

STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA  
**Office of the State Auditor**



Ralph Campbell, Jr.  
State Auditor

2 S. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC  
Mailing Address: 20601 Mail Service Center  
Raleigh, NC 27699-0601  
Telephone: (919) 807-7500  
Fax: (919) 807-7647  
Internet <http://www.ncauditor.net>

---

**PRESS RELEASE**

---

For Immediate Release:

April 6, 2004

For additional information contact:

Ralph Campbell, Jr., State Auditor  
(919) 807-7500  
[rcampbel@ncauditor.net](mailto:rcampbel@ncauditor.net)

## Secondary employment created appearance of conflict for center president, Auditor Ralph Campbell says

RALEIGH \_ The president of The North Carolina Center for Applied Textile Technology created the appearance of a conflict by accepting outside teaching jobs, State Auditor Ralph Campbell said in an investigative audit released Tuesday.

The Office of the State Auditor was asked to review the secondary employment of the president by the president of the State Community College System. While that review was in progress, additional allegations were reported through the State Auditor's Hotline, but those allegations were not substantiated.

At the time of the review, the Center President was teaching four courses at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. The Center is located in neighboring Gaston County. Three of the classes met during daytime hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays, while the fourth course met on Saturdays. The President also had previously taught at Belmont Abbey College while employed by the Center.

The chairman of the Center's board, and a majority of the trustees, told auditors they were aware of the secondary employment, but some were not aware the classes met during regular working hours. The chairman had signed secondary employment forms for the President, but board minutes did not indicate board approval of the outside work.

Auditors said the outside employment during regular business hours of the Center created the perception of a conflict, and recommended that the president end the practice. The President's contract with UNC-Charlotte expired in December and he informed the university he would no longer be teaching.

"In public life, perception often becomes reality," Campbell said. "The President's outside teaching work created a perception that he was not performing his primary job, even though trustees and Center employees said there was no doubt he worked 40 hours a week for the Center. He did the right thing in ending the appearance of a conflict."



The report is available on-line at <http://www.ncauditor.net/EPSEWEB/EDSreportdetail.asp?RepNum=INV-2004-0268>.

Copies of the report may be obtained at the office's web site at [www.ncauditor.net](http://www.ncauditor.net). Printed copies of the report can be obtained by filing a request under the Audits section of the web site or by calling the Office of the State Auditor at 919-807-7500.

