

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 30, 2010

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**CHIEF OF STAFF FOR NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
TO SPEAK AT LOUISBURG COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY**

Louisburg, NC — Louisburg College is pleased to announce its plans for the celebrations and ceremonies that will surround those who have completed their degrees at the College as members of the Class of 2010.

On Friday, May 7, a complimentary graduates' breakfast will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room, serving as both a relaxed and fun time to support the graduates.

On Saturday, May 8, a traditional baccalaureate service will take place in the Benson Chapel at 9:30 am, followed by the commencement ceremonies at 11:00 am in the Frances Boyette Dickson Auditorium of the Seby B. Jones Performing Arts Center. A reception will be held in the Jones Center lobby immediately following the ceremonies.

The Rev. Jon Strother, Raleigh district superintendant of the United Methodist Church and member of the Louisburg College Board of Trustees, will deliver the baccalaureate message during the service.

W. Britt Cobb, Jr., a 1969 graduate of Louisburg College and chief of staff for North Carolina Governor Beverly Perdue, will deliver the commencement speech.

Cobb was raised on a tobacco farm in the Wilson County town of Elm City. After leaving Louisburg, he graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1971 with a bachelor of science degree in business administration. He completed post-graduate work in

international marketing at the American Graduate School of International Management in Phoenix.

He began working in the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (NCDA&CS) in 1972 as a food-distribution representative. From 1976 to 1979, he served as the first director of agriculture in North Carolina's European Office in Dusseldorf, West Germany.

Before his appointment as interim agriculture commissioner in June 2003, Cobb served as assistant director of the NCDA&CS Marketing Division and was in charge of the international marketing program. In December 2003, he was appointed commissioner of agriculture, where he served until February 2005. In 2005, Cobb became a deputy secretary in the North Carolina Department of Administration, and in January 2006, Governor Easley appointed him secretary for the department. Governor Perdue appointed him as her chief of staff when she took office in 2009.

Cobb has organized and participated in trade activities in more than sixty countries around the world and served on numerous boards and committees on international marketing and trade. He was a member of the executive committee of the Southern United States Trade Association and served as chairman of the organization's marketing committee. He is past president of the N.C. World Trade Association. Cobb and his wife, Ann, live in Raleigh.

Related by faith to The United Methodist Church, Louisburg College is committed to offering a supportive community in which young men and women mature intellectually, culturally, socially, and spiritually. As a two-year residential institution, we provide a bridge for students to make a successful transition from high school to senior colleges and universities.

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