been part of the Central Jurisdiction. Soon thereafter, the South Central Jurisdiction came up with a plan to take in five black annual conferences. There was some resistance to the inclusion of black annual conferences in the Southeastern Jurisdiction, and the black annual conferences wanted a deadline set for their inclusion. In 1975, the last black and white annual conferences merged in Mississippi."

Organized into nine chapters with a bibliography and index, *Methodists and the Crucible of Race, 1930-1975*, totals 266 pages and sells for \$44.95. It is available at the Methodist College Bookstore and can be ordered via a link on Dr. Murray's personal Web page—www.methodist.edu/history/pcmurray. Davis Memorial Library at Methodist College also has a copy available for checkout.

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MEDIA RELEASE

BILL BILLINGS

JUNE 22, 2004

INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

FRIENDS PAY TRIBUTE TO THE LATE JOHN W. WYATT, JR.

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Friends of the late John William Wyatt, Jr. gathered at Methodist College June 15 to remember the local businessman, philanthropist, and Methodist College trustee.

At a luncheon attended by seven members of Wyatt's family---wife Dot, son Jay, daughter Melanie, and several grandchildren—four longtime friends offered tributes and remembrances. The speakers included: Dick Player, Jr., chairman of the Methodist College Board of Trustees; Dr. Elton Hendricks, college president; Dr. Brian Gentle, pastor of Haymount United Methodist Church; and Mr. Bob Allen, a local businessman and college trustee.

A native of Danville, Virginia, John Wyatt founded Valley Volkswagon in Fayetteville in the mid 1960s. Over the next 36 years the car dealership grew rapidly to become Valley Motors and Valley Auto World, selling Volkswagon, Mercedes, BMW, and Mazda products from three locations. Wyatt died January 29, 2004 at the age of 73.

The June luncheon was organized as a tribute to a man who served for nearly sixteen years on the Methodist College Board of Trustees, including ten years as chairman of the board's Nominations Committee. The speakers lauded Wyatt for his business success, Christian ethics, and devotion to his church, family, and charitable causes in the Fayetteville community.

Dick Player said Wyatt commanded respect from everyone who knew him. Dr. Hendricks said Wyatt was a devoted trustee and a good human being. His pastor, Dr. Brian Gentle, described him as "loyal and generous and a man of action." Bob Allen called Wyatt "a leader among men" and said he knew of many instances where Wyatt had stepped in anonymously to help meet local needs.

The luncheon concluded with Dr. Hendricks presenting Dot Wyatt with a framed resolution of appreciation for John Wyatt's service to Methodist College. The resolution describes Wyatt as a "quiet and unassuming philanthropist whose life reflected his beliefs

in God, country, and hard work.” It closes by expressing the trustees’ sadness over the loss of Mr. Wyatt and their best wishes and appreciation to Dot Wyatt, the Wyatts’ two children, and their extended family.

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MEDIA RELEASE
JULY 28, 2004

BILL BILLINGS
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

BANK OF AMERICA OFFICIAL TELLS INVESTORS TO CHOOSE ‘SOLID PERFORMERS’

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Invest in companies which are solid performers, including international companies. That was the advice offered to local investors by Joseph Quinlan, managing director and chief market strategist for Bank of America Investment Services and Bank of America Capital Management April 20. Quinlan was the keynote speaker at the Methodist College Center for Entrepreneurship’s 27th Annual Stock Market Symposium held at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux.

Quinlan told an audience of nearly 500 persons that 2004 will be another good year for the U.S. stock market, although not as good as 2003. He said the war in Iraq and the U.S. presidential elections are two unknowns that could have a major impact on the performance of American stocks during the remainder of this year.

The Bank of America executive defended U.S. companies who had “outsourced” jobs to other countries and praised Americans for the hard work and productivity gains he said have given the U.S. economy “a competitive advantage” worldwide. He said Europeans would do well to emulate the “American work ethic.”

Six residents of the Cape Fear Region received awards at the symposium.

Wendell Holmes Murphy of Rose Hill, North Carolina, was inducted into the Fellowship of the Silver Spoon. From 1964 until 2001, Murphy helped Murphy Family Farms revolutionize hog farming in this state by developing highly mechanized and computer-controlled sow and farrowing operations. In 1997, Murphy was featured on the cover of *Forbes* magazine as “the nation’s largest pig farmer.” Murphy then owned 275,000 sows, which *Forbes* projected would generate \$775 million in revenue in 1997. The magazine valued Wendell Murphy’s two-thirds stake in the company at \$1 billion.

A graduate of North Carolina State University and a former high school vocational agriculture teacher, Murphy employed engineers and nutritionists to help him increase the annual yield per sow from 20.2 piglets to 22. When he sold Murphy Family Farms to

Virginia-based Smithfield Foods, Inc., in January 2000, his company employed 1,900 and had contracts with more than 1,000 growers.

Ralph and Linda Huff of Fayetteville received the Small Business Excellence Award for their success in making H&H Constructors one of the region's fastest-growing home builders. Huff founded H&H in 1991 after buying Coldwell Banker United Realty. Ralph Huff is the owner and president, and his wife Linda is the general manager. In 2003, H&H employed 18 and had gross sales of \$25 million for the construction of 125 single family homes and 112 apartments. The firm expects to build 180 homes in 2004.

Originally from Raeford in neighboring Hoke County, the Huffs have been active members of Raeford Presbyterian Church and First Presbyterian Church of Fayetteville, as well as many civic and professional organizations in the Fayetteville area. A former public school music teacher, Linda Huff directs an adult choir known as First Praise. The Huffs have two grown daughters, Molly and Brooke.

Greek immigrants John and Kay Poulos of Fayetteville received the American Business Ethics Award. The couple, now retired and in their early 70s, operated Superior Bakery for 31 years, moving it from Raeford Road to the Superior Plaza Shopping Center on Hope Mills Road in 1972. In the early 1950s, John Poulos and his wife operated two restaurants, Alex's Quick Lunch on Donaldson Street and the Dixie Diner on Bragg Boulevard. In 1987, the Pouloses sold the bakery to their youngest son, Nicko.

In addition to their business achievements, John and Kay Poulos were cited for their outstanding service to Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church and related charities, to the Cape Fear Kiwanis Club, and to the greater Fayetteville community. John Poulos has held many local and district offices in Kiwanis and has a perfect attendance record. He received the City of Fayetteville's Esther Dept and Mary MacAllister Award in 2003 for his work to better the lives of local citizens and to improve race relations. Kay Poulos has served as national president of the Daughters of Evrytania Association, which serves the needy in this community and in Greece.

Olga B. "Bo" Thorp, artistic director of the Cape Fear Regional Theatre, received the Outstanding Woman Entrepreneur Award for exemplary achievements in community theatre and her support of the arts in the Fayetteville community. During her 23-year tenure as CFRT artistic director, Mrs. Thorp led two successful capital campaigns which transformed the old Haymount Movie Theater into a state-of-the-art playhouse and company noted for staging high quality productions. She also inaugurated a "River Renaissance" series, staging plays on the banks of the Cape Fear River at Person Street.

An accomplished actress and director, Mrs. Thorp has won many accolades for her professionalism and her enthusiasm. She holds a degree in theatre from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and has played leading roles in shows such as *Rainmaker*, *Gypsy*, and *Driving Miss Daisy*. In February of this year, Bo Thorp received the Order of the Longleaf Pine, North Carolina's highest civilian honor.

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MEDIA RELEASE
AUGUST 2, 2004

BILL BILLINGS
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

GENERAL, MINISTER ADDRESS THE CLASS OF 2004 AT METHODIST COLLEGE

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Speaking at Methodist College’s 41st spring commencement May 8, retired Army General H. Hugh Shelton urged each graduating senior to “become a person of value and remain true to yourself and your family.”

Speaking 40 years after his own graduation from college, Shelton encouraged 146 graduating seniors to pursue their dreams by using opportunity, courage, and strength of character to create a better world. He said their future success would depend on their own personal drive and determination.

“Never forget what’s important in life,” he added, “faith, family, and friends.” Shelton said the importance of the “three Fs” was reinforced to him when he suffered a spinal cord injury and paralysis two years ago. Ninety days after falling from a ladder, he walked out of Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

The former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said he discounts much of the negative opinion he hears about today’s youth, saying, “In the last 38 years, I’ve had the honor of watching thousands of young men and women of your generation perform superbly in the most difficult missions around the world.” He concluded his address by saying, “America is still a great and strong nation. It now falls on your shoulders to keep this so.”

In a morning baccalaureate sermon entitled, “Not Yet,” the Rev. Woodrow W. Wells Jr., a 1969 graduate of Methodist College, extolled the virtues of delayed gratification, saying heaven is the ultimate example of that credo. He decried the modern practice of cohabitation and said the decline of marriage, particularly in Scandinavia, is closely linked to the decline in religion.

“The gate is wide and easy that leads to destruction,” he said. “Don’t be in such a hurry for success that you run roughshod over honesty and integrity. Jesus wants us to say ‘No’ to what is cheap and easy and ‘Yes’ to what is precious, worthwhile, and everlasting.”

Reverend Wells concluded his sermon by saying, "I did not come here to congratulate you, but to echo the call of Jesus Christ, 'I am the way, the truth and the light.' Good things come to those who wait. I wish for you all the best in life, but NOT YET."

In other commencement activities:

--College President M. Elton Hendricks presented honorary Doctor of Humanities degrees to General Shelton for his service to his country and the cause of higher education and to college trustee Louis Spilman Jr., a retired Fayetteville businessman and member of the first graduating class of Methodist College, for his service to the college and to the civic and religious life of the Fayetteville community.

--Sarika D. Bellis-Rodriguez received the Lucius Stacy Weaver Award, denoting her selection by the faculty as the senior who best exemplified academic excellence, spiritual development, leadership, and service. The award was established in 1964 by the family of the college's founding president.

--Juan Luis Castellanos presented the flag of Guatemala, his native country, to College President M. Elton Hendricks. The Guatemalan flag was the 69th flag presented to Methodist College since 1985, when the custom of allowing foreign-born graduates to present the flags of their native countries was begun.

--Eight Army ROTC cadets took the Oath of Allegiance and were commissioned second lieutenants.

--Forty-nine members of the spring graduating class earned academic honors, eight graduating *summa cum laude*, 15 *magna cum laude*, 26 *cum laude*.

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MEDIA RELEASE
AUGUST 6, 2004

BILL BILLINGS
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

METHODIST COLLEGE'S REEVES SCHOOL OF BUSINESS TO OFFER MBA PROGRAM

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Methodist College will launch its second master's degree program, a Master of Business Administration with a Concentration in Leisure Studies, this fall. Methodist College awarded its first master's degree, the Master of Medical Science, December 12, 2003, to six graduates of the college's physician assistant program.

Methodist's inaugural MBA class will be limited to 18 students who will earn 35 semester hours of graduate credit over six semesters. In addition to core courses in each of the recognized business disciplines, students will take electives focused on developing the skills required to lead organizations in the leisure industries.

Mike Truesdell, director of the Reeves School of Business, said the MBA program was a logical expansion for Methodist because the college "has developed significant expertise and an excellent reputation in baccalaureate education targeting the leisure industries through its business concentrations in golf, tennis, and resort management." He said the new program will also enable Methodist "to further its mission of creating educational programs based on the values of ethical decision-making."

The new program was developed by the Reeves School of Business faculty at Methodist. Students accepted for the program will attend four weekend residences at the Carolina Hotel, part of the Pinehurst Resort, in Pinehurst, N.C. Classes will be supported with an online component administered through the Methodist College Distance Learning Program.

"This unique MBA program received the overwhelming support of our faculty," said Dr. Philip Williams, vice president for academic affairs. "We are especially excited by the fact that it will expand the academic and geographic scope of our Graduate School offerings. Effective July 1, 2004, Dr. Donald Lassiter, professor of psychology, will become Dean of our School of Graduate Studies."

Last fall, College President Elton Hendricks told MC alumni the college would likely add additional master's degrees in the near future. Several faculty members are currently drafting a proposal for a Master of Justice Administration program.

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MEDIA RELEASE

August 9, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS

DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP TO REVEAL
2004 THANK-YOU SERIES RECIPIENT**

Fayetteville, NC –The Center for Entrepreneurship of the Reeves School of Business at Methodist College will announce the 2004 recipient of the third annual “Thank-You” series honor on August 10, 2004. The announcement will be made at a special ceremony on the Methodist College campus in the Mallett-Rogers House at 9 a.m. Dr. Sid Gautam, director of the Center, and Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, president of the college, will make the announcement.

The “Thank-You Series” was created to honor local industries for their contributions to the economy, quality of life and future of southeastern North Carolina. The recipient organization is honored with a day of appreciation which includes governmental proclamations, award presentations, site tours, invited speakers, and an appreciation dinner. The initiative was started in 2002 with Kelly-Springfield Tire Company receiving the inaugural honor. DuPont-Fayetteville Works was recognized in 2003. The Center’s 28-member advisory board selects the recipient.

This year’s recipient will be honored with an Appreciation Day on Tuesday, September 21, 2004. There will be an opening ceremony at the organization’s site at 10:30 a.m. The public will be invited to a dinner that evening at 6:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux. Individual tickets are \$50 and a table of eight can be purchased for \$375. The deadline to reserve seating is September 15th.

For more information on the Thank-You Series or other Center for Entrepreneurship programs, please call (910) 630-7642.

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MEDIA RELEASE
AUGUST 12, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

METHODIST COLLEGE OPENS FALL SEMESTER

Fayetteville, NC -- Methodist College will officially welcome new students to campus with Opening of School activities beginning Saturday, August 14, 2004 through the start of classes on Tuesday, August 17th. The college is expecting more than 600 new students, of which 400 are freshman.

New students will board the “Express to Success” as they move into the residence halls on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Commuter students should check in at the Admissions Office in Stout Hall.

Educational, as well as social, activities to assist freshman in the transition to college life are planned throughout the weekend. Some of the fun activities planned include an international student orientation breakfast on Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. in Chris’ House, a toga party/drive-in movie Saturday evening, and a campus carnival on Monday, August 16th from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Parents are welcome to participate in sessions and activities on Saturday and Sunday. Campus offices will also be open on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. An informal worship service is scheduled on Sunday, August 15 at 11 a.m. in Hensdale Chapel.

All students (new and returning) must register for classes in Reeves Auditorium on Monday, August 16th, anytime from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. College President M. Elton Hendricks will officially welcome students back to school in a special session at 2 p.m. that day in Reeves Auditorium. Academic testing and advising follows the session. Department heads will also be available for consultation from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m.

For more information on Methodist College’s “Express to Success” activities, please contact William Walker, assistant dean for Student Development and Services, at (910) 630-7030 or visit <http://www.methodist.edu/Admissions/orientation.shtml>.

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MEDIA RELEASE
AUGUST 17, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**CENTER FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP ANNOUNCES
THANK-YOU SERIES RECIPIENT**

Fayetteville, NC – Dr. Sid Gautam, director of The Center for Entrepreneurship of the Reeves School of Business at Methodist College, announced today that MJ Soffe Co. is the recipient of the third annual “Thank-You” series honor. The announcement was made at a small ceremony on the Methodist College campus. The company will be honored with “MJ Soffe Appreciation Day” to be held on Tuesday, September 21, 2004.

The “Thank-You Series” was created to honor local industries for their contributions to the economy, quality of life and future of southeastern North Carolina. The initiative was started in 2002 with Kelly-Springfield Tire Company receiving the inaugural honor. The Center’s 28-member advisory board selects the recipient.

“Since 1946, MJ Soffe Manufacturing has actively contributed to the economy of our community” said Gautam. “During the last couple of years, it has faced serious challenges. Against all odds, management kept jobs and even expanded into many new areas of activities.

“We hope the company will keep on growing,” he added. “We want everyone to join us in celebrating MJ Soffe Appreciation Day.”

MJ Soffe Appreciation Day will kick off with a ceremony at 10:30 on Sept. 21st at the company’s plant at 13750 US 301 Highway South. The public is invited to attend a dinner that evening at 6:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux. Individual tickets are \$50 and a table of eight can be purchased for \$375. The deadline to reserve seating is September 15th.

For more information on MJ Soffe Appreciation Day or other Center for Entrepreneurship programs, please call (910) 630-7642.

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MEDIA RELEASE
AUGUST 24, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

METHODIST COLLEGE WELCOMES NEW TRUSTEE

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Methodist College is pleased to announce the appointment of Ann Thornton of Clinton, NC to the Board of Trustees. She has been elected to serve a four-year term beginning July 1, 2004.

A self-employed businessperson, Thornton owned and operated Bright Leaf Tobacco Warehouse. She and her husband, the late Albert G. Thornton, Jr., also owned Thornton Chevrolet and Toyota in Clinton.

A graduate of Wake Forest University, she sits on the board of directors of the Sampson Community College Foundation Board, New Century Bank, Sampson Regional Hospital Foundation, the Clinton Development Corporation “Main Street Project,” and the NC Museum of History. She also volunteers her time with the Clinton-Sampson Leadership Development Committee and the Clinton Committee of 100. Thornton was named the Clinton-Sampson Business Person of the Year for 2001.

Thornton has three children and six grandchildren. She is active with First United Methodist Church in Clinton and the Rotary Club.

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Photo Available Upon Request.

Methodist College
Students-by-State Statistics
Fall 2004

1,544 Day Students
82.06% of whom are aged 18-24

State of Residence

North Carolina	54.60%
Out-of-State (47 states)	42.23%
International (37 countries)	3.17%
Out-of-State Breakdown:	
Florida	5.44%
Virginia	4.40%
New York	4.21%
Pennsylvania	4.02%
Maryland	3.95%
Massachusetts	2.40%
Ohio	2.14%
New Jersey	2.07%
Other	13.60%

Suggested Sources:

Rick Lowe, vice president for Enrollment Services (910) 630-7024

Michael Hadley, assistant dean for Institutional Research (910) 630-7550

Magda Baggett, director of International Programs, (910) 630-7159



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MEDIA RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

LECTURE SERIES TO FOCUS ON RELIGIOUS CINEMA

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Two lectures focusing on religion in film will be open to the public at Methodist College on Monday, September 27, 2004. Clayton Jefford, a professor of scripture at St. Meinrad School of Theology in St. Meinrad, IN, will speak on “Capturing Jesus on Film: Pictures We Like to See” at 11 a.m. and on “Capturing Jesus on Film: Being the Perfect Audience” at 2 p.m. Jefford’s presentations are part of the annual Womack Lecture Series.

The 11 a.m. lecture will take place in the Science Building Auditorium (Room 222). The afternoon presentation will be in the Clark Hall Auditorium. There is no charge to attend the lectures.

Jefford has written or edited eight books on a number of topics in New Testament and historical theology and has co-edited an anthology on religion and film, *Savior on the Silver Screen*, published by Paulist Press in 1999. He has written more than 50 scholarly articles and reviews and is a regular conference presenter.

A native of Mooresville, NC, Jefford was educated at Furman University, Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and The Claremont Graduate School, where he earned his Ph.D. in New Testament. He also studied in Turkey and Israel, where he participated in two archeological digs.

The Womack Lecture series strives to promote public awareness of religious scholarship by bringing an expert in the field of religion, philosophy, or ethics to Methodist College. The lectures are intended to raise moral and spiritual issues in the public consciousness and to provide an educational and cultural service to the community.

The series is named for Dr. Samuel Womack and Norma Womack. Dr. Womack was the college’s first instructor in religion and organized the Department of Philosophy and Religion. He also served as the academic dean before retiring in 1984. His wife, Norma, graduated from the College and served as a librarian until her retirement in 1988.

For more information on the lectures, contact Michael Potts at (910) 630-7072.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 3, 2003

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC RELATIONS

METHODIST COLLEGE INCREASES ENROLLMENT

Fayetteville, NC – Methodist College experienced slight overall enrollment growth this fall with a student body of 1441, compared to 1439 in 2002. The first term of the MC at Night evening college grew significantly from 559 in 2002 to 616 this year. An unduplicated head count for the fall semester will not be available until late October, when the drop/add period ends for the second term of MC at Night.

The number of active duty military personnel enrolled at the college grew from 324 in 2002 to 337. The majority of active duty personnel are enrolled in the evening college.

The college enrolled its largest class of Presidential Scholars. Recipients of this honor are eligible for renewable scholarships ranging from \$3,500 to \$10,000 per year for up to four years. This year's class had an average grade point average of 3.64 and an average SAT score of 1106.

The physician assistant graduate program, the first and only master's level degree offered at Methodist, more than doubled its enrollment to 45 students. Nineteen graduate students were enrolled in 2002.

Michelle Heinan, director of the Physician Assistant program, attributed the tremendous growth to several factors. "Our curriculum is strong and unique -- it includes an anatomy lab where students work on cadaver dissection. This and other opportunities result in a high pass rate on the national certification examination," she said. "We also have a very dedicated faculty and staff who exemplify the standards and reputation that Methodist College has built."

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MEDIA RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 9, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

METHODIST'S ENROLLMENT REACHES 1500

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Fall enrollment in Methodist College's day program surpassed the 1500 mark for the first time in the school's 44-year history. Total enrollment was 1546, an increase of more than 100 students from last year.

"Students are discovering the wealth of opportunities available to them at Methodist," said Rick Lowe, vice president for enrollment services. "Our personalized approach to higher education is further enhanced by the fact that our academic and student life offerings are comparable to those found at larger institutions."

This year's freshman class was also the largest ever with 427 students, a 12 percent increase over last year's class of 376. Lowe said that a record 2,000 freshmen applied for admission but that he was most excited about the academic quality of Methodist's newest students.

Approximately one-third of the freshmen class received academic scholarship money totaling more than \$1 million. These students had an average grade point average of 3.69 with an average SAT score of 1101.

A dozen freshmen were recruited with the help of The Davis Foundation of New York through \$10,000 grants per student, per year, for four years. The foundation has established the scholarship program at Methodist to recruit students from member institutions of United World Colleges, an international, multi-cultural school system which offers the international baccalaureate degree. Methodist College is the only institution selected to award this grant in North and South Carolina.

"This program enables us to recruit quality students from countries we don't typically recruit from," said Magda Baggett, director of international programs. This year's class comes from such countries as Ethiopia, Mongolia, Kazhakstan, India, Poland, Swaziland and Gambia, to name a few. Six more United World College graduates are expected in the spring. Methodist's total international enrollment this fall is 54.

Enrollment in the first term of Methodist College's evening program, MC at Night, is down from 616 in 2003 to 598. An unduplicated head count for the fall semester will not be available until late October, when the drop/add period ends for the second term of MC at Night.

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MEDIA RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 14, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE ANNOUNCES
FINE ARTS OFFERINGS**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC -- The Methodist College Fine Arts Division is pleased to present its September and October 2004 offerings. Many performances feature guest artists as well as Methodist students, faculty and staff. All events are open to the public.

SEPTEMBER

Picasso at the Lapin Agile (Theatre Production)

September 23-25 & 30, 8 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium

September 26, 2 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium

An imagined meeting of Pablo Picasso and Albert Einstein in 1904, when both men were in their twenties, before either man had made his mark on the universe, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* bounces through time and space, a cosmic debate on the nature of fame and the future, art vs. science, and the cost vs. the value of really good cheap wine.

Due to some mature subject matter, this play is not recommended for children under 13. Tickets: \$7 for adults, \$4 for students and seniors.

OCTOBER

Picasso at the Lapin Agile (Theatre Production)

October 2, 8 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium

October 3, 2 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium

Ella Ann Holding, Pianist

October 14, 7 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium

A native of Smithfield, NC, Holding has performed with the Yale University Orchestra, the North Carolina Symphony, the South Carolina Philharmonic and at the Spoleto Festival. A graduate of Yale University's School of Music and Salem College, she pursued additional study at the Julliard School of Music and was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to the Royal Academy of Music in London.

General admission: \$10 at the door. Reduced price for students. For more information, call (910) 630-7100.

-MORE-

OCTOBER - CONTINUED

The Fayetteville Symphony

October 17, 3 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium

Under the new direction of Maestro Fouad Fakhouri, an adjunct professor at Methodist College, the Fayetteville Symphony will perform Haydn's *Symphony No. 83*, Elgar's *Pomp and Circumstance*, Schubert's *Unfinished Symphony* and Bizet's *L'Arlesienne Suite No. 2*.

Tickets available at the door; season tickets also available. For more information, call (910) 433-4690.

The United States Air Force Band with the Singing Sergeants

October 20, 7 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium

Co-sponsored by Fayetteville State University, this concert features "America's International Musical Ambassadors," the United States Air Force Band. The Singing Sergeants is the official 23-voice chorus of the United States Air Force and is recognized internationally.

Tickets are free, but must be reserved in advance. For information, call (910) 630-7042.

Cumberland Oratorio Singers

October 24, 4 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium

Featuring soloist Louis Seymour and the children's choirs of Village Baptist Church and Academy, this community choir, specializing in classical choral music, will perform *Mass of the Children*, by John Rutter.

Tickets available at the door; season tickets also available. For more information, call (910) 488-6106 or (910) 483-0869.

North Carolina Symphony

October 28, 8 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium

The Cumberland County Chapter of the North Carolina Symphony is pleased to present this concert which will feature trumpet soloist Paul Randall and compositions by Ravel, Mozart and Hummel.

Tickets available at the door; season tickets also available. For more information, call (910) 323-1776.

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MEDIA RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 16, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

SEPTEMBER THEATRE PRODUCTION CANCELED

FAYETTEVILLE, NC- The Methodist College Theatre Department is canceling its production of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* that was scheduled to open Thursday, September 23, and run through October 3rd. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

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MEDIA RELEASE

September 16, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS

DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

FAYETTEVILLE, NC- Due to scheduling conflicts, The Center for Entrepreneurship at Methodist College has had to cancel the Thank-You Series recipient announcement ceremony scheduled for Friday, July 23, 2004 at 2 p.m. A new date and time will be released shortly. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.

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MEDIA RELEASE

September 20, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS

DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**LECTURER TO FOCUS ON
HUMAN RIGHTS ATROCITIES IN SUDAN**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Methodist College presents Charles Stokes, Jr., who will speak on the topic “Human Rights Atrocities in Sudan,” on Friday, October 1st, at 11 a.m. in the Clark Hall Auditorium. Stokes’ presentation is part of the Sanford Lecture Series, which is free and open to the public.

Stokes has an extensive background in foreign affairs, especially civil-military relations. He recently served 13 months in Khartoum, Sudan, with the Civilian Protection Monitoring Team, a branch of the U.S. State Department. In that capacity, he participated in investigations of atrocities against civilians, and he worked with the U.S. Embassy, the Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Sudan Peoples Liberation Movement.

Previously, Stokes served 19 months in Nigeria as a member of the Re-Democratization of the Nigerian Armed Forces Program, providing high-level consultations to the Nigerian Ministry of Defense. He has also served in Saudi Arabia and Central America.

Stokes also has considerable teaching experience. He has taught at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the University of Maryland, West Virginia State College and Campbell University.

The Sanford Lecture Series promotes public awareness of current political affairs by inviting experts to deliver scholarly lectures on topics in the field of political science. The Department of Government Studies sponsors the series, which is named for Terry Sanford, the first chairman of the Methodist College Board of Trustees. He is perhaps North Carolina’s best known political figure, becoming a state senator in 1952, governor of North Carolina in 1960, and a United States senator in 1986.

For more information on the lecture, contact Drew Ziegler at (910) 630-7488, or aziegler@methodist.edu.

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MEDIA RELEASE
SEPTEMBER 28, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**NORTH CAROLINA PIANIST
TO PERFORM AT METHODIST COLLEGE**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – The Friends of Music at Methodist presents pianist Ella Ann Holding at Reeves Auditorium on Thursday, October 14, 2004 at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Students, high school age or younger, will be admitted for \$5 each.

Holding performs chamber music with the Leros Trio and regularly appears with Professor John Adams of the University of South Carolina. She is prominently featured at recitals and in numerous concert series throughout Virginia and the Carolinas. Currently, she serves on the Board of Trustees for the North Carolina Symphony.

Holding has performed with the Yale University Orchestra, the North Carolina Symphony, the South Carolina Philharmonic, and at Charleston, SC's annual Spoleto Festival. She was Campbell University's first artist-in-residence for nine years.

A native of Smithfield, NC, Holding earned a Bachelor of Music degree from Salem College. She went on to study under Bruce Simonds at the Yale University School of Music where she earned a Master of Music in piano performance. In addition to receiving a scholarship to the Julliard School of Music, Holding was awarded a Fulbright scholarship to the Royal Academy of Music in London where she studied with Hilda Dederich.

Funding for this concert was provided by the Friends of Music. For more information on this and other Methodist College music offerings, call (910) 630-7100 or visit www.methodist.edu/music.

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MEDIA RELEASE
October 5, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

METHODIST COLLEGE RECEIVES \$1 MILLION GIFT

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Methodist College has received a commitment for \$1 million toward the proposed fitness and intramural center outlined in the college’s comprehensive campaign, *Seeds on Good Soil, A New Season*. The gift marks the third of its size made to the college in its 48-year history.

The donors are David R. Nimocks, Jr.; his wife, Elisabeth Burns Nimocks; and their family businesses, of which David R. Nimocks, III is president. The Nimocks family has generously supported Methodist College for many years. In 1998, the Nimocks family established the Col. David R. Nimocks Endowed Professorship in the Charles M. Reeves School of Business, and followed it with a second endowed professorship in 2003.

The fitness center will bear the Nimocks’ family name and will be approximately 22,000 square feet. It will house a basketball court with two cross courts, a walking track, an exercise and weight-lifting area, lobby, bathrooms and offices.

“For years our family has reflexively given to our respective alma maters such as Georgia Tech, St. Mary’s and UNC-Greensboro,” said Nimocks, Jr. “However, we have come to realize that Methodist is an important and vital asset to the Fayetteville community, which is worthy of investment.”

“The fitness center is an important addition to the college that will make it an even more attractive place for young men and women to enjoy learning,” Nimocks, III added. “Our businesses are delighted to be able to re-direct some giving back home to something that can make a real difference.”

Methodist College has now raised \$8.6 million in the \$11.4 million *Seeds on Good Soil, A New Season* campaign. In addition to the fitness and intramural center, campaign funds will help build an addition onto the existing science building, add significantly to the college’s endowment, and provide annual operating money for the institution.

“This major gift from the Nimocks family will help Methodist College achieve its continuing goal of providing a quality educational experience,” said Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, president of the college. “The multifaceted growth Methodist College has experienced would not have been possible without support from our good friends.”

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MEDIA RELEASE
OCTOBER 6, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE TO CELEBRATE
THE LIFE OF WESLEY**

Methodist College will host its first annual Wesley Heritage Celebration on Monday, October 25 with two special events honoring the life of John Wesley, the founder of Methodism. The day will begin with a lecture entitled “A Matter of Heart and Life: John Wesley’s Protestant Course-Correction” at 11 a.m. The second presentation, at 2 p.m., is a dramatic historical monologue entitled “Afternoon Tea with John Wesley.” Both events will take place in the Clark Hall Auditorium.

The morning’s lecture will be delivered by David Lowes Watson, director of the Office of Pastoral Formation for the Nashville Episcopal Area of the United Methodist Church. Watson has written extensively in the fields of Methodist history and theology, evangelism, and congregational life and mission.

The dramatic monologue will be performed by Denny Wise, pastor of Oxford United Methodist Church. The former president of the North Carolina Conference Historical Society, he wrote and performed three historical presentations for the Annual Conference – the Bicentennial of the Camp Meeting, the History of United Methodist Higher Education and a Celebration of John Wesley’s 300th Birthday.

The Wesley Heritage Celebration’s benefactors, Dr. L. Elbert Wethington and his wife, Lois, provide funding for the program through the United Methodist Foundation. Named the “Wesley Heritage Fund,” monies can be used for lectures, dramas, library resources, workshops, ecumenical conversations, course offerings, or other approved projects.

Dr. Wethington was an educator for many years and helped designed the original curriculum and wrote the first catalog for Methodist College. More recently he served as president of the Wesley Heritage Foundation. Through the years, he and his wife have donated several books and collections to the college including Mrs. Wethington’s book, “Visual Poetry -- My Journey into Chinese Painting” and a set of Wesley’s works in Spanish entitled *Obras De Wesley, 14 volumes*.

PHOTOS AND BIOGRAPHIES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST.



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MEDIA RELEASE
OCTOBER 13, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE FEATURES
FACULTY TENOR**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC--The Methodist College Music Department will host David Duke's faculty voice recital on Thursday, November 4, 2004 at 7 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium. Admission is free. Duke, a tenor, will be accompanied by his wife, Charis Bean Duke, on piano.

Duke will perform in Italian, French, German and English. The program will include works by Gabriel Faure, art songs by Johannes Brahms, sacred songs from 20th century American composers including Leonard Bernstein and Aaron Copland, and more.

Duke is now in his second year at Methodist as an assistant professor of voice. He came to Methodist from Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, NM. He has many credits in opera and musical theater, including his recent debut at the Cape Fear Regional Theatre as the cowardly lion in *The Wizard of Oz*. Duke has performed with the Williamsport Symphony, the Media Theatre in Philadelphia, and the Opera Southwest in Albuquerque, NM and has sung professional chorus with the Opera Company of Philadelphia and the Philadelphia Singers Chorale.

He is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign where he earned a Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts in Vocal Performance and Literature. As an undergraduate at Brigham Young University, he met his wife and accompanist, Charis Bean Duke.

Mrs. Duke is an accomplished composer and musician having toured with the Brigham Young University Philharmonic and Chamber Orchestras throughout Europe, Canada and the western United States. She earned a master's degree in music composition from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She is an adjunct instructor at Methodist and teaches privately at Snyder Music Academy. Her compositions have been performed by numerous groups including the Women Composers Orchestra of Baltimore, the Jezic Ensemble, and the Boston Viola Quartet.

The couple has twice won the carol writing competition sponsored by the Amadeus Choir of Toronto, Canada, which has performed their carols, "Christmas Grace," and "This Night."

For more information, please contact the Department of Music at (910) 630-7100.

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MEDIA RELEASE
OCTOBER 15, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE HOSTS
ANNUAL BOOK SALE**

Methodist College's Davis Memorial Library will host its annual Book Sale of textbooks, paperbacks and miscellaneous educational books from October 22 - November 4, 2004. The hours are Monday - Thursday, 8 a.m. to 11 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Sunday, 1 p.m. to 11 p.m. Hardbacks are \$1 and paperbacks are available for 50 cents.

A wide variety of books is available in the areas of religion, education, psychology and many others. A few examples include: *Teaching the Bible to Adults and Youth* by Dick Murray, *Rabbit is Rich* by John Updike, and *Learning and Elementary Students* by Daniel Quick.

The College is located at 5400 Ramsey Street, Fayetteville, NC, 28311. For more information, call the circulation desk at (910) 630-7645.

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MEDIA RELEASE
OCTOBER 22, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE HOMECOMING —
A SALUTE TO HEROES**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC -- Methodist College will honor the commitment and sacrifice of all who serve our country during Homecoming activities slated for the week of October 18th. This year's theme, "Methodist Always Salutes Heroes" (MASH), was conceived and designed by members of the college's Alumni Association Board of Directors.

Prior to Saturday's (October 23rd) football game against Christopher Newport University, a variety of military, law enforcement, and homeland security vehicles will be on display to the public behind Clark Hall from 9 a.m. to noon. Prior to the football game at 1:30 p.m., members of the Army's Green Beret Parachute team will jump in the game ball.

All homecoming activities are listed below. For more information, contact the Office of Alumni Affairs at (910) 630-7167 or Student Activities at (910) 630-7022.

2004 Homecoming Schedule of Events

Wednesday, October 20

- The United States of America Air Force Concert Band and Singing Sergeants Concert, 7 p.m., Reeves Auditorium. Tickets are free (limit four per person), but must be obtained in advance by calling the Alumni Office at (910) 630-7167.
- MC Late Night Toga Party, 10 p.m., Berns Student Center, free for MC students and personnel only.

Thursday, October 21

- Step Show, 8 p.m., Reeves Auditorium, free for MC students, personnel and alumni only.

Friday, October 22

- The Seventh Annual Athletic Hall of Fame Banquet, 6:30 p.m., March F. Riddle Center. Tickets are \$25 per person. Reservations due Oct. 15.
- Bonfire and Pep Rally, 9 p.m., Lot behind Riddle Center, free for MC students, personnel and alumni only.

Saturday, October 23

- Homecoming Registration, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Green-n-Gold Tent in front of Davis Memorial Library.

-MORE-

Saturday, October 23--continued

- Education Department Breakfast featuring guest speaker, Lizbeth Alfaro, 2004-05 North Carolina Teacher of the Year, 9 a.m., Alumni Dining Room. Tickets are \$5. Reservations due Oct. 15.
- Uncle Sam's Moonwalk for kids and static vehicle display, 9 a.m. to noon, Central Mall of Campus and behind Clark Hall.
- All-American Cookout, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Central Mall of Campus. Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$3 for ages 12 and under. Reservation deadline is Oct. 15.
- Scholarship Vocal Ensemble, One Spirit, patriotic concert, 12:30 p.m., in front of Davis Memorial Library.
- Volleyball Game versus Shenandoah, 12 p.m., March F. Riddle Center. Admission is free.
- Green Beret Parachute Team football game ball presentation, 1 p.m., Football field.
- Homecoming Football Game versus Christopher Newport University, 1:30 p.m. MC Students free, Alumni tickets \$3, General Admission \$6, Students and Children \$3.
- Men's Soccer Game versus Hampden-Sydney College, 3:30 p.m., Admission is free.
- Volleyball Game versus Peace College, 5 p.m., March F. Riddle Center. Admission is free.
- Alumni Reception, 6:30 p.m., Holiday Inn Bordeaux Expo Room. Free to alumni and MC faculty and staff.
- Fifth Annual Silent Auction, 6:30 p.m. to 9:15 p.m., Holiday Inn Bordeaux Expo Room. All proceeds benefit the Alumni Scholarship Fund.
- Homecoming Dinner, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., Holiday Inn Bordeaux Expo Room. Cost is \$25 per person. Reservation deadline is Oct. 15.
- Homecoming Patriotic Music Tribute and Dance, 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. Free to alumni and MC faculty and staff.
- Student Homecoming Dance, 9 p.m., Holiday Inn Bordeaux.

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MEDIA RELEASE
OCTOBER 27, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

BB&T BOOSTS METHODIST COLLEGE CAMPAIGN DRIVE

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Methodist College has received a commitment for \$750,000 toward the college’s comprehensive campaign, *Seeds on Good Soil, A New Season*, from the BB&T Charitable Foundation. The gift is the fourth largest donation in the campaign.

BB&T has generously supported Methodist College for many years. Headquartered in Winston-Salem, NC, the bank has 14 locations in Cumberland County. Three local businessmen, Richard Player, Jr.; Alfred Cleveland; and Albert McCauley, currently sit on the BB&T board of directors.

“Education has always been a focal point of our commitment to corporate giving,” said Vince Nelson, president of BB&T’s Pinehurst-based South Central Region. “We’re proud to contribute to an institution like Methodist College that continues to improve the overall quality of life in Cumberland County.”

Methodist College has now raised \$10.8 million in the \$12.85 million *Seeds on Good Soil, A New Season* campaign. Campaign funds will be used to build an additional science building, build a fitness and wellness center, add significantly to the college’s endowment, and provide annual operating money for the institution.

“Enrollment growth and the expansion of our science curriculum created the need for a major addition to our educational facilities,” said Dr. M. Elton Hendricks, president of Methodist College. “BB&T, our good friends for a long time, have provided significant support for the new science building as well as our new health and fitness center.”

The BB&T Charitable Foundation is a private foundation created by the BB&T Corporation (NYSE:BBT). BB&T’s bank subsidiaries operate more than 1,400 branch offices in 11 states and in Washington, D.C. Visit www.BBandT.com for more information.

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Photo Attached, cutline: Methodist College accepts a gift from BB&T toward its *Seeds on Good Soil, A New Season Campaign*. Pictured, from left, Methodist College Board of Trustees Chairman Richard Player, Jr.; BB&T City Executive David Little; BB&T South Central Regional President Vince Nelson; Methodist College President M. Elton Hendricks; BB&T Vice President Reid Horne; and Methodist College Board of Trustees Vice Chairman Alfred Cleveland.



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MEDIA RELEASE
NOVEMBER 9, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST SPEAKER TO EXPLORE
INTERNATIONAL CONFLICT**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – Dr. Gilbert Merkx, vice provost for International Affairs and Development at Duke University, will speak at Methodist College on Monday, November 15, 2004 on “The Effects of International Conflict and Globalization on Higher Education” at 11 a.m. The presentation is sponsored by the International Club and the Student Government Association and will take place in the Clark Hall Auditorium. The event, which is part of the Global Speaker Series, is free and open to the public.

As vice provost, Merkx is responsible for the general oversight of Duke’s numerous international and foreign language and area studies programs, development of Duke’s programs and partnerships abroad, and the internalization of the University as a whole. He has taught on the faculties of Yale University, Göteborgs Universit t in Sweden and the University of New Mexico.

For more details, contact Spencer Davis, Nimocks professor of business, at (910) 630-7688.

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MEDIA RELEASE
NOVEMBER 19, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST TO HOST ANNUAL
HOLIDAY CONCERT**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC--Friends of Music at Methodist presents the sixth annual Holiday Concert on Tuesday, November 30, 2004 at 7 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium. The concert is free and open to the public.

An ensemble of the newly-formed college orchestra will debut at this year's concert. Under the direction of Fayetteville Symphony Orchestra conductor and Methodist College assistant professor of music, Fouad Fakhouri, the ensemble will be part of the orchestra which will accompany the Concert Choir on Vivaldi's *Gloria* and Handel's *Hallelujah Chorus*.

Soloists and student ensembles such as One Spirit (the scholarship vocal ensemble), Synergy (the school's show choir), the jazz band and the chamber ensemble will perform a wide selection of Christmas music, both sacred and secular.

For more information, please contact the Department of Music at (910) 630-7100.

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MEDIA RELEASE
DECEMBER 6, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS
DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE TO CELEBRATE
WINTER COMMENCEMENT**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC — Methodist College will celebrate its 32nd winter commencement ceremony on Friday, December 10, 2004 at 2 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium. There are 148 candidates for graduation.

The day's events will begin with a baccalaureate service at 10:30 a.m. in Reeves Auditorium. Dr. Reginald Ponder, the president of Louisburg College in Louisburg, NC, will deliver the baccalaureate sermon. Just two years into his presidency, Dr. Ponder has increased the college's enrollment nearly 50 percent, has renovated three residence halls and the dining center, and has made great strides in fund-raising. Louisburg recently received its single largest gift ever -- more than \$4 million for student scholarships. He has set many ambitious goals for the institution, among them the growth of the college's endowment from \$8 million to \$20 million in the next five years and to increase enrollment to 650 by this coming fall. Prior to joining Louisburg, Dr. Ponder was the president and CEO of United Methodist Retirement Homes in North Carolina.

This year's commencement speaker is North Carolina Secretary of State Elaine Marshall. An accomplished business owner and attorney, Marshall became North Carolina's first woman ever elected to a statewide, executive branch office in 1996. Just four years later, she became the first woman ever re-elected to the North Carolina Council of State. Currently she holds seats on the North Carolina 4-H Development Board, the North Carolina Institute for Political Leadership and the Board of Trustees at Meredith College.

In 2003, Methodist College graduated four students in its first graduate-level program in physician assistant studies. This year, nine students will earn their master's of medical science degrees at winter commencement.

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MEDIA RELEASE

December 30, 2004

CYNTHIA J. CURTIS

DIRECTOR OF COLLEGE RELATIONS

**METHODIST COLLEGE THEATRE DEPARTMENT
CALLING FOR AUDITIONS**

FAYETTEVILLE, NC – The Methodist College Theatre Department is hosting open auditions for its February production of Horton Foote’s *1918* on January 11 and 12 at 3 and 7 p.m. in Reeves Auditorium. The production of *1918* will run Thursday through Sunday, February 17-20 and Thursday through Sunday February 24-27, in conjunction with the College’s Southern Writers Symposium.

The play is set in the autumn of 1918, when The Great War is on everyone’s mind, and patriotism is the fundamental value: American boys are fighting and dying in foreign fields, while at home Liberty Bond rallies are being held everywhere, anything German is automatically suspicious, and the worst name you can call someone is “slacker.”

In the small Texas town of Harrison, Horace Robedeaux is torn between duty to country and duty to his young wife, Elizabeth, and their new and growing family. Adding to Horace’s anxiety is Elizabeth’s ne’er-do-well little brother, who is constantly bragging about what he’d do against the Hun, and Elizabeth’s father, who has pledged to support Elizabeth and their baby if Horace enlists, or rather, as Mr. Vaughn assumes, when Horace enlists. But the terrible worldwide Spanish influenza pandemic of 1918 intervenes, and everyone’s lives are changed forever.

Scripts and a video of the 1985 film starring Matthew Broderick are available on reserve in the College’s Davis Memorial Library. For more information, contact Dr. Paul Wilson at 630-7105 or pwilson@methodist.edu.

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