

# RFA News

*RFA — Part of the Carolina Family*

Newsletter of the Retired Faculty Association of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

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## Learn what Obamacare means to you

One of the most important issues facing retirees today is access to affordable health care. The speaker for the April 15 general meeting of RFA can help us understand better what the issues are and how their resolution might affect us.

Our speaker will be Professor Jonathan Oberlander, Vice Chair of Social Medicine in the School of Medicine at UNC-Chapel Hill. He is one of our own, getting a B.A. in political science in 1989 at UNC-Chapel Hill before earning graduate degrees from Yale (M.A. and M.Phil in political science and his Ph.D. in 1995). He returned to Chapel Hill and joined the faculty in 1997.

In the School of Medicine, Oberlander teaches the first-year "Medicine & Society" course and also a seminar on health care policy.

He has gained a national reputation for his research and teaching on health policy studies and the political context in which health policy is hatched and implemented. In his 2012 article on the Affordable Care Act in the New



Next RFA quarterly meeting  
**Tuesday, April 15, 10:30 a.m.**  
 The Friday Center  
**Speaker:**  
**Jonathan Oberlander**  
 Professor and Vice Chair  
 Of Social Medicine  
**Optional lunch afterward**  
 Registration form on Page 3

England Journal of Medicine (<http://tinyurl.com/oberlander-NEJM>), he forecast state resistance to and political division over "Obamacare." He sure was right! Come to the Tuesday,

April 15, Retired Faculty Association meeting at the Friday Center at 10:30 a.m. to hear what he thinks now about the Affordable Care Act and what it may mean for all of us.



### Encouragement from the Chancellor

Chancellor Carol Folt speaking to the Retired Faculty Association on Feb. 11. Her message was clear: "We are doing everything we can to strengthen our University, and we hope the Retired Faculty Association will give us the benefit of their wisdom and experience along the way." She underscored the importance of the RFA/Friday Center partnership, calling the Friday Center "the face of the University" all over the state.

## RFA OFFICERS 2013-2014

### President & Faculty Council

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**Jonathan Howes, who served on the UNC-Chapel Hill faculty for 41 years.**

## Howes nominated for president-elect

Jonathan Howes has been chosen as RFA president-elect by the RFA executive committee upon the recommendation of the nominating committee. The nomination will be presented on April 15 to the general meeting for approval.

Howes has been active in RFA, serving as faculty council delegate for retired faculty. Howes retired in 2011 after 41 years at UNC-Chapel Hill, including service as director of the Center for Urban & Regional Studies and as research professor in regional planning. Howes is a fellow of the National Academy of

Public Administration and served as chair of the academy's board of trustees.

He also served as Mayor of Chapel Hill and was named by former Gov. James B. Hunt Jr. as Secretary of the N.C. Department of Environment, Health and Natural Resources. He is currently a senior public service fellow in UNC's Institute for the Environment and a member of the board of the N.C. Humanities Council. He and his wife, Mary, enjoy living now in the Carol Woods retirement community in Chapel Hill. If his nomination is approved, his term will be for two years.

### Association notes:

#### Reception draws a crowd

Nearly 100 retired faculty from UNC Chapel Hill gathered in the Friday Center Atrium March 10 for a wine reception.

It was the second time the Friday Center has hosted a reception for retired faculty, and based on the response, it will become one of its regular events. Making it even more special, Law School Professor Emeritus Ken Broun provided entertainment on the grand piano in the Friday Center's atrium. The piano had been in Memorial Hall from 1956 until its most recent renovation.

#### Proposed RFA meetings

##### Executive Committee

10:30 a.m.-noon  
Tuesdays

##### General Meetings

10:30 a.m. -1 p.m.  
Tuesdays

##### 2014:

Aug. 19  
Oct. 21

Sept. 16  
Nov. 18

##### 2015:

Jan. 20  
March 17

Feb. 17  
April 21

**From the President**

# A special thank-you to all for a great year

As I look back on my time as President, I feel encouraged by the support we have had from the University, particularly the Office of the Provost through Professor Ron Strauss, the Executive Vice Provost, and the Faculty Governance Office and its wonderful staff.



**Don Boulton**

We have moved forward in the last two years by forming a partnership with The Friday Center and finding a home for our organization there. We have secured two permanent seats on the Faculty Council with alternating terms.

The Friday Center partnership will help us develop new friends and new sources of funds for outreach ventures. The staff of the center have welcomed us in a very positive way, as has the Friday family.

Our speakers this year were excellent, headed by our new Chancellor, Carol Folt. We were happy to welcome her to our University and pledged her our support. We co-hosted the national AROHE Conference with our colleagues from N.C. State and N.C Central, and had a very positive experience getting to know our colleagues at other system institutions. I am especially thankful for all of the RFA lead-

ers who have preceded me and helped us build a permanent home within the University Family.

Our goals now are to GIVE BACK to the University, REACH BACK to our faculty as they prepare to retire, and ENCOURAGE and SUPPORT the retired faculty from our University and colleagues from other institutions.

Finally, I want us to be an organization that supports our faculty colleagues and the new Chancellor and assists the University in meeting the vigorous challenges that lay ahead.

Our future is now. Please encourage your colleagues to join us.

Respectfully , Don Boulton



**Don Boulton meets with Arizona State's Len Gordon.**

## Road map for an E-college

Len Gordon, Dean Emeritus of the Arizona State University Emeritus College, visited Chapel Hill in mid-February to help members of the RFA Executive Committee plan a college for emeriti at UNC-CH.

He led three planning sessions over three days, attended the Feb. 11 RFA general meeting and, after two days snowbound at the Carolina Inn, returned to Arizona, leaving behind an enthusiastic RFA planning group that is still working on a model for our University.

In the weeks ahead, RFA members and all retired faculty will hear more about plans and invitations to participate. Former RFA President Andy Dobelstein will help spearhead the project but will almost certainly call for help.

### UNC Retired Faculty Association meeting

**Luncheon registration for Tuesday, April 15, 2014**

Fill out form, clip and mail with your check to:  
 Treasurer, UNC Retired Faculty Association  
 2119 Markham Drive  
 Chapel Hill, NC 27514-2122



Your name \_\_\_\_\_

Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Number of luncheon reservations @ \$16.00 (\_\_\_\_\_)

\_\_\_\_\_

2014 dues (if not yet paid) @ \$25.00

\_\_\_\_\_

*(Or, for long-term saving, buy a \$150 life membership and pay no further dues)*

Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Luncheon reservations must be received by April 11**

*If you think your check might not be delivered by then, please notify us at uncrfa@gmail.com or 919-942-2192.*

**A note on parking:** Permits are now required at the Friday Center. Electronic permits will be sent out to those who sign up for the meeting, and cars with handicapped permits don't need a Friday Center permit. Other visitors should park at the curb and get a pass from the front desk before parking in the lot.

# Want to teach a self-paced course?

Carolina offers about 100 regular campus courses through Self-Paced Courses administered by the Friday Center for Continuing Education. Seven other UNC System universities also offer these courses through a consortium arrangement that is also administered by the Friday Center.

Self-Paced Courses can be started by students any time, and the student has nine months to complete the course. The student works one-on-one with the instructor, either through e-mail for online Self-Paced Courses or through the U.S. Mail for traditional, paper-based Self-Paced Courses. Students get a regular grade after com-

pleting the final exam, they get academic credit hours, and the course, grade and hours show up on their transcript just like any other Carolina course.

The academic departments decide which courses they would like to offer through Self-Paced Courses; most are lower-level undergraduate courses. The departments also appoint the faculty member who will serve as the instructor. The instructor is paid on the basis of assignments graded with a maximum of \$225 per student per course. Instructors who design the course for Self-Paced Courses are paid a \$4,000 stipend.

Several retired faculty teach Self-paced Courses and enjoy maintaining contact with students after their retirement as well as the modest extra funds generated. If you are interested in teaching through Self-Paced Courses, check with the Chair of the department first to get his or her agreement. Then contact Credit Programs at the Friday Center (919-962-1134) and let us know of your interest. Note that you need not reside in Chapel Hill to teach a Self-Paced Course.

Here is a link to the website for Self-Paced Courses if you would like more information about the program:

<http://tinyurl.com/Fridaycourse>

UNC-CH Retired Faculty Association  
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