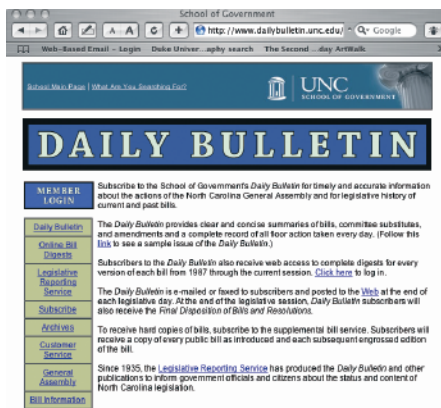


## Digests of Bills Now Available Online through School of Government

As part of its Legislative Reporting Service, the Institute of Government now is offering a new feature: online digests of bills filed in the General Assembly. This unique service was previously available only to legislators and their staff.

For each bill, a single document provides a digest of the original bill and a



summary of each subsequent change, including amendments, committee substitutes, conference reports, and enactment.

For more than sixty years, the subscription-based Legislative Reporting Service has informed local governments, state agencies, and North Carolina citizens about the status and the content of North Carolina legislation. The centerpiece of the Legislative Reporting Service has been the *Daily Bulletin*, published at the end of each day that the General Assembly is in session. The *Daily Bulletin* contains a summary of every bill introduced and every amendment, committee substitute, and conference report adopted. It also records the daily action taken on the floor of the House and the Senate with respect to each bill.

Summaries of each version of every bill introduced in the General Assembly from 1987 through 2002 now are avail-

able to the public online. By subscribing to the *Daily Bulletin*, clients gain access from 1987 through the current session.

Access to the digests of these bills provides insight into context and background, as well as evidence of legislative intent. It allows researchers to trace the evolution of a bill from proposal to law. Librarians, attorneys, judges, law clerks, law school personnel, lobbyists, and others find the *Daily Bulletin* and its associated programs useful, for they save time and effort in researching legislation.

To access the new free online service (digests from 1987 through 2002), go to [www.dailybulletin.unc.edu](http://www.dailybulletin.unc.edu), and click the Archives link.

To subscribe to the *Daily Bulletin*, go to [www.dailybulletin.unc.edu](http://www.dailybulletin.unc.edu), or contact the School of Government's publications office, at (919) 966-4119 or [sales@sog.unc.edu](mailto:sales@sog.unc.edu).

## Gastonia Mayor Honored as Woman Municipal Leader

On December 9, at its annual Congress of Cities, the National League of Cities named Jennifer Stultz, mayor of Gastonia, as one of two winners of the first Women in Municipal Government (WIMG) Leadership Award. Stultz, Gastonia's first female mayor, and Marilee Chinnici-Zuercher, mayor of Dublin, Ohio, were honored for their outstanding achievements as local elected leaders.

Since taking office in 1999, Stultz has overseen investments of more than \$25 million in the center city and downtown development and more than \$104 million in a new and expanded industrial base. In 2000 she established a Mayor's Task Force on Homelessness, which has reduced Gastonia's homelessness by 20 percent and is now developing a Ten-Year Plan to End Chronic Home-



lessness. She was instrumental in halting the demolition of the city's historic courthouse, built in 1911, and she and the city council worked to get it remodeled into a one-stop shop for business. In 2003 she established the city's first Mayor's Youth Council. In 2004, NC TASH (formerly the Association for Persons with Severe Handicaps) named her its Community Advocate for her support of disabled and homeless persons.

WIMG launched the Leadership Award to showcase and honor the achievements of women in local leadership. The sponsors are General Motors Corporation and ICMA Retirement Corporation. WIMG was established in 1974 to serve as a forum for communication, networking, and information-sharing among female municipal officials and their colleagues around the nation.

## Workshops to Build Community Capacity to Stop Domestic and Sexual Violence

All communities in North Carolina experience domestic and sexual violence. Most have programs to respond to the needs of victims and to educate the community about prevention of future violence. Unfortunately, that might not be enough.

With support from the N.C. Governor's Crime Commission, the Public Intersection Project at the School of Government will host seven workshops in early 2006 bringing key stakeholders together to assess and strengthen their community's capacity to stop domestic and sexual violence.

Invitations have been sent to city and county managers and elected officials, directors of domestic and sexual violence programs, leaders of area United Ways, and foundation officers. Community leaders from the private sector and from faith-based organizations are encouraged to attend.

A team of up to eight participants from each community will decide which workshop to attend together. For more information about the workshops or registration, go to [www.publicintersection.unc.edu/registration.htm](http://www.publicintersection.unc.edu/registration.htm).

Dates and locations for the seven workshops are as follows:

|             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| January 18  | Washington    |
| February 7  | Wilmington    |
| February 15 | Chapel Hill   |
| March 13    | Lenoir        |
| March 14    | Winston-Salem |
| March 22    | Concord       |
| April 7     | Sylva         |

For more information about the content of the workshops or about encouraging the participation of your community stakeholders, contact Margaret Henderson at (919) 966-3455, [margaret@sog.unc.edu](mailto:margaret@sog.unc.edu), or Lydian Altman-Sauer at (910) 592-4408, [lydian@sog.unc.edu](mailto:lydian@sog.unc.edu).

## A Treasure Chest of Practical Knowledge

In 1931, law professor Albert Coates began a private enterprise, the Institute of Government. He saw a need for organized instruction, research, and advice to meet the practical needs of North Carolina public officials. Seventy-five years later, the School of Government is the legacy of Coates's vision and drive, supported by many North Carolinians across the decades. The School is a treasure chest of practical knowledge, enhancing the lives of North Carolinians by engaging in scholarship that helps public officials and citizens understand and improve state and local government.

*Popular Government* has been one mainstay of the School's history, publishing continuously since 1931. Throughout 2006 the magazine will mark the School's seventy-fifth anniversary in a variety of ways, including seeking the views of public officials about the next twenty-five years for North Carolina, its governing institutions, and the role of the School.

In this issue I am glad to highlight the core of how the School helps citizens and public officials. A list of topics in which faculty have expertise is included as a perforated insert. Faculty teach, write, and advise officials in all one hundred counties and in hundreds of cities across the state. Further, they assist officials of the judicial system, state government agency officials, and members of the North Carolina General Assembly.

The array of subjects in which faculty have expertise goes from A to Z—from laws on abuse and neglect (of children or elderly people) to zoning. It reflects the consistency of the School's mission and its flexibility to meet the needs of the twenty-first century. Some recent efforts of the School to keep pace with developments in law, finance, and public administration are the North Carolina Civic Education Consortium, the Center for Public Technology, and its support and hosting of the UNC at Chapel Hill Environmental Finance Center.

We welcome your thoughts on what the role of the School should be in supporting government officials and citizens in 2006, and what the future holds for North Carolina, its citizens, and state and local government officials. Send your ideas to John Stephens, editor, *Popular Government*, at (919) 962-5190 or [stephens@sog.unc.edu](mailto:stephens@sog.unc.edu).

*Michael R. Smith, Dean, School of Government*



## First Class Graduates from CIO Certification Program

In November 2005 the inaugural class of the School of Government's Chief Information Officer (CIO) Certification Program graduated. The class included thirty-four local government directors of information technology from various counties and municipalities across the state.

Initiated in January 2005, the program is the first in the nation specifically targeted at local government CIOs. It consists of ten two-day modules, yielding 240 hours of instruction. Topics include enterprise issues, strategic technology planning, communication, project management, emerging trends, risk assessment and management, acquisition management, change management, leadership, security, grantsmanship, and financial trends.

For additional information on the CIO program and other offerings of the Center for Public Technology, visit the center's website at [www.cpt.unc.edu](http://www.cpt.unc.edu).