

Renowned physicist to lead USC's nanocenter

BY KEVIN FELLNER
THE GAMECOCK

One of the nation's top nanotechnology experts is expected to join USC's faculty this summer as the result of the state's \$30 million endowed chairpersons program.

Physics professor Richard Webb of the University of Maryland has won international acclaim for his quantum electronics research with IBM and superconductivity research in

Maryland, and will become USC's second member of the National Academy of Sciences, a prestigious honor for researchers. USC President Andrew Sorensen has compared Webb to Nobel Prize-winning physicists.

Webb said his reason for accepting a position at USC was to work at a university with a more advanced and reliable infrastructure than Maryland.

"I have suffered measurably from infrastructure problems," he

said. "Maryland cannot keep on the lights. The power goes down regularly in times of experimentation."

USC is planning additional renovations to the recently updated Sumwalt Building to prepare for the heavy machinery Webb needs for his experiments. The nanoscience program received \$4 million in state lottery funds last June and will have that money matched with private donations to provide the program with an en-

dowment.

Harris Pastides, vice president for research and health sciences, said attracting Webb to USC is the type of achievement the endowed chairpersons program was designed for.

"It's a huge undertaking, really," he said. "When one looks at the resources it takes to get a scientist of his reputation to come here, you understand what this means for the university."

Pastides said Sorensen and other

USC researchers were especially interested in attracting Webb, because the university was already focused on building expertise in nanotechnology.

"The president and I were personally involved in a way that we're not normally used to," Pastides said, adding that he and Sorensen made trips to Maryland to meet Webb last year. Nanotechnology is the science of building electronic circuits and devices from single atoms and

molecules.

Webb said measuring behavior at the atomic level requires precise and intricate instrumentation that he hasn't been able to access at Maryland.

"I've had a series of probably different types of problems he associated with lab structure, and I'm just fed up with it," he said.

Webb is also looking forward to collaborations with other USC

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Students explore civil rights locations

BY Z'ANNE COVELL
THE GAMECOCK

The history of the civil rights movement recently came to life for 40 USC students, faculty members and staff who participated in the university's fourth annual Civil Rights Tour.

The tour was sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs, the African-American Studies Program and the USC chapter of the NAACP.

According to Michael Goodwin, co-coordinator of the four-day trip, the group toured important civil rights museums and historical sites.

"The tour introduces you to what actually happened," Goodwin said. "Movies and books are impersonal, but this tour brings you face to face with history and the time period, because we visit places with the most prominence and significance to the civil rights movement."

The USC tourists traveled to Birmingham, Montgomery and Selma, Ala., as well as to Memphis, Tenn. The tour's itinerary included visiting the National Civil Rights Museum, the National Voting Rights Museum and the Rosa Parks Library and Museum.

Takela Funderburk, a second-year chemistry student, said visiting The Lorraine Motel in Memphis was her favorite part of the tour.

"It was very moving to stand in the same room Martin Luther King had stood in," Funderburk said.

Second-year music education student Kai Revels said her mother's experience during the 1963 march on Washington influenced her decision to go on the tour.

"It was more of a primary source than a secondary source, because the tour guides were people who were involved in the movement," Revels said. "It was more touching and meaningful to hear the stories from them."

The firsthand accounts also challenged tourists' conceptions about the civil rights movement and shed light on some unfamiliar topics.

"You always hear about civil rights, but seeing it goes a lot deeper than just Martin Luther King and the 'I have a dream' speech," fourth-year finance student Ali Crabb said. "I really learned so much about the specifics."

The diversity of those who supported the civil rights movement

◆ **TOUR, SEE PAGE 4**

New Law School Dean



School of Law Dean Burnele Powell shakes hands with USC President Andrew Sorensen.

Laying down the Law

Powell aims to expand excellence of program

BY KEVIN FELLNER
THE GAMECOCK

Still adjusting during his first week on the job, USC School of Law Dean Burnele Powell said he accepted the position because he wanted the opportunity to lead a law school at a state's flagship university.

Named as replacement for interim Dean Frank Mood, who has been serving since May, Powell comes to USC after serving as a professor and dean at the University of Missouri-Kansas City Law School since 1995.

"He's qualified to be the dean of the law school, and he has been dean of a law school," USC President Andrew Sorensen said about Powell. "He's a widely recognized scholar."

Powell served a three-year dean appointment at UMKC and will retain his tenured status at USC. "Being an academic dean gave me the opportunity to gain perspective more than anything else," he said. He has long-term plans to teach at the law school but says right now his primary focus is on his responsibilities as dean.

A graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School with a master's from Harvard Law School, Powell spent 19 years on the faculty at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill School of Law.

Powell predicts large public universities in the Southeast will lead some of the next major advancements in higher education.

"We are in the process of reemerging, and that's a good thing," he said.

Powell enters USC at a time when Sorensen and

other administrators are pushing for ways to fund a proposed relocation of the law school to a new facility at the corner of Senate and Pickens streets. Powell said he won't waste any time initiating fund raising efforts.

"Legal education has changed dramatically in the last 30 years, and the building that we built 30 years ago is not the facility that is required to help us to go forward in the 21st century."

The law school facility was completed in 1973.

"I think the most important step in the next few months will be to make contact with all of our friends and supporters, all who believe in the majesty of the law, the dignity of the profession, the glorious mission of education, and as we come together, the plans will unfold," Powell said.

Powell also must face the challenge of possibly dealing with academic and professional competition with a private law school scheduled to open in Charleston this fall. John Benfield, dean of admissions for USC's law school, has already left to accept a position at the new school, designed to be a private alternative to USC with a lower admission standard. Members of the USC Board of Trustees briefly discussed at two meetings late last year the possibility of increasing admissions requirements after two consecutive years of increased average GPA and LSAT scores.

"I told Dean Powell that I expect him to lead the law school into the top 50 law schools in the country," Sorensen said. U.S. News & World Report ranked USC's law school in a tie for 78th last year.

Powell said he would look at the possibility for in-

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SG presidents take new roles

BY JUSTIN CHAPPELL
THE GAMECOCK

When USC Student Government presidential campaigns kick off and a new group of student representatives are ushered into office, past SG presidents often fall out of the local limelight.

But where do they land?

In 2000-2001, the USC student body elected Jotaka Eaddy, the first black female SG president. After her term ended in May 2001, Eaddy left USC with a double major in political science and criminal justice.

Eaddy, who was on vacation and unavailable for comment, lives in Washington, D.C., and serves as the coordinator of the national youth organizing project for the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty.

Presently serving as the coordinator of the national youth organizing project for NCADP, Eaddy has spent the last eight years in the anti-death penalty movement, according to the organization's Web site, NCADP.org.

Following Eaddy was Cor Ford, who served in office from 2001 to 2002. Ford said he left USC initially planning to go to law school.

Since graduation, Ford has been living in Columbia and working for the firm of Nelson Mullins, Riley & Scarborough L.L.P., as a project assistant. Cor Ford put it, "Low man on the totem pole."

While working for the law firm, Ford concluded that he would rather pursue a business career.

"Law is more restrictive than business," Ford said. "It doesn't allow for chance to be

visionary."

Ford said he is applying to the University of Florida's MBA program and intends to begin August. He is also completing the Air Force Reserve application process.

About the last year-and-a-half since graduation, Ford said, "I been a different experience than at Carolina and a great process knowing what I want to do now."

◆ **PRESIDENTS, SEE PAGE 4**

Morris indicted by grand jury

BY PAMELA HAMILTON
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

COLUMBIA — Carolina Investors Chairman Earle Morris was indicted Tuesday by the state grand jury on 24 counts of securities fraud, the state attorney general said.

Morris, a former South Carolina lieutenant governor and state comptroller general, lied to investors and used his reputation and name-recognition to secure their trust, the indictment said.

"The state intends to prove that Mr. Morris knowingly and willfully participated in a large-scale securities fraud scheme," Attorney General Henry McMaster said.

About 8,000 South Carolinians lost \$275 million when HomeGold, the parent company of Carolina Investors, filed for bankruptcy protection in March. Morris' attorney, Joel Collins

of Columbia, said Tuesday hadn't spoken with his client since the indictment was announced but the idea that Morris participated in a scheme to defraud South Carolinians "is inconsistent with his life of dedicated service to the citizens of this state."

"He is devastated by this turn of events," Collins said. "He is proud of his reputation — a good name — and is committed to doing everything he can to preserve it."

Morris, 75, served for 22 years as comptroller general and for years as lieutenant governor from 1971-75. He also spent years in the state Senate and four in the House.

Morris is the second Carolina investor official to be indicted. Former President Larry Owens was indicted on 23 counts of fraud in November.

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