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### **Former Lt. Governor Walter Dalton Joins Gardner-Webb**

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## Former Lt. Governor Walter Dalton Joins Gardner-Webb

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Office of University Communications

January 4, 2013

### *Respected Politician Will Serve as an Assistant to the President and Politics Professor*

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb is pleased to announce that former North Carolina Lt. Governor Walter Dalton will be joining the University in a full time role serving as assistant to the president and distinguished visiting professor of political science beginning this semester. Dalton will teach courses and serve as special counsel to GWU President Dr. Frank Bonner.

As part of his new responsibilities, Dalton will teach two courses during the spring semester (Southern Politics and American Government); conduct speaking engagements for a variety of groups and classes on campus; assist in setting up student internships in state or federal government agencies and businesses; represent the University in a wide range of areas related to University Advancement; and provide legal counsel to the University as needed.

“Having the former lieutenant governor on staff gives the University new insight into politics and government administration,” said GWU Provost and Senior Vice President Dr. Ben Leslie. “With his rich history of public service experience, we’re proud and honored.”

Dalton is a native of Rutherfordton, N.C., and was a state senator for 12 years before being elected lieutenant governor in 2008 under former Governor Beverly Perdue. Dalton, a democrat, ran for governor in 2012 before losing a hard-fought campaign to Republican Pat McCrory. Dalton represented constituents in Cleveland and Rutherford counties for more than a decade in the North Carolina General Assembly. Dalton’s legislative career started in 1996 when he won the senate race. In the state senate, Dalton served as co-chair of the Senate Education Committee and the Senate Appropriations Committee. One of his top priorities in office was education. In 2003, he sponsored the Innovative Education Initiatives Act, establishing North Carolina’s award-winning network of early college high schools. This system of high schools partnered with institutions of higher education allowed students to graduate with both a high school diploma and either an associate’s degree or college credit in five years. Dalton also supported increasing funding for the state’s public university and community college systems during his tenure.

The spring semester gets underway for undergraduate students at GWU on Jan. 9 with Dalton’s first class scheduled soon thereafter.

*Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University offers a comprehensive academic experience that introduces students to the diverse world of ideas and to the people who think them, preparing them for career success and for engaged, responsible citizenship in their professional, civic, and spiritual communities.*

