

## **Carolinas College of Health Sciences Announces May 2007 Commencement Speaker**

**Charlotte, NC, March, 2007** – Carolinas College of Health Sciences has secured Dr. Yvonne Maddox, deputy director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development of the National Institutes of Health as the 2007 commencement speaker. “Dr. Maddox is a leading advocate of children’s health and healthcare disparity and we are fortunate to have her take time out of her busy schedule to join our commencement ceremony,” states Dr. Ellen Sheppard, president of Carolinas College. “Dr. Maddox is a truly engaging speaker who will both enlighten and entertain the students and their guests.”

Dr. Yvonne Thompson Maddox has been in her current role since 1995 and has responsibility for guiding the organizations and programs of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development as well as overseeing the extramural program that supports research on child development, developmental biology, nutrition, AIDS, mental retardation, population issues, reproductive biology, medical rehabilitation, and other areas of interest. Dr. Maddox received her baccalaureate degree in biology from Virginia Union University in Richmond and her Ph.D. in physiology from Georgetown University. She has studied as a visiting scientist at the French Atomic Energy Commission and graduated from the Senior Managers in Government Program of the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. During her career at NIH, Dr. Maddox has received numerous honors and awards including both the Presidential Distinguished Executive Rank Award and the Presidential Meritorius Executive Rank Award as well as the NIH Director’s Award. Furthermore, Dr. Maddox has received several honorary degrees, is a member of the American Physiological Society, has served on many public service and academic boards, and has authored numerous scientific papers.

“The timing of her appearance at the College’s May 2007 commencement ceremony coincides nicely with the fall 2007 opening of the new Levine Children’s Hospital at Carolinas Medical Center,” says Martha Whitecotton, RN, administrator of the Levine Children’s Hospital. “What an excellent opportunity to emphasize children’s health with one of the leading voices in the nation in light of the opening of the Levine Children’s Hospital,” echoes Ellen Sheppard. Carolinas College of Health Sciences May 2007 commencement ceremony is Friday, May 4 at 7:00pm at Pritchard Memorial Baptist Church.

Carolinas College of Health Sciences is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) to offer associate of applied science degrees, diplomas and certificates. Offered are programs in health care education leading to careers in nursing, surgical technology, radiologic technology, medical technology and emergency medical sciences, as well as individual classes in the sciences and liberal arts.

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