Michael D. Mullen, associate provost for the Division of Undergraduate Education and dean of undergraduate studies at the University of Kentucky (UK), has been named vice chancellor and dean of the Division of Academic and Student Affairs at NC State, effective Aug. 1. Provost Warwick Arden announced the appointment today.

At UK, Mullen heads 10 units and manages 70 employees and a budget of more than $6 million as associate provost and dean. He leads numerous academic support programs and units, including those responsible for undergraduate advising, undergraduate research, and undergraduate retention and success. He recently led efforts to implement a new general education core curriculum, enhance and expand tutoring services on campus and revise UK’s honors program.

“We’re excited to have Dr. Mullen joining the leadership team at NC State,” Arden said. “He comes to us with considerable expertise, skill and a passion for student success. I am confident that the Division of Academic and Student Affairs will be in good hands with his leadership.”

As head of the new division, which merges academic and student affairs as part of the university’s strategic realignment, Mullen will oversee academic programs and services, Arts NC State, campus life, and student development, health and wellness.

“The creation of the Division of Academic and Student Affairs is recognition that student success is a function of the academic, co-curricular and personal success of the student. It was what attracted me to the position,” Mullen said. “I very much look forward to providing leadership for this division that serves all students in all facets of their lives as they pursue their goals.”

A soil scientist, Mullen is an expert in soil biology and biochemistry, with research interests in soil microbial diversity and the impact of agricultural management practices on soil productivity. He is a tenured professor in UK’s Department of Plant and Soil

Continued on page 3
CANNING THE SAFE WAY

Ben Chapman Joins the Produce Lady to Demonstrate Safe Canning.

Dr. Ben Chapman, a food safety specialist with N.C. Cooperative Extension, will join Brenda Sutton, The Produce Lady, in two live, one-hour demonstrations on proper canning techniques.

Green beans will be the featured produce item on June 15 at 1:30 p.m. while June 28 will be reserved for peaches, also at 1:30 p.m. Viewers can tune in by logging on to www.ustream.tv/channel/the-produce-lady or access the live feed from The Produce Lady Facebook page. Viewers will have an opportunity to interact with the experts by using an online chat box to ask any questions about food preservation and safety.

The Produce Lady program, supported with a grant from the N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission, teaches farmers and consumers the wonders of locally grown fruits and vegetables. The program demonstrates how to prepare fresh produce as tasty meals and snacks and advises how to preserve them to use throughout the year.

Fresh North Carolina green beans and peaches are available widely across the state from June to September, and can be purchased at local farmers markets. The Produce Lady live video stream will feature the pressure canner method for preserving green beans so that consumers can enjoy nutritious, local green beans throughout the year. The peach demonstration will include how to freeze peaches and how to make peach jam. For information on how to use canned green beans, peach preserves and other fresh or preserved produce, check out the recipes section of The Produce Lady website at www.theproducelady.org.

The Produce Lady program is co-directed by Leah Chester-Davis with the N.C. State University Plants for Human Health Institute, and Brenda Sutton, director, N.C. Cooperative Extension, Rockingham County.

Program efforts include farmers market appearances, healthy recipes, a video series for farmers and consumers, and other educational resources, which can be found at www.theproducelady.org. Watch for video segments on the Almanac Gardener show on UNC-TV networks statewide. The Produce Lady is sponsored in part by the N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission.
Faculty and Staff Notes

Register for Pathways

Enrollment for the Pathways Leadership Development Program continues through July 31 or until all spaces are filled. Pathways recently completed its 16th year on campus. It has over 700 graduates who continue to make a positive impact on the university. The program begins in August and runs through May. To learn more, visit http://www.ncsu.edu/human_resources/tod/pathways.php.

Forum to Meet CALS Dean Finalist

On-campus interviews continue this week for candidates for dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

The final forum will be held 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Friday, June 15, with candidate Richard Linton in the Witherspoon Cinema. A presentation by the candidate will be followed by a question-and-answer session.

Mullen

Continued from page 1

Before being named associate provost and dean in 2009, Mullen served as associate dean for academic programs in UK’s College of Agriculture for five years.

Prior to joining UK, Mullen spent nine years at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he served as assistant and associate professor of plant and soil sciences and associate professor of biosystems engineering and environmental science.

He also served as an assistant professor at the University of Tennessee, Martin.

Mullen has won numerous teaching awards during his career. He is the author or co-author of four peer-reviewed book chapters and numerous peer-reviewed journal publications.

Mullen received his bachelor’s degree in natural resources and environmental science from Purdue University in 1981. He earned a master’s degree in soil science at Purdue in 1984 and a Ph.D. in soil science with a minor in microbiology at NC State in 1987.

Ukrainian Summer

Inspired by his professor, a Park Scholar studies divisions in Eastern Europe.

It’s not your typical summer vacation for a college sophomore: two months in Ukraine, conducting interviews with professors and students to research the causes of the increasing polarity between the east and the west, along with the resulting political, economic, social, and cultural consequences of polarization.

CHASS major and Park scholar Andriy Shymonyak can’t wait. The Ukrainian-born student—he moved to the United States at age five—says his interest in Ukraine’s economy and politics was fostered under the guidance of Clifford Griffin, associate professor of political science and director of international programs in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

“I have been working with Dr. Griffin since the beginning of my freshman year on my interests in international relations and the geographic region of Eastern Europe,” says Shymonyak. "His mentorship thus far has been priceless and I look forward to continuing to work with him in the future.”

When Shymonyak returns to campus this fall, he and Griffin will collaborate on papers they may submit to the North Carolina Political Science Association and the Southern Political Science Association.

Read more about Shymonyak and his Ukrainian summer on the Park Scholars website.

Bulletin

The Bulletin is the official faculty and staff news source at North Carolina State University and is available online at ncsu.edu/bulletin. To submit information and story ideas, send an e-mail to bulletin@ncsu.edu. Upcoming events should be posted to the university calendar, which automatically feeds the Bulletin home page.

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