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School Dedicates Knapp-Sanders Building

The historic mandate of the School of Government at UNC at Chapel Hill is to support and train the state's government officials. On September 10, 2004, hundreds of these officials and other public leaders from across the state came to Chapel Hill to celebrate the dedication of the Knapp-Sanders Building, the newly renovated and expanded facility that houses the School.

Speakers at the dedication included Chancellor James Moeser; Richard "Stick" Williams, chair of the University's Board of Trustees; N.C. Senator Marc Basnight; N.C. Representatives Joe Hackney and David Miner; Franklin Freeman, senior assistant for governmental affairs for Governor Mike Easley; and Michael Smith, dean of the School of Government.

"The School of Government remains at the forefront of this University's strong record of service to the people of North Carolina and beyond," said Moeser.

"I commend the leadership, both past and present, for the vision and dedication that have established the Institute and School as national models. The School of Government is a shining example of how our faculty makes a difference in the lives of citizens."

Construction on what was formerly the Knapp Building (named for the late Joseph Palmer Knapp, an early and instrumental supporter of the Institute of Government) began in 1998. The new building nearly doubles the previous space, from 65,000 square feet to 126,000.

The expanded facilities include twenty-one classrooms, an improved and enlarged library, a bookstore for the School's many publications, and a new dining area that allows catered meals for up to 124 people. The central features of the building are a three-story atrium adjacent to the largest classrooms and a landscaped courtyard garden that can be used for informal meetings, networking, and receptions.

Funding was provided by General Assembly appropriations totaling

\$15.8 million, UNC at Chapel Hill construction funds for repairs and renovations totaling about \$3.8 million, and \$4 million in private funds.

The School of Government is the largest university-based local government training, advising, and research organization in the nation, annually offering more than 200 classes, seminars, schools, and specialized conferences for up to 14,000 public officials. The School's highly ranked two-year Master of Public Administration Program serves up to 60 students annually.

The number of people served increased each year, said Smith, eventually forcing the School to use other area meeting facilities, some off campus, to serve its constituency fully. The expanded and renovated Knapp-Sanders Building now provides adequate space and new technology to support the educational programs—and proximity to faculty members on site.

"The new and renovated teaching spaces allow us to use adult education approaches that we couldn't use before," said Smith, "and they allow us to accommodate more people. We have better



(Top left) Ann and John Sanders dedicating the Knapp-Sanders Building; (top right) Senator Marc Basnight; (middle left) Chancellor James Moeser; (middle right, left to right) Dean Michael Smith, Representative David Miner, Governor Mike Easley's adviser Franklin Freeman, Representative Joe Hackney, Moeser, Stick Williams, and Basnight; (bottom left, left to right) Hackney, Smith; (bottom center) Freeman; (bottom right) Susan and Tom Ross of Winston-Salem dedicating the Ross Patio in honor of the officials and the employees of North Carolina's court system.

environments, quiet spaces for study and small discussions, and our new Mengel Garden—a variety of creative space to stimulate learning and conversation.”

The School of Government, formerly known as the Institute of Government, was founded by UNC at Chapel Hill law professor Albert Coates in 1931 as a private institution. It became a part of the University in 1942. Coates directed the Institute until 1962, when John Sanders succeeded him. Henry Lewis directed

the Institute from 1973 to 1978, and Sanders served again from 1979 to 1992. Smith became director in 1992.

The expanded building was dedicated formally as the Knapp-Sanders Building in honor of Sanders's twenty-four years of leadership. Sanders and his wife, Ann, participated in the building's ribbon cutting.

Elected officials, city and county managers, finance directors, purchasing agents, judges and other court officials, attorneys, information services directors,



(Top left) Jane Preyer and Mary Norris Preyer Oglesby dedicating the new L. Richardson and Emily H. Preyer North Carolina Legislative Archives room in the School's library; (top right) Kay Blanchard, president of the N.C. County Clerks Association, cutting the ribbon dedicating the new seminar room hall; (middle) the School's new bookstore; (bottom) Joe Ketchie of Iredell County talking with Alex Hess, the School's librarian, near the library's new display shelves.

budget directors, school officials, and a wide array of other public managers and employees regularly consult with School faculty and staff on issues of law and administration of government.

"Officials have been so supportive," Smith said. "They are our partners, and we have an amazing relationship with them. For many, it's their home that's being dedicated, and that's just great."

For more information on the School of Government, go to www.sog.unc.edu.

Weidemaier and Upshaw Join School Faculty

Mark C. Weidemaier joined the School faculty in July 2004. He is an assistant professor of public law and government, specializing in civil procedure. Earlier, Weidemaier clerked for Judge Dolores K. Sloviter of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

He then practiced law with Dechert LLP in Philadelphia, where he represented both plaintiffs and defendants before state and federal courts, as well as in various forms of alternative dispute resolution. His practice focused on complex commercial disputes, including breach-of-contract cases, consumer fraud and securities class actions, and bankruptcy litigation.

Weidemaier earned his B.A. cum laude from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, and his J.D. summa cum laude and Order of the Coif from the University of Minnesota Law School, where he served as note and comment editor of the law review. He can be reached at (919) 843-3914 or weidemaier@iogmail.iog.unc.edu.



VERONICA BELLAMY

Vaughn M. Upshaw joined the School faculty in August 2004 as a lecturer, specializing in public leadership and governance. Most recently, Upshaw was the director of the Public Health Leadership Doctoral Program in the School of Public Health at UNC at Chapel Hill. Before taking that position, she spent seven years as a clinical assistant professor in the Department of Health Policy Analysis and Administration in the School of Public Health, developing, teaching, and managing residential, executive, and distance-learning courses for doctoral, master's, and undergraduate students. She has served as a member of the Chat-ham County Board of Health and as the executive director of the Association of North Carolina Boards of Health.

Upshaw holds a B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan University, an Ed.D. from North Carolina State University, and a D.P.H. from UNC at Chapel Hill. She can be reached at (919) 966-9982 or upshaw@iogmail.iog.unc.edu.

—Erin Higgins



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