

## **BCC enrollment breaks record...again**

Bladen Community College has set yet another enrollment record.

According to Barry Priest, dean of enrollment services, total enrollment for the semester is 1,774, 17 percent above spring 2009 enrollment, and 30 percent above enrollment two years ago. This is the second consecutive year that spring enrollment has exceeded the preceding fall number. Traditionally fall enrollment has exceeded spring enrollment throughout most of the North Carolina Community College System.

The increasing enrollment has filled classrooms in virtually all of the programs at the College. Nearly all of the classes offered in the spring semester were full when registration ended.

BCC President Dr. William Findt said the increasing enrollment has made it essential for the College to implement cost-saving measures in many areas of day-to-day operations to stretch the budget to accommodate the influx of new students. He added, however, that the enrollment crunch has not impacted the quality of programs.

“Our excellent faculty and staff have worked diligently to meet the challenges brought on by the growth in enrollment,” he said. “Our facilities are strained, particularly at peak periods such as the morning hours. But we’ve been able to adjust schedules to accommodate the needs of our students within the constraints of our facilities and staffing.

“Unfortunately enrollment growth always precedes any increase in funding, because our budget is based on enrollment for the previous year. This makes it essential that we find ways to do more with less in times of significant growth. However, I am confident that will not prevent us from continuing our tradition of providing quality programs and service to our students and community,” he added.