Dr. Stephen R. Portch, a native of England with higher education experience in a number of capacities will serve as the ninth chancellor of the University System of Georgia beginning July 1, 1994.

Dr. Portch currently serves as senior vice president for Academic Affairs for the University of Wisconsin System's 26 institutions. He previously served as chancellor of the University of Wisconsin Centers, a 13-campus junior college system. He has also served as a campus dean, and as an assistant professor of English.

Dr. Portch graduated from the University of Reading in 1973, where he majored in English literature and language. He received both his master's and doctorate in English from the Pennsylvania State University.

An avid writer, Dr. Portch has had a number of scholarly and fiction pieces published including one book titled Literature's Silent Language: Nonverbal Communication (New York and Bern: Peter Lang Publishing, 1985), and another titled The Collaborative Imperative: Changing American Higher Education Culture which is under contract with Anker Publishing to be published later this year.

As chancellor, Dr. Portch plans to be very visible in the state and to actively lobby the state legislature on behalf of the University System. He does not intend to make any decisions on status changes at any of the system's colleges or universities until he has become familiar with the educational needs of the state as a whole—which will perhaps take up to a year.

Dr. Portch was unanimously elected chancellor by the Board of Regents during a special called meeting March 21. He was chosen from among 53 candidates. Mary Louise Lever, chairman, Floyd College Foundation, served on the screening committee.

Dr. Portch and his wife, Barbara, are currently looking for a home in Atlanta, but he will continue to work for the University of Wisconsin System through May.

In an effort to have the East Rome facility operational for fall quarter, the Board of Regents have changed slightly their schedule for renovations.

With the need for new roofs on the buildings, as well as renovation of the first floor for occupancy, the Board of Regents have tentatively agreed to increase this year’s allotment of money for repairs by $70,000, to $370,000.

Architects were at the site last Wednesday looking over the roof. They will prepare specs for the Board of Regents to justify an additional budget amendment for renovations July 1. In the meantime Floyd College personnel will tear out interior walls to make way for office construction.

Bids for the renovation work are expected to be on the street in two weeks and will be opened the first week of May.

Floyd College has agreed to handle the renovation of the annex and the Regents will take care of the main facility.

April 1, 1994
Folks

Keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers: Charles Woods, security officer, upon the death of his mother, Mary Wood Kennington, Jo Ann Kerns, cashier in the cafeteria, who is recuperating from surgery, Sonny Foss, husband of Thelma Foss, Admissions records clerk, who is recuperating from open heart bypass surgery; Mary Mitchell, sister of Margaret Davis, associate professor, Mathematics, who is recuperating from emergency brain surgery; and all those who suffered loss in the storms of last week including Charles Blaylock, assistant professor, Developmental Mathematics, Gerald Brooks, library assistant, and Emily Farmer, secretary, President’s Office.

Sarah Burkhalter, assistant director of Continuing Education, was the recipient of "The Distinguished Service to GAEA Award" presented by the Georgia Adult Education Association at their annual program March 17. The award recognizes an individual for dedicated and noteworthy service to GAEA. Sarah was also elected vice chair of the GAEA board.

Richard Hays, professor, Leigh Callan, associate professor, Wiley Steed, instructor, and Jack Sharp, associate professor, all of the Division of Natural Science and Mathematics, attended the national meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science Meeting in San Francisco February 17-23.

Jeffery Mack, instructor in English, attended the Southern Conference on Afro-American Studies in Dallas last month. Conference explored the economic, social, political, literary, and historical backgrounds of people from Afro-American descent—especially those from southern states.

Welcome the following new employees: Carla Patterson, administrative assistant, Extended Learning; and Michael Free, custodian.

Announcements

The Physical Plant Department has set out 1250 trees on campus in the past month (250 hardwoods and 1,000 loblolly pines). This is an on-going effort to improve the campus environment.

The food service committee has recommended that the college contract with ARA for its food service after interviewing six companies. The contract must be drawn up and approved by the Board of Regents. College officials hope the service can begin by mid May. Joyce Goddard, director of food service, will retire May 1.

Mort Berkowitz, a hypnotist, will perform Thursday, April 7, at 12:30 p.m. in the Student Center. Also, Jack White, a billiards expert, will hold demonstrations at 9:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. in the pool room, Friday, April 8.

The annual Secretaries’ Day Luncheon will be held Friday, April 29, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Skytop Holiday Inn. The guest speaker is George "Goober" Lindsey, star of the Andy Griffith and Hee Haw shows. Tickets are $30 per person. Advance reservations are recommended. Contact the Continuing Education Office at 295-6324.

Sign up for the Alabama Shakespeare Festival trip May 14-15 is underway. The cost is $60-72, excluding meals. The plays are Othello and Light Up the Sky. Sign-up is also continuing for the Washington/Williamsburg trip June 11-19. The cost is $359-550 depending on occupancy of rooms. Contact the Office of Student Activities at 295-6363 to register for the trips.

Continuing Education and SBDC classes scheduled to begin in the coming weeks include:

* Conversational Spanish
* How to Start Your Own Business
* Basic Sign Language
* Body Sculpture
* Manage & Control Multiple Priorities
* Supervising People I
* Career Development Workshop
* Trees of Spring
* Nature Drawing

Floyd College has been notified that it is now eligible to apply for a Title III Grant from the government. The college will submit a proposal for $350,000/year for five years to be used for multicultural development, retention, and a testing and learning center according to Margaret Davis who is working on the project.

Floyd College Folks & Features is published biweekly by the Office of Public Information.
Deadline for submissions is noon Tuesday prior to publication.